



Trustees...

The winter issue of the Tidbits usually begins with a comment about the weather, not this time! If you live here you know about the winter season. This season brings the annual Thompson Tree Lighting. The event this year will be Sunday Dec. 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Gazebo on Thompson Square. Come enjoy the tree, decorations, caroling and Santa. Refreshments will be served in the Town Hall by the Friends of the Thompson Library. Let's share some holiday cheer during the winter season.

How about those signs at the fire station? Thank You FireFlies II! A local paint contractor has been hired to paint the exterior of the fire station in the spring. Thank You Thompson Volunteer Fire Department Association! Any resident interest in becoming a member of the Volunteer Fire Department contact Chief Danny Robison (298-3318) for information. Residents interested in FireFlies II, ladies auxiliary see the FireFlies' Tidbits article.

The final act in the Trustees' decision to "button up" the Town Hall has been completed by Ross McElligott and Trustee Frank Sirna. Ross and Frank have repaired and painted wooden storm windows that were stored in the Town Hall. These were placed in the window openings that lacked storm windows. Ross and Frank also removed the window sashes, which are being repaired by an Amish carpenter. The project now at the Town Hall turns to its "Rebirth". If any residents are interested in this project contact the Rebirth of the Town Hall Committee. Get the contact numbers in the "Rebirth of Thompson Town Hall" Tidbits article in this issue.

Congratulations Ledgesmont High School football team, coaches, teachers and parents for another exceptional football season. Not only has your success brought hours of enjoyment to many Thompson residents it has brought our Township recognition in Northeast Ohio. Thank you.

Thank you voters for your support of the Road and Police Levies this November. Your support shows your appreciation for the vital services these departments provide in making the Township a safe place to live.

Summer Entertainment on the Park 2012 will be happening. If any resident is interested in helping with summer entertainment, call 298-9856 or email Erwin.Leffel@ThompsonOhio.org. Volunteer committee members, Patrons, professional entertainers, and local community groups interested in providing refreshments as a fund raiser are needed.

The Board of Trustees meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Ledge Park Building at 7 p.m. Attend; voice your thoughts and opinions, become involved in making our township a better place to live. See you at the next meeting!



Township Trustees,
Erwin "Kok" Leffel, Chairman
Frank Sirna, Vice-Chairman
Ben Smith, Trustee

Police Department...

Winter is almost here again and we need to get into winter driving habits again. Remember to give yourself extra time to reach your destination. We have to become defensive drivers by leaving plenty of stopping distance between you and the vehicle in front of you. Plus watching for icy patches and snow drifts. Clean off any snow from your vehicles windshield, side windows, headlights and taillights before you get on the highway. Winterize your vehicle by checking your wipers, battery, lights and tire pressure. You may want to pack a winter emergency kit to include a snow scraper, blanket or extra coat, gloves, flashlight, shovel, tow chain or rope and flares. Remember if you become stranded DO NOT start walking unless you can see a house or building. If no house or building are in sight, stay in your vehicle where rescuers are more likely to find you



Thank you for supporting our Police Levy.

Road Department...

Culvert/Drive Pipes

Thompson Township residents are reminded that maintenance, repair and replacement of culvert/drive pipes are the responsibility of the property owner. Township Road Department will replace or install new culvert/drive pipes at the request of the property owner. The fee schedule is replacement, \$200.00 and new installation \$400.00. Charges include labor, equipment and the cost of stone. Material used to cover the culvert/drive pipe is 304 or 617 limestone. Property owners are responsible for the cost of the double walled, plastic pipe (maximum diameter of 18 inches, the overall length of 30 feet). For further information contact Road Supervisor, Joe LaRosa (298-1370).

Winter Reminders:

1. Remove debris from your culvert /drive pipe. It will help the flow of water in the road ditch during the spring thaw.
2. When you remove snow from your driveway do not plow into road ditches or across the road. It may cause the road ditch to become blocked during the spring thaw or create a road hazard.
3. Plow your driveway wide enough incase an emergency vehicle needs entrance.
4. Slow down and steer clear of snowplows.



Thompson Ledge Runners Snowmobile Club...

We meet the first Wednesday at 7:00 PM (September - March) at the Thompson Town Hall.

We are in process of creating a new website for the club.
www.thompsonledgerunners.org

We are a family oriented group who enjoy the winter snows of NEO. There are many trail cleaning events, snowmobile trips, and a Pig Roast in May.

Remember to register and insure your snowmobiles before going off your property to enjoy them and there are no Public Drop-offs in Thompson for our trails.

Contact Tim Doerr - 298-1639 (President)

FireFlies II... Thompson Volunteer Fire Dept Auxiliary

We are very pleased to have been able to donate the funds for the new sign above the bay doors and have the announcement sign refurbished. These signs add brightness and dignity to our Fire Station. We are looking forward to spring when the building is painted.

Spaghetti dinner and dancing with the Light of Day Duo
Mark your calendars now for our 6th Annual Spring Fling, Friday night April 27, 2012. Doors will open at 6 p.m. with a spaghetti dinner at 7 p.m. and ending at 11 p.m. This year we are pleased to have live music from The Light of Day Duo. Their tunes range from Motown to present day. Party time fun!! The Light of Day five piece band performed on a sweltering night for one of the Summer Entertainment on the Park 2011 events at the Gazebo here in Thompson. The Duo will be fantastic for the Spring Fling! Make sure you get your tickets early; The Light of Day is really popular and has a following.

\$1000.00 Giant Eagle Gift Card Raffle with a twist! 2011 was the first year for this raffle. It was a success so we are doing it again only there will be a little twist to it that will be announced in the New Year. 4th of July in Thompson is when and where the raffle is held.

The Spring Fling, Raffle details and ticket sales will be announced on the Fire Station announcement sign and Thompson's website www.ThompsonOhio.org in 2012.

Holiday Donation to the Community, this year FireFlies II donated \$500 to the TUMC Community Food Room to be used for Holiday Turkeys.

The new sign, the refurbished announcement sign and donation to the food room are a result of your support of our Spring Fling and Gift Card Raffle. Thank you!

Feel free to contact any of our officers if you have questions or concerns:

President:	Kim Pecuzok	298-1390
Vice-president:	Jane Battles	298-3518
Treasurer:	Susan Chapek	298-3145

The Rebirth of Thompson Town Hall...

It has been a year since the committee for the rebirth of Thompson Town Hall went to the November Trustees meeting and stated its interest in our picturesque century old structure on the town square.

The Trustees committed to "buttoning up" the building so that weather conditions would not create any further deterioration. Storm windows, the replacement of slate roof tiles, water, some needed exterior painting and interior cleaning has been done. Thank you to the people who volunteered their time, talent, materials and expertise in this "buttoning up" process.

As stated in the committee's first Tidbits article, (winter issue 2010) the committee is in the "gathering information" stage. Representatives from the Cleveland Restoration Society made a tour and gave valuable information and recommendations, the 4th of July Town Hall Tour made possible the sharing of memories and ideas as to the use of the Town Hall, and Nikki Betteley put Rebirth of Thompson Town Hall on Facebook. Some of the ideas gathered are to use the building for: a haunted house on Halloween; bridal and baby showers; meeting place for non profit organizations i.e. Scouts, 4H, book club...; safe place for children, elderly and disabled during township events; special performances; art shows; a dance hall; historical museum; safe place for weekly youth gatherings; Saturday market; township offices and record retention location; and a central information place for what's happening in Thompson.

This stage of "gathering information" will continue as more people continue to share their memories and ideas. What has been gathered in 2011 leads us into 2012 and the stage of "visioning". The committee will be putting together the best ideas for the use of the Town Hall and deciding how to make the Town Hall reflect those ideas. Two issues confronting the "Rebirth..." is the lack of restroom facilities and handicap accessibility in the Town Hall. From the Trustees we have learned that the "Sewer District" will begin construction this spring. The committee needs to investigate how this project impacts the revitalization of the Town Hall.

All of this takes careful planning and money! The committee will be visiting other town halls for ideas. The committee needs to find a local volunteer who has the skills and vision to assist in drawing up architectural plans. Some serious fund raising methods need to be explored.

2012 looks to be an exciting year for the rebirth of Thompson Town Hall. Please consider coming forward and joining the committee. The rewards will be great for everyone!

Check Thompson's website www.ThompsonOhio.org or our facebook page, Rebirth of Thompson Town Hall, for meeting dates in the New Year. For ideas, sharing of memories, pictures, talents and support concerning The Rebirth of Thompson Town Hall contact Diane-Worthington Garey (worthenter@windstream.net) or Lynne Leffel (elzleffel@windstream.net).

**Wishing everyone a
Happy & Healthy
Holiday Season!**

Thompson United Methodist...

Dates to remember for Thompson United Methodist Church

December 9th-11th - TUMC Drama presents: "A Christmas Carol"
Performances will be: Friday at 7:00pm, Saturday at 3:00pm and Sunday at 7:00pm

December 18th – Community Dinner & Sunday School Christmas Program. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm and the performance will be at 7:00pm

December 24th – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:00pm

December 25th – 1 Service at 10:00am

January 1st – 1 Service at 10:00am

February 22nd – Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm

February 25th – "Men Cook With Fire" 3-5:30pm

Ledge Grange... has had a great year! We had a great food-booth at Geauga Co. Fair. We increased our membership by ten members in 2011! New members are: Jesse and Anna Cothrum, daughter Jessica and son Anthony, Stephanie James and her son LaShawn, Marty and Kathy Hughs, Joann Brooks, and Richard Hill. This is a fantastic increase. We would love to add your name to our list.

At the Ohio State Grange Convention, three of the ten candidates for Grange Prince and Princess were Ledge member's children. The new Ohio State Grange Princess is Hope Stanley and the runner-up Prince is Alex McMullen. Chontay James was also a candidate. We are very proud of them.

Of the eight candidates for Male and Female Youth Ambassador, two were Ledge members: Jessica and Anthony Cothrum. Also four of our members took the Degree of Flora and became members of the Ohio State Grange.

In August we had many entries in the Grange Talent Contest at the Ohio State Fair! There are many categories in the contest, but Ledge won 1st in the Chorus contest as well as the Skit contest.

We will be having a Thanksgiving Pot Luck and a Christmas Party.

We would love to invite you and yours to join us. Our meetings are held at the Methodist Church on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 6:00PM. If you are interested, call Vic and Mabel Collen at 298-3583.

Phone Numbers for each Road Department

298-1370 - Thompson Township Road Department
968-3111 - Montville Township Road Department
474-6500 - Trumbull Road Department
285-2222 - County Roads - Geauga County Engineer
968-3221 - State Roads - ODOT

Fire Department News...

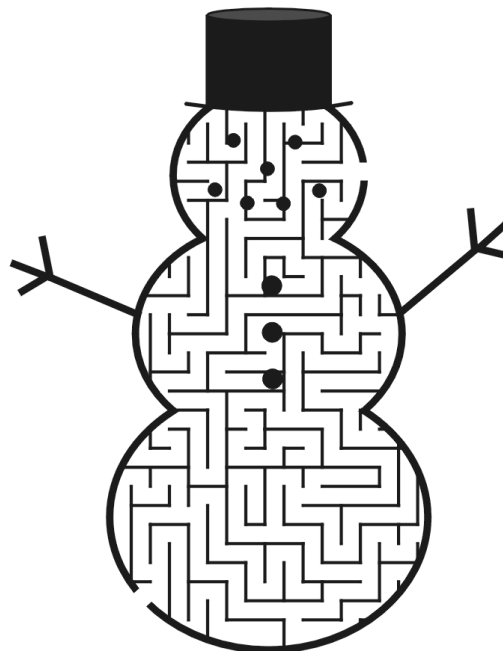
We have a few people we would like to thank. First we would like to thank the Thompson Trustees for securing a NOPEC grant. This grant allowed the fire department to get a new roof put on the station. A lot of time and work went into getting this completed for us. Also we would like to thank the continued support of the community and the tax payers. With their support we were able to raise \$2000.00 this year at our 4th of July celebration.

Thank you to our very own Captain Dorothy Battles for an EMS grant, for education and EMS equipment, and Firefighter Eric Bartholomew for getting us a Homeland Security grant. This grant will be used for a new breathing air system. This air system is used to fill the air bottles that the firefighters wear on their back when entering a hazardous environment. It will be replacing an much older system that is out dated and in need of repair.

To the department members, thank you for your continued support and dedication to the fire department.

With the weather going to start changing soon, we also want to remind everybody that has a fire place, to have your chimney cleaned and inspected.

Go from the top of the snowman down to the ground.



Bricks, Shirts & Plates...

Anyone who has not ordered a brick and would like to - now is the time. We need to order at least 20 at a time or there will be a service charge of \$25 imposed. Unfortunately, if 20 bricks are not ordered we will have to pass on to the buyer the increased cost, plus shipping. We also have gift certificates, if interested. We are still accepting orders for Thompson Township sweatshirts, T-shirts and commemorative plates too.

For more information please contact,
Boby McElligott at (440) 298-3120.



Thompson History...

by: Robbie Williams, Archaeologist

Long before Thompson existed, before the Native Americans revered the Ledges, and at the start of the last Ice Age, Thompson was beachfront property to one of the great super lakes which predate the final formation of Lake Erie. Pre-Ice Age Thompson was part of the Allegheny Mountain Range, being several hundred feet higher than it currently is, instead of being one of the foothills of the Allegheny Mountains it is today. Nearly 14,000 years ago the Wisconsin Glacier destroyed the Erigan River, an ancient prehistoric river which originally flowed west to east along the current location of Lake Erie. The water displaced from the river and glacial ice melt was pushed by the glacier to form the a great super lake, which is now called Glacial Lake Maumee.

Glacial Lake Maumee was nearly one and a half times the size of the current Lake Erie. The shoreline of this glacial great lake would lay on what is known as the Ledges in North Thompson. The lake deposited metric tons of sand across northern side of the township only stopping by the ancient mountain that was Thompson. As the glacier froze over the Lake Maumee it made repeated advances southerly scouring away the topsoil of a large mountain that was once where Sidleys now sits depositing it in the lowlands for miles around Thompson and surrounding communities. A three mile high wall of ice marched it's way over the township it's weight as well as it's advancing and retreating motion created so much friction on the underlying ancient beach that the sand fused itself together, along with larger cobble left behind by the glacier, to become the Sharon Conglomerate Sandstone that is our greatest local natural resource. As the glaciers retreated for the final times, at the end of the last ice age, it carve deep grooves through the sandstone to become what we now know as the Thompson Ledges. Sometimes the geologic history of a location can be just as intriguing as it's cultural history.

Spread the News: If you have news or want to have an event placed in upcoming issues, contact a staff member of the Tidbits. Mary Jo Fowler 968-0238 for School News, Norma Starkey 298-3994 for Youth Org, Church, & Senior news, or Bill Reno 298-1478 or Ross McElligott 298-3120 for other news.

Newsletter deadline is the 2nd Wednesday of Feb, May, Aug, and Nov.