



TOWN CRIER

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City takes no position on Fire and Rec levies

The Washington Township Board of Trustees recently opted to place two levies on the upcoming May 7 ballot. The Trustees are asking Centerville and Washington Township voters to approve a five-year levy of 4.65 mills for fire and emergency medical services, as well as a recreation services levy of .7 mills.

Washington Township provides fire and EMS services as well as the offerings of the Washington Township Recreation Center to all residents within Centerville and Washington Township, and therefore, has sole responsibility for establishing the level of tax millage that it requests. If approved as proposed, the five-year fire levy will generate an extra \$2.7 million in the first year, which is a 44% increase over what the current fire levies produce.

This newly sought revenue is in addition to the nearly \$1.1 million of annual revenue raised in 2011 when the Trustees authorized a new practice of billing residents for EMS runs. In 2012, billing of residents produced \$1.2 million in additional revenue for the Washington Township Fire Department—representing a 474% increase in fees for service revenue since 2010.

The combination of the 4.65 mill tax plus the \$1.2 million in EMS billings would provide the Fire Department with 43% more money in 2014 than it received in 2010.

Centerville Mayor Mark Kingseed and City Manager Greg Horn recently met with two Township representatives and asked that they consider delaying or reducing this planned request for additional millage. In recognition of the economic challenges that our community continues to face, the Mayor and City Manager were concerned that the amount of the increase was extremely aggressive, especially for a local government with two-plus years of general fund reserves in the bank. The Township Trustees, nonetheless, unanimously supported placing the tax increase on the ballot, which will be before all Centerville and Washington Township residents on May 7. Centerville City Council

has opted to take no formal position as an elected body on this proposed tax increase.

Funding for the Washington Township Recreation Center will also be on the ballot with a .7 mill recreation services replacement levy request. The Recreation Center only raises 57% of its operating costs from fees and grants—the rest comes from taxpayers through the property tax levy. By contrast, the City's refuse collection service is fully funded by user fees and Yankee Trace golf course covers 93% of its cost (including debt service) from user fees. The philosophy the City favors is that facilities such as the Rec Center should be funded entirely or almost entirely from user fees as opposed to general property taxes. The City of Centerville *Levies continued on page 2.*

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**ANNUAL REPORT
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State of the City

Centerville has no plans to raise taxes

Mayor Mark Kingseed delivered his annual State of the City address Feb. 11 at the Centerville Police Department. His message focused on the City's efforts to continue improving efficiencies, controlling costs instead of raising taxes, protecting the City against further state funding cuts, and encouraging private economic growth. Kingseed also addressed the proposed state legislation for tax uniformity reform, House Bill 5, calling it a raid of \$600,000 from City funds.



Mayor Mark Kingseed

While the plan's supporters say it is intended to add uniformity to the management of local income tax, Kingseed said its real purpose is to reduce business income taxes by allowing those businesses to set off losses for five years against later profits, and changing other rules relating to tax calculations. Calling it a shell game, Kingseed said the plan allows state legislators to pose as reformers while overtaxed City residents are left holding the bag, and encouraged citizens to contact their local representatives.

Kingseed said in his ten years as Mayor, the last few have been the most challenging for local governments. Those challenges are in large part because of the lingering effects of the 2008 recession and the drastic budget cuts from the state legislature.

The biggest hit for Ohio's cities, villages and townships has been the state cuts to local funding. For Centerville, those cuts meant a \$300,000 decrease to the Local Government Fund and the elimination of the Estate Tax, which cut \$1.5 million from the budget. While other cities have responded to these cuts by seeking additional tax revenues from their citizens, Centerville is not willing to do that, said Kingseed.

Kingseed said the new reality is that all local entities, including schools, parks and libraries, will have to rely entirely or almost entirely on local dollars. However, Kingseed said that raising taxes and passing new levies will become too much for citizens to bear. He said by working together with Washington Township to create Joint Economic Districts (JEDDs) tax proceeds could be shared, which would reduce the township's need to continually ask for property tax increases. Although he has made repeated attempts to work with the township on JEDDS with no response, he said the door is always open.

In spite of these issues, Kingseed announced that Centerville Council unanimously decided to not ask residents for additional income or property taxes this year.

At 1.75 percent, Centerville has one of the lowest income tax rates in Montgomery County. The City's property tax rate of 2.35-mills is also one of the lowest. A City resident with a \$200,000 home pays \$350 less per year in property tax than a comparable Township resident. The City's portion of the property tax revenue is so low that a Centerville resident pays more in property tax to the Park District and Library than to the City itself, Kingseed said.

Rather than raise taxes, Kingseed said Council is committed to dealing with financial difficulties by reducing expenses and streamlining resources. Over the past ten years the number of City employees has been reduced from 196 to 162. Funding to a number of civic groups like the historical society and Hithergreen Center was reduced

and the D.A.R.E. program eliminated. Kingseed said by automating the waste collection program, the City has realized more than \$300,000 savings each year. He noted that Council's approach to City services that go beyond the scope of local government is for the service to pay for itself. Citing The Golf Club at Yankee Trace and waste collection program as examples, he said Council's goal is to make the services as self-sufficient as possible. Yankee Trace golf course was built to provide a community amenity and new housing, always with the understanding that the vast majority of the operation costs would be covered by fees paid by golfers, diners and those using the banquet facilities. While the City has subsidized part of the construction debt, Kingseed said that even after combining operations and construction debt service, Yankee Trace revenues typically cover 93% of the total cost.

There are encouraging signs on the economic development front as Kingseed cited Miami Valley Hospital South's continued expansions, the new Kroger Marketplace, and Graceworks Lutheran Village and St. Leonard's new additions. The Dille property development should be underway this year, he added, and activity continues to increase in downtown Centerville and at Cross Pointe Center. He said the City is working with business requests in a proactive manner to meet their needs while adhering to the City's policies and standards. Kingseed said the City continues to be open to annexation to those property owners interested in the development opportunities Centerville offers.

Kingseed concluded by saying that Council takes a long-term view to ensure Centerville residents continue to live in a viable and prosperous community, which includes protecting citizens from higher taxes while still providing quality services.

To read the full text of Mayor Kingseed's speech, go to centervilleohio.gov.

(Levies continued from page 1) had no formal input into this levy request and has opted to take no position on the matter.

Mayor Kingseed noted in his recent State of the City Address that the City of Centerville has not requested an income tax increase for municipal services since 1981. Council actually permitted the City's municipal property tax millage to be reduced in 1998 with the expiration of a 20-year road improvement levy. The City's income tax rate, which stands at 1.75%, remains the lowest rate among area cities in southern Montgomery County. Centerville has suffered from the same extensive State cutbacks as the Township, with the loss of the Estate Tax, 50% of the Local Government Fund, and the expedited phasing out of the Tangible Personal Property Tax, but City Council remains committed to doing everything possible to avoid raising income or city property taxes and trying to do more with less. The voters of Centerville and Washington Township will certainly have some tough decisions to make on May 7 when they cast their ballots.

City looking for summer help

The City of Centerville is hiring seasonal employees for a variety of positions at The Golf Club at Yankee Trace, Public Works and Benham's Grove. Visit centervilleohio.gov under Employment for details. Submit application or resume to Human Resources, 100 W. Spring Valley Road, Centerville, OH 45458, or email application to personnel@centervilleohio.gov. Applications available in person or online. The City of Centerville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Employees achieve career milestones with City

Centerville honored 37 employees for their years of service during the annual Employee Recognition Luncheon. Police Department Communications and Records Supervisor Judy Kuhns and Police Officer Donna Peacock were each recognized for 30 years of service. Ms. Kuhns recently retired. Police Sgt. Scott Owsley received a 25-year award. "The City is pleased and honored to have employees who have dedicated their careers to serving the residents of Centerville," says City Manager Greg Horn. "We appreciate the efforts and talents all of our employees bring to their respective positions."

Other honorees included:

20 Years of Service

- Greg Horn, City Manager
- Maureen Russell Hodgson, City Manager's Office
- John Davis, Police Department
- Steve Maynard, Police Department
- Todd Rardon, Police Department
- Geoffrey Reddens, Public Works
- Jim Robinson, Public Works
- Samson Wright, Public Works

15 Years of Service

- Cathy Coleman, Police Department
- Faupo Lauofo, Police Department
- Dan Doherty, Public Works
- Ricky Hawkins, Public Works

Ten Years of Service

- Kathy Ryan, Yankee Trace
- Mary Lynn Mogan, Yankee Trace
- Tony Beran, Police Department
- Carol Salmon, Police Department
- Jason Stamm, Police Department
- Mike Yoder, Police Department
- Rob James, Public Works

Five Years of Service

- Sally Blommel, Benham's Grove
- Margot Pocisk, Benham's Grove
- Karen Leadman, Finance Office
- Andrew Beiring, Yankee Trace
- Matt Dulli, Yankee Trace
- Virginia Focke, Yankee Trace
- Sharon Griffith, Yankee Trace
- Gregg Sharkey, Yankee Trace
- Howie Vellia, Yankee Trace
- Kathy Weis, Yankee Trace
- Marty Tackett, Public Works
- Lori Fields, Police Department
- Nick Pauley, Police Department
- Roger Rose, Police Department
- Tyler Wilson, Police Department



Jim Singer is surrounded by son-in-law Dr. Edgar Santillan, daughter Dr. Melody Singer and wife, Willa Singer during the council recognition.

Jim Singer recognized by City

During the December 2012 council meeting, Jim Singer was recognized for surpassing 35 years of service as a Centerville Council member. After being thanked by Deputy Mayor Brooks Compton, proclamation letters from US Representative Mike Turner and State Representative Terry Blair were presented to Mr. Singer. Council then recessed for a reception to honor Mr. Singer.

During the Council meeting, Deputy Mayor Compton spoke of Mr. Singer's contributions to Centerville remarking that the Councilman, who began serving in 1977, has been involved in the substantial development of the City. "Jim got involved when a very important issue surfaced in the mid-70s," said Compton. As Centerville started growing, the community faced crucial development issues. Singer advocated for a single family residential community.

Compton said Singer tackled the serious problem of storm water runoff by forming and heading up the Storm Water Drainage Task Force, a committee he's been working with since 1989. The task force together with City staff has since developed a comprehensive drainage plan.

Councilman Singer has served as Finance chair, addressing the City's budget, for many years. During his tenure, "Centerville has never sought additional tax monies from its citizens, always balanced its budget and maintained a level of financial stability that is the envy of many local governments," said the deputy mayor. Compton also noted Singer's involvement with the Miami Valley Communications Council and its growing significance for local governments.

Compton reviewed a list of projects that have developed during Singer's time on Council including I-675 and business developments like Cross Pointe Center, Clyo Road extension and its further extension into Greene County, Miami Valley Hospital South and Bethany Lutheran Village. He added a number of neighborhoods were also built since 1977 including Yankee Trace, Black Oak, Black Oak South, Nestle Creek and Deer Run, and noted that City facilities have grown with the addition of Benham's Grove and The Golf Club at Yankee Trace along with two other recent government buildings, the Police Department and Public Works Center.

Remarking that Singer has received more electoral support for council than any other councilmember in Centerville history, "There is no better evidence of the high regard that Centerville residents have in Jim and the confidence they have placed in him over these past 35 years," said Compton.



Judy Kuhns and Officer Donna Peacock received 30-year certificates.



Sgt. Scott Owsley was recognized for his 25 years of service.

Citywide Garage Sale, May 2-4

Register your sale now through April 19

Whether you're looking for some great bargains or want to clean out your house, add the City of Centerville's annual Citywide Garage Sale to your calendar. Set for Thursday, May 2 through Saturday, May 4, the sales take place 8 a.m.-5 p.m. each day in neighborhoods throughout Centerville. This is the perfect opportunity to de-clutter your home or hunt for unexpected finds.

For each household participating in the garage sale, the City will provide one sign and advertising in a local newspaper.

Addresses of participating households with a brief

description of items for sale will be listed on the City's website.

Residents must register at centervilleohio.gov or use the form on page 20 of this publication and return it to Centerville Municipal Offices, 100 W. Spring Valley Road. Fax registrations to 428-4763. Registration deadline is 9 a.m., Friday, April 19.

What you don't sell, you can have hauled away during Operation Clean Sweep, May 6-9. All items should be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on your regular waste collection day. Call 433-7151 or email information@centervilleohio.gov with questions.



Last year, more than 250 households took part in the citywide garage sale.

Dispose of documents and medications at Police event

While spring cleaning, take a look in your medicine cabinet and go through your desk and files. Keep only currently used medications with valid dates. Organize your files, keeping only the bills, records and other paperwork you need.

Bring your expired and unwanted medications and old confidential papers to the Centerville Police Department, 155 W. Spring Valley Road for Operation D.U.M.P. (Dispose of Unwanted Medications Properly). This event is offered 10-1 p.m., Saturday, May 4. Pills, tablets, and capsules should be removed from the bottle and placed securely in a Ziploc bag. All foil packaging and unopened pill bottles should be emptied and placed in a Ziploc bag. Packages with leaks will not be accepted.

Confidential Material Destruction Inc. will collect paper materials brought to their shredding truck. Place paper documents in a tub, box or bag. Upon collection, the items will be placed in a large receptacle for immediate shredding. This service is for residents and not businesses with bulk shredding needs.

This is an annual event offered in partnership with the Centerville Spring Clean up Week. Call 433-7661 for further information.

Free bulk item pickup, May 6-9

Following the Citywide Garage Sale, Clean Sweep Week is May 6-9. Centerville waste collection customers may put out unlimited refuse for pickup at no extra charge. All items need to be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on your regular collection day.

No hazardous items (paint, oil, propane) concrete, rock, dirt, tree stumps, root balls, or vehicle parts including tires will be collected. Items such as carpet, wood, and countertops must be cut or broken down to four foot lengths so they can fit in trucks. Mattresses must be sealed in plastic. Bags are available for \$3 at the Public Works Center or purchased at local home improvement stores.

During Clean Sweep Week 2012, our crews collected over 430 tons of refuse including couches, tables, toys, carpet, and miscellaneous trash. The entire Refuse/Recycling and Street division staffs work this annual event. Several different trucks will be out collecting items so everything you put out might not get collected by the first truck.

Contact Public Works, 428-4782 or publicworks@centervilleohio.gov for more information.



The City encourages residents to recycle as much as possible. Orange stickers for your recycling container of choice are available at the Municipal Offices, 100 West Spring Valley Road; the Public Works Center, 7970 S. Suburban Road; or by calling Public Works, 428-4782. Your old items may have useful life for others. McMRF, Montgomery County Material Re-use Facility, accepts wood furniture, paint, cabinets, appliances, lumber and more. Go to mcoho.org/services/swd/mcmrf.html or call 496-6639 for details.

OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP

The City of Centerville offers the following events to help you on your way to a clutter-free home. For more information, call 433-7151 or visit centervilleohio.gov.

UNTIL
APRIL 19

REGISTER YOUR GARAGE SALE

MAY
2-4

SHOP AT CITYWIDE GARAGE SALE

MAY 4
10-1

CLEAN OUT MEDICINE CABINET AND TAKE ITEMS TO POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR DISPOSAL

MAY 4
10-1

REVIEW OLD DOCUMENTS AND TAKE TO POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR SHREDDING

MAY
6-9

BULK ITEM PICKUP ON YOUR REGULAR WASTE COLLECTION DAY

City publishes new street map

Centerville's Planning Department has published a new City street map. The updated map features areas in Centerville and Washington Township. Available on the City's website, www.centervilleohio.gov, paper copies may be purchased for \$2 at the Centerville Municipal Offices, 100 W. Spring Valley Road. The paper used for the map is FSC Certified and 100% recyclable. For more information, call 433-7151.

Dunn retires from Police Department

Officer Matt Dunn retired in December from the Centerville Police Department. Dunn joined the force in 1993, serving 15 of his 19 years as Crime Prevention Officer. Over the years, Dunn contributed to the success of established programs such as Mystery Night Out, the Bicycle Rodeo and Neighborhood Watch. He helped create several innovative programs including Business Watch, child seat safety checks, Hometown Survival Trail safety exhibit, CSI Camp for youngsters and D.A.R.E. Student Day at the Cincinnati Reds.



Officer Matt Dunn

Dunn says one of his favorite programs is the Citizens Police Academy, a course that gives residents a behind the scenes look at the Centerville Police Department. First offered in 2002, more than 450 citizens have taken part in the program.

In addition to Crime Prevention Officer and road patrol, Dunn has worked as D.A.R.E. and Public Information officer as well as evidence manager. He has served on the board of Miami Valley Crime Prevention Association and held each leadership position available with the Ohio Crime Prevention Association.

Last year Dunn was named Ohio Crime Prevention Officer of the Year. Operation DUMP, Dispose of Unwanted Medication Properly, received the Best Crime Prevention award in 2010. This original program, which gives citizens the opportunity to drop off old medications to the Police Department for destruction, was one of the first of its kind in Ohio.

Dunn says he's enjoyed many opportunities offered by the Police Department and credits the success of the programs to Police administration, fellow officers, residents, businesses and volunteers. "By working together, we have made a difference here," says Dunn. "It's great to have been a part of an organization that has such tremendous support and cooperation throughout the community."

Mayor to host annual Interfaith Breakfast in April

Centerville Mayor Mark Kingseed hosts the annual interfaith breakfast with area religious leaders at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 10 at The Golf Club at Yankee Trace, 10000 Yankee Street. Kingseed says the goal for the event is to expand the dialogue on ways local government and local faith-based organizations can work together to meet community needs. All churches and other faith-based organizations in the City of Centerville and Washington Township should receive an invitation. For more information call Centerville Municipal Offices, 433-7151.

Online tool available for tax payments

The City offers a free, online tax preparation tool for residents. The secure system, available at centervilleohio.gov, walks you through the Centerville income tax form, downloads information about tax payments made during the year, and automatically calculates the tax liability or refund. This year, there is an added security feature which allows you to assign your own PIN. Print the completed form, attach W2's and any applicable federal schedules, and mail or bring it to the Tax Office.

Since the tool transmits residents' data directly to the City, the Tax Office no longer has to manually enter tax information. There is no fee to use the tool. You may also use it to request an extension to file your Centerville tax return (it does not extend the time to pay any tax due). Your tax preparer may use this tool to determine any credits (estimate payments or credit carryovers) in your account.

The Tax Office staff is available for assistance either by phone, 433-7151, or in the Tax Office, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. There is no charge and no appointment needed. 2012 income tax returns and the first quarter 2013 estimated tax payments are due April 15. You may drop your tax return and/or any payment in the box in the rear parking lot of the Municipal Building, 100 W. Spring Valley Road.

City using agency to collect missing tax returns

Centerville recently contracted with the Central Collection Agency (CCA) in an effort to collect the filing of missing income tax returns, and the collection of any subsequent tax, penalties and interest that may be due to the City. CCA compares data obtained from the IRS records with data in the City of Centerville's tax files to determine any potential missing income tax returns. If you are notified by CCA, an explanation of their process, a list of the required documents and contact information are provided. More information is at centervilleohio.gov and on the CCA website, ccatax.ci.cleveland.oh.us.

Welcome to these businesses new to Centerville



Council member John Beals officially opens Palm Beach Tan.



Mayor Mark Kingseed (center) joins Miami Valley Hospital South staff for its Comprehensive Cancer Center opening day.

- Open Haus Gifts and Engraving** 101 E. Alex-Bell, Suite 118
- Anytime Fitness** 1027 S. Main Street
- Unwind Massage and Skin** 7946-A Cloy Road
- State Farm Insurance** 843 E. Franklin Street
- Circa** 923 E. Franklin Street
- Centerville Design Associates** 205 N. Main Street

Scholarships available to local students

Two local education scholarships are targeted specifically for Centerville and Washington Township students. The John P. Kalamán Scholarship Fund, established in 1998 in memory of Centerville Police Officer John Kalamán, offers three scholarships totaling \$22,500. To date, more than \$173,000 has been awarded to 38 local students. The Americana Festival scholarships ranging in value from \$400 to \$1,600, offer three scholarships each for middle school and high school students, one scholarship for college students and one community service scholarship for either high school or college students.

Kalamán scholarships are available to two students planning to attend a four-year institution, community or technical college, or trade school, as well as to high school seniors planning to major in criminal justice, criminology, social work, psychology, political science, education, government service or forensics. An additional scholarship is available for employees and dependents of full-time or retired Centerville Police Department employees. Kalamán scholarship applications are available at daytonfoundation.org, click on Scholarship Connect or by calling 225-9955. Application deadline is Friday, March 22.

Americana scholarships recognize students for academic excellence and commitment to their community. High school seniors and college students up to age 21 must complete a personal interview, demonstrate involvement in community service and write a 500-word essay. Middle School students in grades six through eight must write a 250-word essay.

Americana application deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 10. Registration forms are at americanafestival.org or the Americana Festival Office, Town Hall Theatre, 27 N. Main St.

Give the Gift of Life

Kalamán Memorial Blood Drive is April 25

In 1998, Centerville Police Officer John P. Kalamán was killed in the line of duty. Unable to honor his request to be an organ donor, his parents began hosting an annual blood drive on John's birthday. Since that first drive 16 years ago, more than 3,700 units of blood, equating to over 10,000 life-saving units, have been donated in John's memory.

The Officer John P. Kalamán Memorial Blood Drive will be held 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Thursday, April 25, at the Centerville Police Department, 155 W. Spring Valley Road.

Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh 110 lbs. A picture ID or blood donor card is also required. Schedule your appointment online at donortime.com or contact Paula Kalamán at 436-6920. Walk-ins are welcome.

Officials take part in program

Centerville Mayor Mark Kingseed and City Manager Greg Horn joined other local officials to participate in a video program discussing the outcome of a University of Toledo Urban Affairs study regarding inequities in funding between Ohio cities and townships. The study showed a significant subsidy for urban townships and additional tax burdens for cities. The program is available at DaytonAreaMayorsandManagers.com.

An old acquaintance among the pines

Centerville's annual tree planting to celebrate Arbor Day is 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 17 at Benham's Grove, 166 N. Main Street. Third grade students from Centerville area elementary schools will join Centerville Council to plant nine trees native to Ohio. This event commemorates Centerville's recognition as a Tree City USA, a designation the City has earned for 26 consecutive years. The public is invited.

Local students along with Mayor Mark Kingseed planted trees last year in honor of Arbor Day.



Arbor Day 2012

Friends of Benham's Grove membership available

Become a member of the Friends of Benham's Grove. The mission of this volunteer organization is to promote and preserve the gardens and grounds of Benham's Grove and to develop special projects which further the purpose of this community gathering place. Friends of Benham's Grove most recent contribution was the partial funding of the newly constructed brick plaza.

Membership is available for individuals, families, businesses and organizations at three levels: \$25 Daisy, \$50 Violet or \$100 Tulip. Membership forms are available at Benham's Grove, 166 N. Main Street and benhamsgrove.com, click Information. For more information, contact Membership Chair Cassie Screngi at cassie.screngi@gmail.com or call Benham's Grove, 433-1913.

Meet your neighbors at Community A'Fair

Discover all that our community has to offer at the second annual Community A'Fair, noon–4 p.m., Saturday, March 23 at Centerville High School. This free event brings together almost 100 exhibits, prizes, food and friends.

Sponsored by the Heart of Centerville Alliance, the downtown merchants association, the event provides opportunities to visit local businesses, community organizations and other non-profits all in one location—the CHS gym. There'll be lots of giveaways, too. For more information visit heartofcenterville.com.



Last year's Community A'Fair welcomed more than 2,000 visitors.

REMEMBER OUR COUNTRY'S HEROES

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY SET FOR MAY 27

The City of Centerville's annual Memorial Day ceremony is 9 a.m., Monday, May 27 at the Veterans Memorial in Stubbs Park, 255 W. Spring Valley Road. In case of rain, the event will move to the Centerville Police Department, 155 W. Spring Valley Road.

The program includes the Centerville VFW Post 9550 Color Guard, the Centerville Police Department Honor Guard and remarks from Centerville Mayor Mark Kingseed. The keynote speaker had not been announced by press time. For more information call 433-7151.

Americana Festival announces theme

"Commemorating Gettysburg... 150 years" is the 2013 Americana Festival theme. Celebrated on July 4 in downtown Centerville, Ohio's largest one-day festival is made possible through the dedicated work of volunteers and generous donations from individuals and corporate sponsors.

The Americana Festival committee is a volunteer board led by Steve Wenstrup, chair; Jon Wesley, president; Duke Lunsford, executive director; Rick Molt, secretary/treasurer; and Jack Kindler, executive vice president, along with Larry Blank, Jim Reppert and Maureen Russell Hodgson. Vice Presidents for the 2013 festival include Joe Turner, Logistics; Fred Dressel, Legal Counsel; Patricia Fleissner, Arts & Crafts; Don Taylor, Parade; and Joan Cordonnier, 5K Run.

Volunteers are welcomed. Contact the festival office, 433-5898, or americanafestival@sbcglobal.net.



Veterans Memorial set for new addition

A new enhancement project, designed to complement the existing Veterans Memorial at Stubbs Park, has recently begun. The Centerville-Washington Veterans Memorial, dedicated in 2004, honors men and women killed in action as well as those who have or are presently serving in the United States Armed Forces. The new enhancement features five bronze medallions depicting various scenes of sacrifice and service during times of war and peace to be installed along the brick plaza and reflecting pond at the Memorial at Stubbs Park, 255 West Spring Valley Road. Each medallion pays tribute to a branch of the US Armed Forces: Navy, Army, Air Force, Coast Guard and Marines.

Internationally recognized sculptor Virginia Krause Hess designed and created the bas relief pieces. The Centerville resident has had many of her works exhibited throughout the US and Europe. Her sculpture of Charles E. Taylor, designer of the Wright Brothers' engine, is on display at the Smithsonian Institute. Mrs. Hess has generously donated her time, talents and materials to create the medallions and also graciously provided funding for the pieces to be bronzed. Additional funding is needed for the mounting and installation, as the design calls for each bronze piece to be in-laid in a granite marker.

The cost of this project is \$35,000. The City of Centerville and Washington Township have each pledged \$10,000 to support the

installation. A community fundraising effort to support the remaining \$15,000 is now underway. Any additional funds will be used to further enhance the existing memorial.

Major sponsorships with various levels of contribution have been established beginning at \$1,000, however, all contributions will help further the project. Individuals and organizations contributing at the sponsorship levels will be recognized with their names engraved on a permanent marker near the memorial plaza.

A separate fund has been created with the Dayton Foundation to receive contributions for this project. Tax deductible contributions may be made with checks payable to the Dayton Foundation, 500 Kettering Tower, Dayton, Ohio 45423. Contributions should refer-

ence the Centerville-Washington Veterans Memorial.

Also under construction is the memorial brick walkway. Bricks engraved in honor of veterans, or friends of veterans, may be purchased. Two sizes are available.

The current Memorial features a granite monument on a limestone platform, and ceremonial brick plaza and walkway near a pond. The walkway includes brick pavers inscribed with names of US veterans of all wars and of those who served in our Armed Forces.

The new addition will be dedicated during the Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11, 2013. For more information, call 433-7151.



Artist's rendering of the five bronze medallions to be placed along the Veterans Memorial Plaza at Stubbs Park.

NIGHT OF ORIGINAL MUSIC PLANNED

The Centerville Arts Commission sponsors the 6th annual Original Night at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 8 in the Centerville High School (CHS) Central Theater, 500 E. Franklin St. The event is free and open to the public. This student-run concert showcases original pieces composed and performed by CHS students and features a variety of genres including jazz and classical.

Arts Commission seeking sponsors for concert series

The Centerville Arts Commission has 15 entertaining concerts scheduled for summer and is offering businesses the opportunity to provide sponsorship support for the series. Last year more than 15,000 people attended Sunday concerts at Stubbs Park, 255 W. Spring Valley Road. Sponsorships help the Commission keep the arts vibrant, alive and accessible and are offered at five levels: platinum, gold, silver, bronze, and patron. For more information about sponsoring the series, contact Kristen Gopman, 433-7151, or visit centervilleohio.gov. Sponsorship deadline is March 31.



Society offers slice of history

Learn more about our community's rich history from the experts. Memberships to the Centerville-Washington Township Historical Society are available for \$25 and benefits include advance ticket purchases for special events and the society's monthly newsletter. Enjoy the monthly speaker program, annual luncheon and other activities. Stop by the Historical Society, 89 W. Franklin St., call 433-0123 or visit centervilleohio.gov/cwthistory.

STEP BACK IN TIME WITH SOCIETY PROGRAMS

The Centerville-Washington Township Historical Society presents programs at Hithergreen Center, 5900 Hithergreen Drive. Refreshments are served at 6:30 p.m., and the programs begin at 7 p.m. Call the society, 433-0123, for more information.

MAR 19

Melinda Mohler:
"Unsolved Mysteries of History from Colonial and Antebellum Periods"

APR 16

Mark Renwick:
"History of Canals"

MAY 21

"Slavery by Another Name", part of the Lincoln Series
Co-sponsored by the Centerville Library

Lincoln exhibit to be showcased at library

The Centerville Library is one of only 200 locations in the US selected to offer *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, a traveling exhibit by the National Constitution Center and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. Made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the exhibit is based on an exhibition developed by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Visitors will have their first opportunity to see this unique exhibit at an opening ceremony at 6:30 p.m., Friday, April 19 at the Centerville Library, 111 W. Spring Valley Road. The exhibit will be on display during library hours through May 31.

The exhibit focuses on the presidency of Abraham Lincoln at a critical time in our nation's history. Visitors will see Lincoln's struggle to resolve the basic questions that divided Americans, including political and constitutional challenges brought forth by the war. The exhibit provides a better understanding of Lincoln as president and the Civil War as the nation's greatest constitutional crisis.

Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War, additional events

- ▶ Scholar Series examining Civil War issues and Lincoln's impact: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday April 23 and 30, May 7, 14, 21 and 28 at Hithergreen Center, 5900 Hithergreen Drive. Co-sponsored by the library and Hithergreen Center.
- ▶ Slavery by Another Name: the PBS documentary, 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 21 at Hithergreen Center.
- ▶ Civil War Days: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, May 4, Centerville Library lawn family event featuring re-enactments and more, sponsored in partnership with the Centerville-Washington Township Historical Society.

To learn more, call Washington-Centerville Public Library, 433-8091, or visit wclibrary.info.



March into spring

Learn the wonders of rain water at a seminar sponsored by the City Beautiful Commission 10 a.m., Saturday, March 23 at the Public Works Center, 7970 South Suburban Road. Eric Sauer from CYP Studio Design presents March into Spring, a workshop about rain barrels, rain gardens and drainage improvements you can incorporate into your own yard. This event is free and open to the public.

In addition to sponsoring workshops, the City Beautiful Commission, a city volunteer board, recognizes homeowners for beautifully decorated yards with summer landscape awards. The commission accepts nominations June through August. Call 428-4782 or email publicworks@centervilleohio.gov for more information.

The Commission is open to any Centerville resident interested in keeping Centerville beautiful. Applications may be downloaded at centervilleohio.gov or call 433-7151.



Farmers Market to open in May

Bring your shopping list to the Farmers Market, near the intersection of St. Rt. 48 and Spring Valley Road. Beginning May 16, area farmers arrive each Thursday with fresh vegetables, fruit, bread, herbs, organic meat and eggs, jams, jellies, farmstead cheese, cut flowers, bedding plants, honey and more. All produce is locally grown; some is certified organic. Sign up at centervillefarmersmarket.com to receive emails about the market and visit the Facebook page for updates.

Hithergreen Center sets annual golf outing

The fifth annual Hithergreen Golf Outing is Monday, May 20 at The Golf Club at Yankee Trace. Proceeds for the four-player scramble support Hithergreen Center, whose mission is to enrich the lives of older adults in our community.

The outing includes refreshments, contests, lunch buffet and silent auction. The entry fee is \$100. For registration or to sponsor the event, call Kara Ware, 435-2415.

Hithergreen has more than 2,000 members, serves more than 300 people daily and offers over 125 education, recreation, health and fitness programs each year. Visit hithergreen.org for more information.



The 2012 Summer Concert Series welcomed almost 15,000 visitors to Stubbs Park for free concerts.

Summer concerts kick off in June

Get your lawn chairs and blankets ready for a summer of musical entertainment. Sponsored by the Centerville Arts Commission, almost 15,000 people attended last year's free concert series at Stubbs Park, 255 W. Spring Valley Road. Look for a great mix of oldies, big band, country, Motown, and rock. Popular favorites such as Phil Dirt & the Dozers, Terry Lee Goffee and his Johnny Cash tribute, Joe Mullins and the Radio Ramblers and the Lebanon Grand Opry House Band are part of the lineup. We'll have the complete schedule in the next Town Crier.



The Arts Commission is seeking sponsorships for the Summer Series. Call 433-7151 for information.

EARTH DAY TO CELEBRATE ENVIRONMENT



Centerville-Washington Earth Day, a new event featuring music, games, arts and crafts, food and environmental awareness is planned for noon-4, Saturday April 20 at Stubbs Park, 255 W. Spring Valley Road. The free event features a Kids' Eco Village, education booths, workshops and vendors along with local entertainment. Sponsors include St. Leonard, Miami Valley Hospital South, Getty Law, Centerville-Washington Park District, Washington-Centerville Public Library, City of Centerville and Washington Township.

According to Wake Up! Dayton founder Kara Ware, the event will bring together environmental mentors, community leaders and committed businesses as well as other organizations dedicated to increasing awareness about local products and agriculture and encouraging their use. Information on reducing impact and the environmental cause of many common health diagnoses will be offered. Wake Up! is a local nonprofit dedicated to educating kids and families how to best improve our quality of life and the environment in which we live. For more information visit wakeupdayton.org.

YANKEE TRACE PROGRAMS AND CAMPS

The Golf Club at Yankee Trace serves up lunch and dinner

Whether it's lunch, brunch, or a Friday night fish fry, Yankee Trace restaurant offers delicious fare for your family with a variety of entrees, sides and desserts in a warm and inviting atmosphere. And, with two special event buffets, your upcoming holiday meals just got planned. Visit yankeetrace.org or call 438-3585.

Lunch: Tuesday–Friday, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Sunday Brunch: (excluding holidays below)
10 a.m.–2 p.m., \$18.95 adults, \$8.95 children

Friday Night Fish Fry: (through March 29),
\$12.95 adults, \$3.75 children

Easter Buffet, Sunday, March 31

Mother's Day Buffet, Sunday, May 12

Enjoy a buffet feast including roast leg of lamb (Easter only), baked Virginia ham, roast sirloin of beef, Seafood Newburg, vegetables, potato, salads, desserts and more. Three seatings available: 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 4 p.m. Prices are \$25.95 for adults, \$12.95 for ages 12 and under. Kids five and under eat free. Reservations required, call 438-3585.

Volunteer at Yankee Trace

Yankee Trace has been named the #1 golf course in Dayton for eight consecutive years. Without the support of our volunteers, this unprecedented feat would not be possible. Applications are now available for the 2013 season. Volunteer positions include customer service and course beautification. Benefits include complimentary golf and range balls and merchandise discounts. Call 438-GOLF for program details.

Improve your game

Our PGA and LPGA Professionals are available all season for expert instruction. Individual and group lessons are available for beginners, intermediate, and advanced golfers. Lesson schedules are now online at yankeetrace.org or call the Golf Shop, 438-GOLF.



Get ahead of the game with youth programs

Youth Summer Camps, ideal for ages 6–12, offer five days of instruction and end with an on-course tournament. Each junior receives complimentary Nike golf shoes, glove, sleeve of golf balls and more. Camps begin in June.

Youth Players Camp, for golfers ages 11–17, is geared toward the intermediate and advanced golfer. Comprehensive sessions include swing fundamentals and on-course instruction. This program is perfect for the junior interested in competing at the middle, high school or collegiate levels. The fee includes video analysis, Nike golf balls, daily prizes and more.

Yankee Trace offers new programs this season

Here are a few:

- ▶ **Club 55**—Weekly Tuesday morning game for senior men ages 55+, begins in May. Fee includes 18-holes, prize fund, emailed results, optional Skins Game and end of the season banquet.
- ▶ **Monthly Friday Evening Couple's League**—Begins in May. Two playing partners of any skill level compete in a fun format followed by an awards ceremony and dinner.
- ▶ **Women's Leagues**
 - ▶ **9-Hole Tuesday Morning League**
 - ▶ **18-Hole Wednesday Morning League**
 - ▶ **9-Hole Wednesday Evening League**
- ▶ **9-Hole Men's League**—Four 9-week sessions (\$225) and two 6-week sessions (\$150). Fees include 9-holes, weekly prize fund and end-of-the-season awards banquet. Play days are Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sign-ups begin late March.
- ▶ **Youth Summer and Fall Leagues**—Players ages 10–17 of all skill levels. This league offers playing experience with an introduction to competitive golf, including on-course golf matches for middle school junior golfers getting ready for high school golf.

Visit yankeetrace.org or call the Golf Shop, 438-GOLF.

Public Works gets ready for construction season

The Public Works Department is gearing up for construction season. Projects on tap include street and sidewalk repair programs. The next issue of Town Crier will have more details. Resurfacing work on East Spring Valley Road will continue following a water main replacement and sanitary sewer assessment project by Montgomery County Water Services. The County plans to begin construction in early spring and have the project wrapped up by early June. Concrete curb work along East Spring Valley Road was completed late last year, with final milling and asphalt paving anticipated to be complete by the end of June, following the County's work.

Get permits ahead of work

Spring is a great time to take stock of the exterior of your home. Check downspouts and gutters to make sure they are clear of debris like leaves, pine needles, and roof grit. Check the drain pipes or splash blocks at the ends of your downspouts, are they open and able to run unobstructed? Do they adequately direct water away from the house? Make plans to fix any deficiencies you find.

If your improvements include work in the public right of way, it requires a right of way permit. This includes any plan to connect yard drains to the storm sewer system or replace a drive approach with concrete, asphalt or pavers. The permit triggers an inspection to ensure the work is done properly and in accordance with current City standards. Property owners are encouraged to hire contractors who are bonded with the City and familiar with City requirements. As projects are planned keep in mind that anything you place in the public right of way—pet fence, an irrigation system, or landscaping may be subject to removal when a public improvement project comes along. Questions may be directed to Public Works, 428-4782.

USE CAUTION WHEN DIGGING

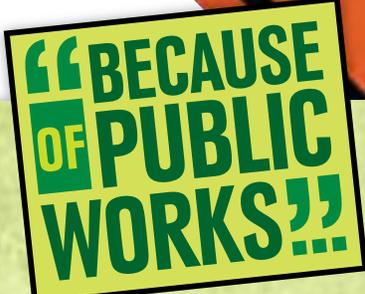
Call 811 for utility line locations

April has been designated Safe Digging Month. Protecting buried utility lines benefits everyone and is a safety consideration. Digging into a live electric or gas line and working around buried utilities can be dangerous. Call 811 for utility locations before digging—it's the law. Ohio Utility Protection Service (OUPS) is a free service. After you call and provide the location of your work, OUPS will contact utility companies to visit your property to mark their underground lines. Then you'll know where to dig to avoid hitting a buried utility line. If work is planned in your yard, ask specifically for buried lines to be located. Locates are needed when planting a shrub or tree, setting posts to build a deck, or sinking swing set supports. For more information visit www.oups.org.

Signs warn motorists of hazards

The black on yellow warning sign seen along roadways alerting motorists of a hazard is a common sign listed in the Ohio Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (OMUTCD). This guidebook, used by public officials to post traffic signs, provides numerous warning signs for our use including curve, lane end, merge, and slippery when wet. These signs are intended to give motorists information that will be helpful along their way. Warning signs are not enforceable like regulatory STOP, speed limit, or no parking signs, but they do alert motorists of roadway conditions that warrant caution, so drivers should adjust accordingly. Failure to obey warning signs won't initiate a ticket; however, failure to heed the warning could result in an unexpected situation that was otherwise avoidable.

Public officials use the OMUTCD guide to provide traffic control along public roadways. Local jurisdictions are advised to not create special warning signs—especially if those signs depict something that isn't a roadway condition that exists at all times. Too many signs can lead to the disregard of needed signs.



Week recognizes those in profession

Since 1960 the American Public Works Association (APWA) has designated one week in May as National Public Works Week. This year May 19–25 has been set aside to recognize and thank those who work in the Public Works field. This year's theme is "Because of Public Works..." and highlights the quality of life in communities everywhere that is improved 'because of Public Works' professionals.

You likely know a Public Works professional; they take care of the highways and byways each of us travel every day. Public Works plows snow and salts roadways during a winter storm event. They collect refuse and recyclables in all types of weather. Centerville's Public Works staff takes care of over 106 miles of streets, about 60 miles of sidewalk, around 3,000 storm drains, over 3,600 traffic signs, 27 traffic signals, several hundred street lights, hundreds of acres of grass and landscaped areas, and collects trash and recyclables from over 6,000 customers. Our mechanics maintain and repair over 100 different vehicles and pieces of equipment needed to do our work. In addition, Public Works staff works special events at Stubbs Park, Americana Festival and various holidays.

As you travel to work, school or home, take a minute to check out your surroundings. There are many dedicated people taking care of Centerville.



Public Works staff members Dan Doherty and Andrew Focke plant trees at Stubbs Park.



Officer Ed Skinner talks with CHS students Wyatt Houck, Katie Polk and Pam Segalewitz.

Schools partner with Police

The safety and security of children is a top priority for every community. Centerville City Schools partner with the City of Centerville and Centerville Police Department to provide a safe environment in our schools. Since 1999, a School Resource Officer has been assigned to Centerville High School. The police officer has an office at CHS and meets with students and staff daily. In addition to being first on the scene should an incident arise, the officer handles day to day issues while developing relationships with students. Officer Ed Skinner is in his second assignment at CHS, serving 2004-2009 and returning in 2011. Officer Tracy Sommers is assigned to the two elementary, two middle schools and PVN, all located within the City, while a deputy sheriff, assigned by Montgomery County, covers the schools in the township. The high school also provides a security staff.

With more than 2,400 students attending the high school, Officer Skinner says it's like a mini-city, and there is no typical day, as his duties—following up on incidents and taking reports—are similar to road patrol. Skinner says it's the daily communication with students that he enjoys most. "Whether it's helping a young person through a tough time or providing basic information about traffic tickets, students can interact with a police officer every day." In addition to teaching safety and other topics, Officer Sommers visits most schools daily. "I love being in the schools and meeting with students. Developing those relationships continues to be helpful as students get older," says Sommers, who adds it's not usual for her to be approached outside of school by current and former students. "They like to say hi and check in with me."

Calling it a great partnership, Jon Wesley, Centerville High School coordinating principal, says the program is a win for everyone. "The officers assist our students, our students know that the officers provide a safe environment, and our students and staff have a sense of security."

CSI Camp offered this summer

Retrieve and analyze evidence, gather fingerprints, collect simulated blood and use digital mug shots to help solve a "crime". These are just a few of the activities offered by the Centerville Police Department's Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) Camp offered 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on two dates: June 27 and July 25, at the Centerville Police Department, 155 W. Spring Valley Road. Students just completing 6th, 7th or 8th grades are eligible to register for this one-day free class.

BICYCLE RODEO ROUND UP

WHERE CAN YOU GO TO...

- ★ Test cycling skills
- ★ Meet McGruff the Crime Dog
- ★ Register bicycles against theft
- ★ Inspect bike maintenance
- ★ Check bicycle helmet fit and receive a new one if needed
- ★ Participate in health/safety activities, giveaways and more

...at the Bicycle Rodeo at Miami Valley Hospital South. The Centerville Police Department, along with Miami Valley Hospital South and Centerville Noon Optimists, host the Bicycle Rodeo 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, May 18.

Children taking part in skills testing must bring a safe operational bicycle and wear a bicycle helmet. Prizes—including several bicycles—will be given away throughout the morning. Call 433-7661 for further information.



Police Department to take part in on-site assessment

The Centerville Police Department is scheduled for an on-site assessment as part of a program to achieve accreditation. Administered by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA), the program requires agencies comply with state-of-the-art standards in four areas; policy and procedures, administration, operations and support services.

To achieve accredited status, Centerville Police Chief Bruce Robertson says the department must meet 402 standards. Although voluntary, Robertson says accreditation is highly-prized as it acknowledges law enforcement professional excellence.

An assessment team of law enforcement practitioners from similar, out-of-state agencies will review written materials, interview individuals and visit offices to verify compliance.

As part of the assessment, community members are invited to offer comments at a public session at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 17, 2013 at the Police Department's Training Center, 155 W. Spring Valley Road. The assessment team will also accept comments by phone earlier that day. Citizens should call 432-6568 between 9 a.m. and noon.

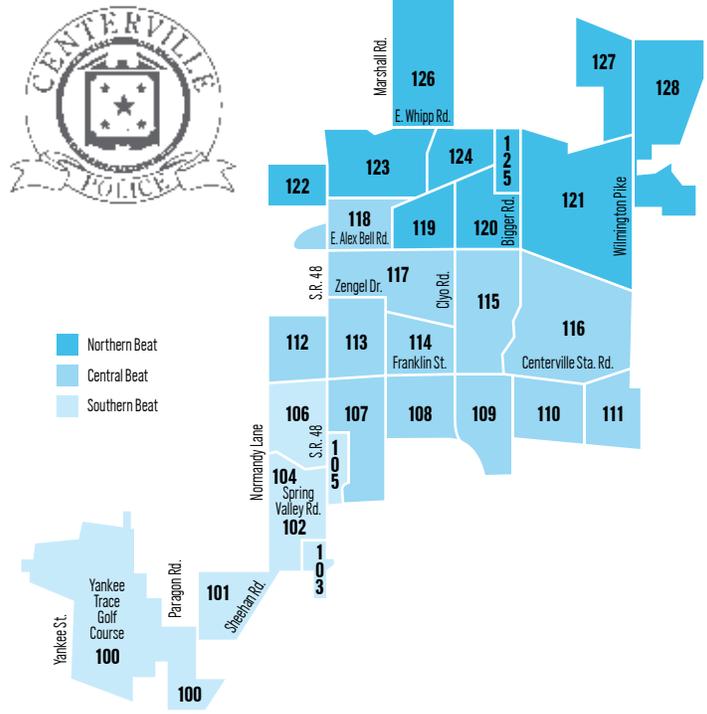
Accredited since 1985, this is the department's seventh re-accreditation application. Accreditation is for three years. For more information call Christine Smart, the department's accreditation program manager, 433-7661.

AREA	ROBBERIES			RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES			BREAKING & ENTERING			THEFT OF/FROM VEHICLES			OTHER PROPERTY THEFTS			CRIMINAL MISCHIEF/DAMAGE		
	N	D	J	N	D	J	N	D	J	N	D	J	N	D	J	N	D	J
100	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
102	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
103	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
104	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
105	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	4	1	-	1	1	1	4	-	1	-
106	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
107	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	2	2	2	-	-	-
108	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
109	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
111	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
112	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
113	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
114	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
115	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
116	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
117	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	3	7	-	-	-	-
119	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
120	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
121	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
122	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
123	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	2	-
124	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
125	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
126	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
127	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-
128	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	0	1	1	5	1	2	5	1	0	17	5	4	15	16	18	12	3	9

	RESIDENTIAL & BUSINESS BURGLARIES					
	RESIDENTIAL			BUSINESS		
	N	D	J	N	D	J
MONDAY-THURSDAY	4	-	1	3	1	-
FRIDAY-SUNDAY	1	1	1	-	-	-
UNDETERMINED	-	-	-	2	-	-
6 AM-6 PM	2	-	-	-	1	-
6 PM-6 AM	2	1	-	1	-	-
UNDETERMINED	1	-	2	4	-	-
FORCED	2	-	1	-	-	-
SHATTERED	1	-	1	-	1	-
UNLOCKED	-	-	-	1	-	-
KEY	-	-	-	-	-	-
PRIED	-	-	-	-	-	-
CUT LOCK	-	-	-	4	-	-
UNDETERMINED	1	1	-	-	-	-
OPEN	1	-	-	-	-	-
ATTEMPT	-	-	-	-	-	-
DOOR	3	-	1	5	1	-
WINDOW	-	-	1	-	-	-
GARAGE	1	-	-	-	-	-
UNDETERMINED	1	1	-	-	-	-
OTHER	-	-	-	-	-	-

Residential & Business Crime Statistics

Statistic Totals: Nov. 2012-Jan. 2013



PUT A LID ON IT!

Bike helmets save lives



Estimates indicate that 80-90% of children DO NOT wear bike helmets... do yours? In Centerville, cyclists under the age of 18 are required to wear a helmet, it's the law. Bike Helmet Safety Week is May 6-10. Last year, the Ohio chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics provided the Centerville Police Department with more than 200 helmets to give away. Helmets can significantly reduce the risk of head injury. Parents who set the example and wear helmets increase the likelihood of their children wearing their helmets. So next time you go on a bike ride... put a lid on it.

November 19, 2012

Following an invocation, Council accepted the resignation of Kera Estep from the Arts Commission. Mayor Kingseed thanked Ms. Estep for her service.

Mayor Kingseed administered the oath of office to Joyce Ray-Brown, Property Review Commission.

Andrew Chellette, Corwin Dickey, Steven Heinrichs and David Peterson, all Scouts from Troop 516 Southminster Presbyterian Church, were recognized for achieving Eagle rank, the highest level in Boy Scouts.

In housekeeping measures, Council:

- Passed a resolution opposing the passage of HB 601 (now HB 5) by the Ohio General Assembly which proposes uniformity measures for municipal income tax in the form of unfunded mandates and substantial loss of revenue.

December 17, 2012

Deputy Mayor Compton welcomed Dr. Mike Castle, Cross Creek Community Church, to give the invocation.

In recognition of his 35 years of service to the City of Centerville, Council recognized Jim Singer. A reception was held in his honor. See story page 3.



Council members Belinda Kenley and Brooks Compton congratulate colleague Jim Singer for his 35 years of continued service.

The 2012 Holiday Lighting Award winners were recognized for outstanding outdoor displays.

Lighting Awards

Residential winners:

- Susie Green, 5049 Dobbs Drive
- Max and Anubis Reeder, 6240 Brentshire Court
- Clayton and Sheila Campbell, 7765 Bigger Road
- Steve and Vicky Peck, 165 S. Johanna Drive
- Ken and Bev Carper, 100 Ridgeway
- Susan Hogan, 371 Rose Lake
- Jim and Lori McCarthy, 9462 Lantern Way

Business Pride Award winner:

- Esther Price, 269 N. Main Street

In housekeeping measures, Council:

- Approved the 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program

Board/Commission Appointments

- Jan Prettyman was reappointed as a member of the City Beautiful Commission.
- Mary Pizza was appointed Chair, and Robert Vines appointed Co-Chair of the Sister City Committee.

January 28, 2013

City Manager Greg Horn along with Dr. Steven Hinshaw, finance director, presented the City's 2013 revenue projections and planned appropriations. See the Annual Report beginning on page 15.



Police Chief Bruce Robertson presented Geoffrey Darr and John Gephart with Life Saving commendation awards for their efforts in resuscitating a man. Mr. Darr and Mr. Gephart were thanked by City Council.

Council appointments to committees, liaisons and representations were approved.

City Manager Greg Horn presented Finance Director Steven Hinshaw with two financial awards given to the City from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The "Annual Financial Report: Summary" was recognized for the third time with the Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting award, and for the 12th year, the City earned the Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting.

In housekeeping measures, Council:

- Set for Public Hearing February 18, 2013, an ordinance amending the Centerville Municipal Code to adopt the Residential Code of Ohio for One, Two and Three Family Dwellings 2013 Edition.

Board/Commission Appointments:

- William Abrams was appointed as a member of the City Beautiful Commission.

Serve your community

The City has openings on the following Council-appointed boards and commissions: City Beautiful Commission, Arts Commission and Sister City Committee. For application information, contact Debbie James, 433-7151, or djames@centervilleohio.gov or visit centervilleohio.gov, click Departments, then Volunteer Opportunities.

2012 Annual Report

From City Manager Greg Horn

While the US economy continued to struggle, 2012 was a fairly stable year for the City of Centerville, despite continued funding cuts handed down by the Ohio legislature. For more than 100 years, cities, townships and villages received Inheritance or Estate Tax revenues. That practice ended in 2012. Centerville's 2012 revenue from this tax exceeded \$2.0 million. The Local Government Fund, which the State shared with cities for more than 75 years, has been cut by 50 percent, and we're waiting to see whether the 2013 State Budget eliminates the remaining portion, which would result in another \$300,000 annual loss. The Tangible Personal Property tax was phased out more expeditiously than the legislature had planned, resulting in another \$100,000+ loss to our City.

Along with other municipalities around Ohio, we are lobbying the legislature to revise House Bill 5, which has been labeled as a tax uniformity measure. The proposal is laden with tax loopholes and tax avoidance measures that will benefit specific corporations and taxpayer groups. If adopted, it could cost our community close to \$700,000 per year. Centerville, along with other local communities, is willing to support "true tax uniformity" and tax simplicity, but it must be revenue neutral. Ohio municipalities can no longer take these drastic revenue cuts. The consequence is that these cuts will require local governments to raise fees or taxes, or continue deep service cuts.

That being said, the City of Centerville, thanks to longstanding conservative financial practices and its diversified business base, fared better in 2012 than many local municipalities. Revenues were up 6.3% from 2011, and City Council has no current plans to raise taxes.

As we deal with continued state budget cuts, Council has had to make difficult staffing and funding decisions. Today the City operates with 34 fewer employees than it did 13 years ago. Funding for many community organizations that the City has traditionally supported has been reduced. We still have challenges ahead with vacant buildings like Kroger, Steinmart and Showcase Cinemas, however, we also have seen positive growth with the recent leasing of many other smaller buildings.

We begin 2013 with momentum. Our municipal income tax has started to improve as last year we experienced 4.1% growth. In 2012, Yankee Trace, again voted the best public golf course in Dayton, had an exceptional year. Benham's Grove celebrated its 20th anniversary with a new brick plaza and a series of special events. Our Finance Department received the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Planning

award, and our Planning Department continues to fine-tune the Unified Development Ordinance adopted as part of our comprehensive plan. The Police Department welcomed Bobo, our new K-9.



The Police Department welcomed a new canine, Bobo, a two-year-old Belgian Malinois.



Miami Valley Hospital South opened its new bed tower and Maternity Center last year. It is shown above under construction in February 2012.

Miami Valley Hospital South recently cut the ribbon on its new Comprehensive Cancer Center. The Cornerstone development, on the property known as the Dille farm, is gaining energy. The City prevailed in the six-year legal battle waged by Sugarcreek Township as the Ohio Supreme Court made the unanimous decision to permit Centerville to utilize tax increment financing to help develop the necessary public infrastructure for the project. Oberer Development Company is working with potential tenants for the site. From specialty shops to restaurants to large companies, our diverse businesses bring growth and vigor to Centerville.

To ensure we're getting the best value for your money, we'll continue to work smarter, consolidate where it makes sense and remain conservative with spending.

I conclude by thanking all of our residents who volunteer so much of their time to keep Centerville a truly great place to live and work.



City offers community events

In addition to our regular City services, throughout the year Centerville offers special events including:

- Citizens Police Academy
- Business Breakfast
- Arbor Day Ceremony
- Citywide Garage Sale
- Interfaith Breakfast
- Gardening Seminars
- Americana Festival participation
- Kalamian Memorial Golf Outing
- Volunteer recognition events
- Operation Clean Sweep: A week of special services including bulk item pick up, electronics recycling, document shredding and medication disposal
- National Night Out Against Crime, Police Department Open House
- Bicycle Rodeo
- Leaf Collection Season
- Veterans Day Ceremony
- Tree Lighting Ceremony
- Memorial Day Ceremony
- CSI Camps
- Farmers Market
- Summer Concert Series

Citizens volunteer to make Centerville a better place

A community of volunteers, more than 300 citizens serving on Council-appointed Boards and Commissions along with CIVIC Municipal Volunteers, work with City staff in every department including the Storm Water Drainage Task Force, Board of Architectural Review, Board of Tax Appeals, Arts Commission, Property Review Commission, City Township Relations Committee, City Beautiful Commission, Planning Commission, CRA Housing Committee, Personnel Appeals Board, Sister City Committee, Friends of Benham's Grove Board and Centerville City School District Personnel Appeals Board. CIVIC (Citizens InVolved In Centerville) Municipal Volunteers give their time to Benham's Grove, Building Inspection, Engineering, Public Works, The Golf Club at Yankee Trace, Police Department, and the City Clerk, Zoning and City Manager's offices.

Among many duties, our volunteers...

- Celebrated Centerville's 26 consecutive years earning Tree City USA distinction from the National Arbor Day Foundation by planting nine trees at Benham's Grove
- Organized exhibits in the Police Department Art Gallery
- Recognized over 35 homes and businesses for landscaping/lighting displays
- Maintained the four corners garden in downtown
- Honored businesses for architectural preservation
- Coordinated artists at Art at the Trace
- Provided customer service, maintenance and clerical support
- Offered services to Yankee Trace guests and kept the course in top condition
- Selected bands for the Summer Concert Series
- Coordinated fine arts performances
- Offered gardening seminars
- Photographed City and community events
- Organized visits with our Sister Cities
- Provided new lighting and patio for Benham's Grove
- Greeted visitors, directed traffic and staffed booths for City events/festivals
- Maintained the look of the downtown
- Reviewed plans and development
- Welcomed more than 15,000 visitors to Stubbs Park for the Summer Concert Series

Threats to revenue sources

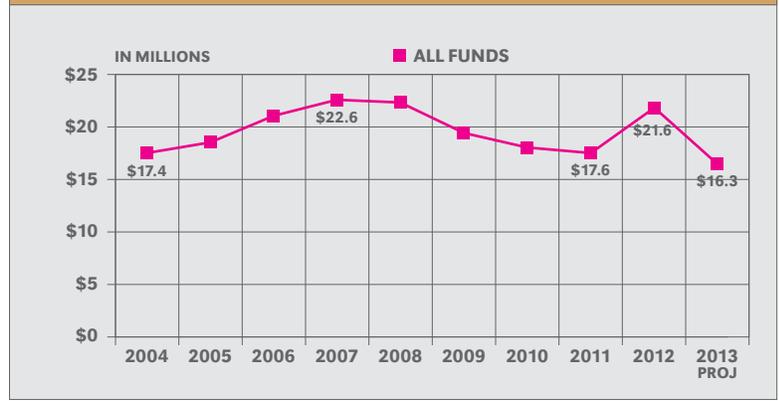
Centerville, and all other Ohio cities, townships and villages face serious threats to revenue sources. Last year the State legislature voted to eliminate 83% of our state revenue from three sources.

- Tangible personal property tax (TPPT) and electric utility deregulation reimbursements were eliminated July 1, 2012
- Estate tax was eliminated January 1, 2013
- Local government funds were reduced 50% by July 1, 2013

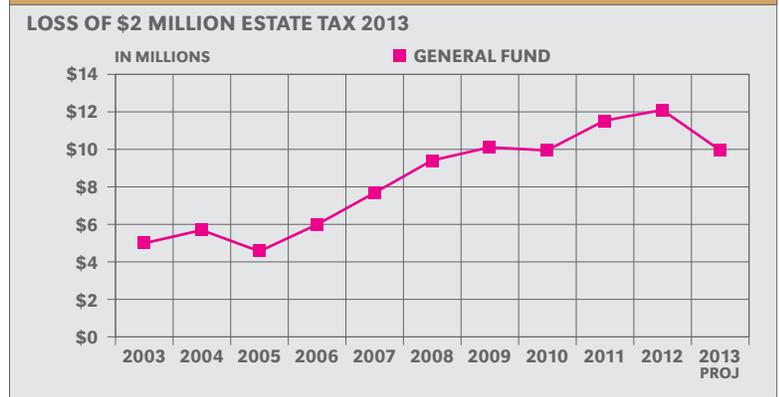
House Bill 5 for municipal tax "uniformity," designed to lower business taxes, could be a loss of \$700,000 annually to the City.

Potential centralized collection of municipal income tax in Columbus would reduce the ability at the local level to collect taxes on a timely basis, pursue uncollected taxes and ensure all taxpayers are paying the correct amounts. This could mean an additional loss of up to \$1 million annually to the City.

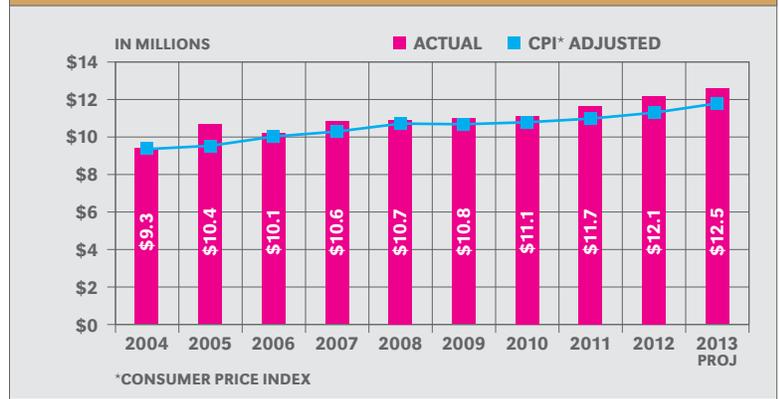
ENDING FUND BALANCE: ALL FUNDS



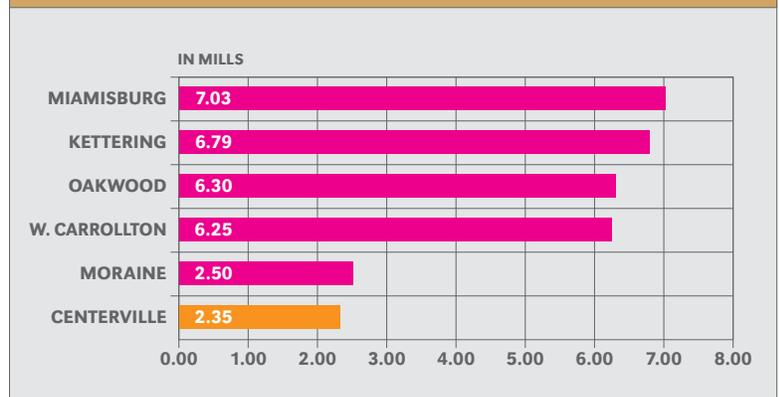
ENDING FUND BALANCE: GENERAL FUND



INCOME TAX REVENUE



PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR SOUTH SUBURBAN CITIES



2012 Highlights

- Nearly 50 new businesses opened.
- Miami Valley Hospital South continued its expansion with a five-story bed tower and Maternity Center. The Comprehensive Cancer Center also recently opened its doors.
- The Planning Department processed over 500 zoning applications.
- The Board of Architectural Review and City staff instituted a Preservation Award for downtown businesses.
- In a unanimous decision, the Ohio Supreme Court ruled in favor of the City of Centerville that it may utilize a tax increment financing plan (TIF) to assist with the development of the 268 acres known as the Dille property. The decision ended more than six years of legal battles waged by Sugarcreek Township.
- As cities can only grow through annexation or merger, Centerville annexed 96 acres of undeveloped land northeast of Sheehan and Social Row roads in Washington Township.
- Mayor Mark Kingseed continued working with businesses, hosting the annual Business Breakfast and Centerville Business Today, a 15-minute monthly government access television program featuring local businesses and owners.
- The municipal earnings tax rate of 1.75 percent has not been raised since 1981.
- There has been no increase in Centerville's municipal property tax rate. In fact, at 2.35 mills, Centerville has one of the lowest rates in the Dayton area.
- Centerville ended 2012 with a cash balance of \$21,602,367.
- Centerville received two awards from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The "Annual Financial Report: Summary" was recognized for the third time with the Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting award. Fewer than 0.6% of government agencies in Ohio earn this award. For the 12th year, the City earned the Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting. Fewer than five percent of government agencies in Ohio earn this award.
- Benham's Grove celebrated its 20th anniversary with a series of events throughout the year including a Founders' Day Breakfast, vow renewal ceremony and community open house.
- Public Works continued the brush drop-off program each Wednesday and every third Saturday at its facility on S. Suburban Road. The department saw three staff members earn commercial applicator licenses and another achieve master gardener certification.
- The Centerville Police Department, a Flagship Agency from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), continued to be a leader in community relations with programs such as Citizens Police Academy, Youth CSI Camp and National Night Out Against Crime.
- Police Records and Communications Supervisor Judy Kuhns received the Kalaman Officer of the Year Award.
- Police Officer Matt Dunn was named Ohio Crime Prevention Officer of the Year.
- Chief Bruce Robertson earned a master's degree in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- The Police Department welcomed a new canine, Bobo, a two-year-old Belgian Malinois. Placed into service in December with handler Officer Adam Bennett, Bobo, a dual-purpose dog, is trained in patrol tactics and narcotics detection.
- In recognition of its education and enforcement efforts of the "Click It or Ticket" and "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaigns, the Ohio Department of Public Safety and Office of Criminal Justice Services awarded the Police Department a new Ford cruiser.
- With presence on four official Facebook sites, City of Centerville, Benham's Grove, Centerville Farmers Market and The Golf Club at Yankee Trace, a mobile app for smart phones, a Twitter page and a redesigned website, centervilleohio.gov, Centerville is using social media in everyday communications with our residents.
- The Golf Club at Yankee Trace won the Dayton Daily News' People's Choice Award for Best Golf Course in Dayton for the eighth year in a row. The course set a record in 2012 for number of rounds played with 56,500.
- Centerville and Washington Township revised the joint Emergency Operations Plan, which establishes preventative and recovery procedures for the community. The updates were made to bring the plan in line with National Management System (NIMS) and Homeland Security Act requirements.
- Centerville was one of only two government agencies statewide to receive the Healthy Worksite Award from the Ohio Department of Health.

Green initiatives

- For the 26th year, the Arbor Day Foundation honored Centerville as a Tree City USA.
- Centerville was named one of the first Dayton Regional Green 3 members by the Montgomery County Task Force.
- The City installed two electric vehicle charging stations, one at the Municipal Offices, 100 W. Spring Valley Road, and the other downtown, on W. Franklin St. The City was awarded a matching grant from the US Department of Energy through Clean Fuels Ohio.
- All five city sites, Municipal Offices, Police Department, The Golf Club at Yankee Trace, Benham's Grove and Public Works Center recycle paper and other products and use environment-friendly products. Several buildings upgraded lighting, thermostats, heating and insulation.
- To further reduce costs and increase energy efficiency, Centerville took part in the DP&L Energy Audit and received a comprehensive energy analysis for the Municipal Building and Benham's Grove.
- Centerville practices 'natural' recycling. Public Works collects brush from residents—downed trees limbs, material trimmed from bushes, shrubs, and trees—and grinds it to make mulch for landscape beds along roadways, in Stubbs Park and at other City-owned properties.
- Waste collection customers may place unlimited recyclables at the curb each week and recycling containers are available at Stubbs Park and Benham's Grove.

2012 Financial Overview

Centerville received more than 79% of its income from three sources—taxes (income, property and estate taxes), Yankee Trace fees and waste collection fees.

Total revenue (excluding internal transfers) for 2012 was \$26,119,027.

Income tax revenue, the largest single source of revenue for the City, was up 4% from 2012. Income tax revenue was generated from employee withholdings, taxes on the earnings of Centerville businesses and taxes paid by individuals.

Our municipal property tax rate remained at 2.35 mills, the second lowest in the county. The Centerville municipal government realized 3 cents from every property tax dollar collected. Of the balance, 56 cents supported the school district; 22 cents were allocated to Montgomery County; the remainder was allocated to the park district, the library district and Washington Township.

2012 expenditures (excluding internal transfers) totaled \$22,107,906.

Looking Ahead To 2013

On January 28, 2013, the Centerville City Council unanimously adopted the 2013 Municipal Budget. Total projected resources are \$59,934,053, which includes a 2012 carry-over of \$21,602,367. Expenditures for 2013 are budgeted at \$43,613,936, leaving a projected year-end balance of \$16,320,117. These figures include \$7.35 million related to public improvements for the potential Cornerstone development. Additionally, \$5.7 million will be spent to lower the debt associated with the Yankee Trace development.

In 2013, Centerville plans to invest \$11,920,252 in capital improvements throughout the City, of which \$8,339,762 (or 70%) is being funded from other sources, such as grants. Projects include \$1,225,000 for street and sidewalk repairs and \$658,710 for police, street and refuse vehicles and equipment.

YANKEE TRACE A \$280 MILLION DEVELOPMENT

Yankee Trace has been a huge asset to the community. The Property Tax revenue generates millions of dollars annually.

Centerville Schools	\$4,314,649
Montgomery County	\$1,668,286
Washington Township	\$558,585
Sinclair Community College	\$313,403
Centerville-Washington Park District	\$281,379
City of Centerville	\$230,155
Washington-Centerville Library	\$229,938

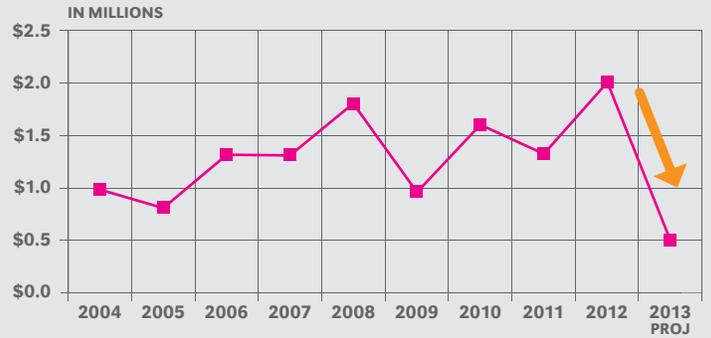
YANKEE TRACE DEBT REDUCED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

Yankee Trace Debt Fund Amounts Outstanding

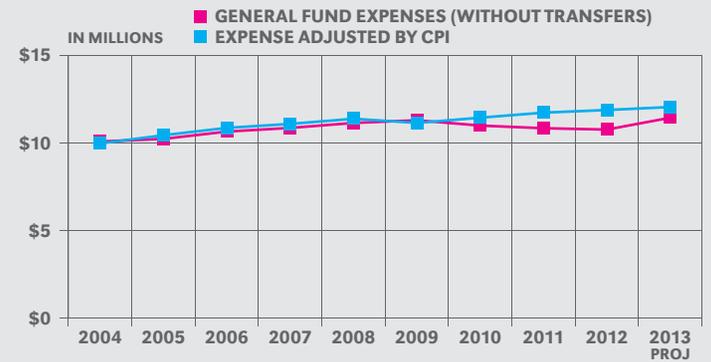


ESTATE TAX REVENUE

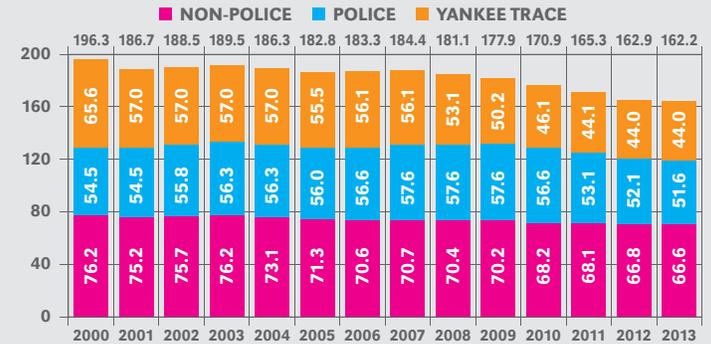
A REVENUE SOURCE ELIMINATED BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE



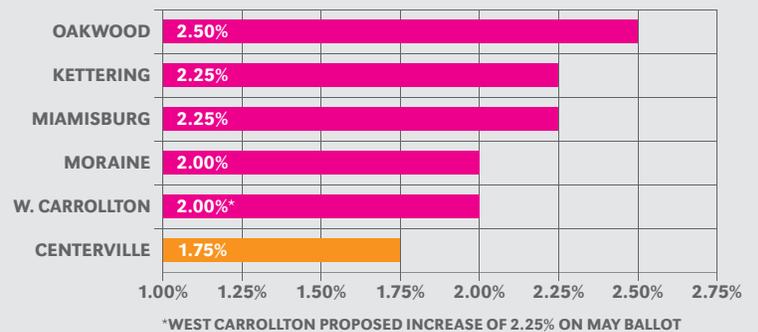
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES VERSUS CPI



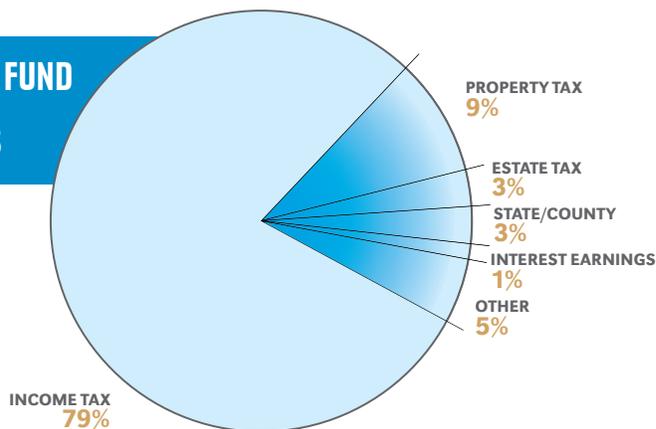
STAFFING COMPARISON (FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS)



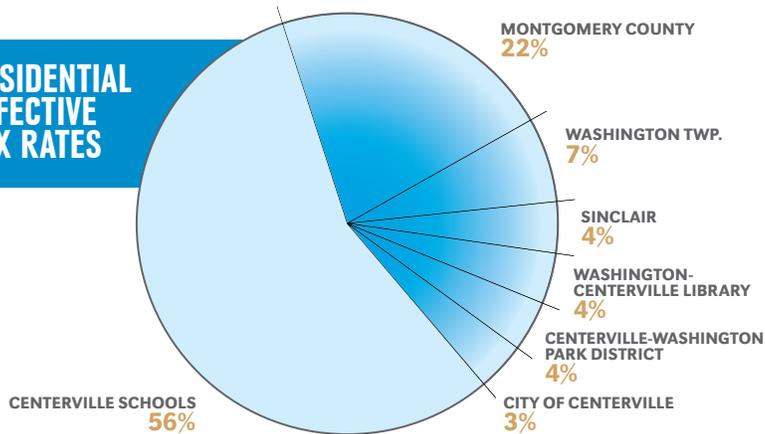
INCOME TAX RATE FOR SOUTH SUBURBAN CITIES



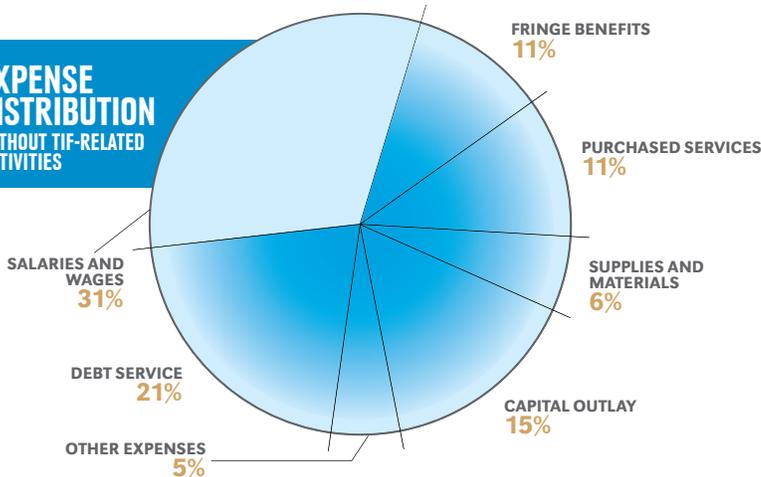
GENERAL FUND REVENUE SERVICES



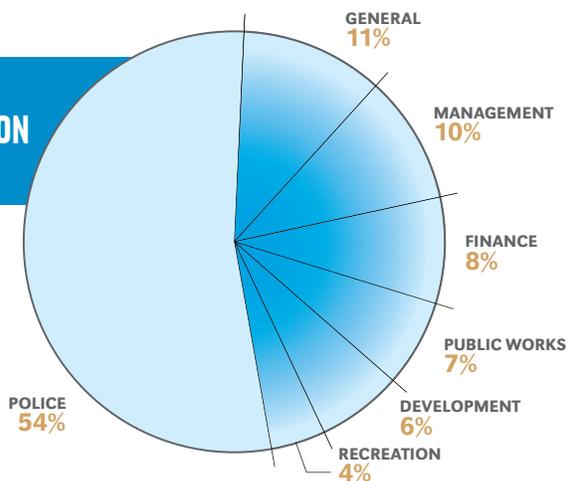
RESIDENTIAL EFFECTIVE TAX RATES



EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION WITHOUT TIF-RELATED ACTIVITIES



EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION BY DEPARTMENT (GENERAL FUND)

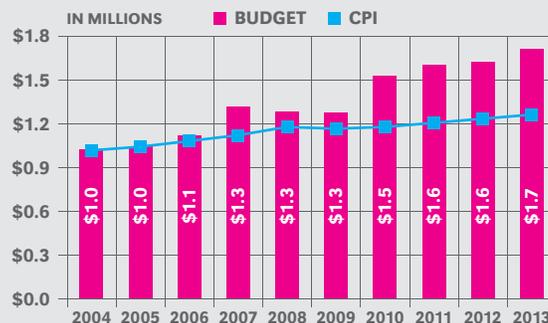


ASSESSMENTS: SIDEWALK/CURB

CENTERVILLE DOES NOT LEVY ASSESSMENTS

	SIDEWALK	CURB/GUTTER	STREET LIGHT
CENTERVILLE	NO	NO	NO
OAKWOOD	YES	NO	YES
KETTERING	YES	YES	YES
MIAMISBURG	YES	YES	NO
MORAIN	NO	NO	NO
WEST CARROLLTON	YES	YES	YES

STREETS: REPAIR PROGRAM



STREETS: MAJOR PROGRAMS

CORNERSTONE DEVELOPMENT	\$7,220,934
STREET AND SIDEWALK REPAIR	\$1,225,000
YANKEE STREET	\$525,000
EAST SPRING VALLEY ROAD	\$381,711
STORMWATER DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS	\$80,000
TOTAL	\$9,432,645
FUNDING FROM OTHER SOURCES	(\$7,891,504)
NET COST TO CITY	\$1,541,141

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS	\$10,080,042
TRAFFIC CONTROL	\$151,500
LAND ACQUISITION	\$25,000
BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS	\$687,400
VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	\$976,310
TOTAL	\$11,920,252
FUNDING FROM OTHER SOURCES	(\$8,339,762)
NET COST TO CITY	\$3,580,490

Centerville continues to invest in infrastructure

Our staff works to secure federal and state funds to help cover the costs of improvements. Five projects have been preliminarily approved, and indications are that some may start as early as this year.

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) projects:

- ▶ E. Spring Valley Rd. Resurfacing from S. Main St. to Atchison Rd.
- ▶ Feedwire Rd. Improvements from Wilmington Pike to the I-675 overpass.

Federal programs:

- ▶ Wilmington Pike/I-675 Short-term Improvements, include funding for an Interchange Modification Study (IMS), adding turn lanes and minor widening
- ▶ Centerville Gateway Enhancement Phase II, continuing the entrance area into the City near Loop Rd. and St. Rt. 48, requires no City funding.
- ▶ Wilmington Pike Traffic Signal Upgrade project includes upgrading communication between 11 traffic signals and rebuilding or upgrading equipment at individual intersections as needed to improve operations and safety.



100 West Spring Valley Road
Centerville, Ohio 45458

centervilleohio.gov

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Municipal Offices.....433-7151
- Police & Fire Emergency9.1.1.
- Police Non-Emergency.....433-7661
- Fire Non-Emergency..... 433-3083
- Public Works Center..... 428-4782
- Drug Hotline..... 433-6590
- Yankee Trace Golf Shop .. 438-GOLF
www.yankeetrace.org
- Yankee Trace Restaurant...438-3585
- Benham's Grove433-1913
www.benhamsgrove.com
- Asahel Wright House
& Visitor Center.....291-2223
- Hithergreen Center.....435-2415

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City of Centerville

100 W. Spring Valley Road, Centerville, OH 45458



City Manager.....Gregory B. Horn

The Centerville Town Crier is a continuing effort to improve communication between you and your City officials. Comments or suggestions for future issues are welcome and should be directed to the Office of the City Manager. Council members welcome your calls and emails.

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Public Meetings at the Municipal Building

City Council 8 p.m., third Monday monthly
Board of Architectural Review ...7:30 p.m., first Tuesday monthly
City Planning Commission.....7:30 p.m., last Tuesday monthly
Centerville Arts Commission.....7 p.m., first Wednesday monthly
Boards of Tax & Personnel Appeals
& Property Review Commission..... At the call of the chairperson

Public Meetings at the Public Works Center

7970 S. Suburban Road
City Beautiful Commission.....7 p.m., first Tuesday monthly

Public Meetings at the Police Department

155 W. Spring Valley Road
Sister City Committee.....7 p.m., first Tuesday monthly

Members of City Council

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breitenbu@aol.com

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Deputy Mayor, 885-5730
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Belinda H. Kenley, 974-1549
bskenley@yahoo.com

James E. Singer, 433-6922
jsinger@centervilleohio.gov



City Offices Closed Memorial Day

Centerville City offices will be closed Monday, May 27, in commemoration of Memorial Day. Waste collection will be delayed one day.

**CITYWIDE GARAGE SALE
REGISTRATION
MAY 2-4, 8 A.M.-5 P.M.**

- The City will advertise your garage sale and provide you with one sign for FREE! (*Signs must remain on your property.*)
- All forms must be returned by 9 A.M., FRIDAY, APRIL 19
- Print information below and return form to:
City of Centerville, 100 W. Spring Valley Road, Centerville, OH 45458
- Registrations may be faxed to 428-4763. Register online at centervilleohio.gov beginning March 12. Call 433-7151 or email information@centervilleohio.gov with questions.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Neighborhood: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Items for Sale: (No more than 100 characters)

**CHECK OUT
WHAT'S HAPPENING
IN CENTERVILLE**

