



Lake Views

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1 - WINTER 2022

LAKE VIEWS IS THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF LAKE COUNTY

READY FOR THE LAKE COUNTY SNOW MACHINE?

Wintertime is here and the Lake Erie snow machine can activate at any time! We'd like to take this opportunity to remind you to salt wisely and do your part to prevent stormwater pollution. Using too much can actually slow down melting and harm your lawn, animals, and fish in nearby streams. You can reduce the amount by mixing it with sand or applying a little just before snow starts. Or better yet, go salt-free by substituting bird seed, fireplace ashes, ground corn cobs, or beet juice products.

One more quick winter reminder: While we are all spending more time indoors with our heaters on and fires

glowing in our fireplaces, make sure you have

a working carbon monoxide detector that is less than 10 years old. Gas appliances and burning wood produce carbon monoxide (or CO). CO is an odorless, colorless, gas that can cause illness and even death so now is a great time to double check and make sure you have them!

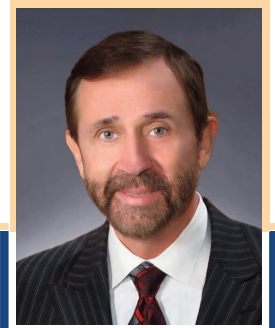
In this edition of "Lake Views", don't miss the article regarding the new sewer and water bill discount for qualifying senior citizens. *(See page 4 for more information)*



COMMISSIONER / President
JOHN HAMERCHECK



COMMISSIONER / Vice President
JOHN PLECNIK



COMMISSIONER
RON YOUNG

As always, we hope you find this newsletter useful. Our goal is to continue to provide information on a variety of topics so if there is something of particular interest that you'd like to know more about regarding Lake County, just let us know! ■



LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: CONCORD TWP. CELEBRATES ITS BICENTENNIAL



On March 8, 1822, our great township was declared to be known as "Concord" in honor of the Revolutionary War battle site. This year, in 2022, Concord Township celebrates its Bicentennial. From its humble beginnings as a pioneer settlement, to its sawmills that encouraged industry and economic development, Concord has grown into a community approaching 20,000 residents who have made their homes among the area's beautiful parks and great schools. The Concord Township Recreation Department has put together a fantastic schedule of events each month to commemorate our

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WATER TREATMENT

from
LAKE
ERIE
to
YOUR
FAUCET



Most people know Lake Erie is located on our county's north shore. However, many people don't realize what a valuable natural wonder we have. Not only does Lake Erie provide recreational opportunities like fishing, swimming, sailing and paddling, it also provides millions of gallons of drinking water to Lake County residents every day.

Water is drawn from Lake Erie twenty four hours a day and sent through one of several public or private water treatment facilities throughout the county. At the Lake County Department of Utilities Aquarius and Bacon Road Water Treatment Plants, operators remove contaminants, filter the water and perform tests to make sure it is safe to drink. At a cost of only ½ cent per gallon, the treated water is pumped to your faucet to drink, wash, and clean. Elevated water tanks store water in the system for high demand periods of the day and to help fight fires.

Often, water sources are variable and unreliable. In many areas of the world and also within the United States, water is not taken for granted. Every night on the news, we hear stories of drought in the Western United States or water shortages throughout the world. Some people travel miles each day for their drinking water. We are so fortunate to have such a reliable source of drinking water right at our doorstep.

So, the next time you find yourself enjoying a sunset at the lake, think about everything it has to offer our community. ■

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LAKE COUNTY RECORDER



Lake County Recorder Becky Lynch was elected the 25th County Recorder in the long line of Recorders in Lake County's 181 year history! "Great question!", says Becky Lynch when asked, "What does the County Recorder do?" The Recorder is responsible for preserving and protecting the county's land records and related documents and keeper of large amounts of public records. Ohio began March 1st, 1803. Lake County began on March 6th, 1840 when Ohio approved the split of the north and south townships of old

Geauga County. It is a real walk through history to look through the historic public record books located in the Recorder Department.

In the archives area, the volumes are very large, heavy books that hold deeds written on over-sized pages with the use of quills & ink wells. There are 1,083 Deed Books and 1,134 Mortgage Books between the Archives Room and Records Room with documents dating back to the beginning of Lake County. These document types were combined and recorded in one book called the "Official Record" which began on January 3rd, 1983. This book collection is housed in the Records Room and contains 1,295 books. All of these books, documents, and records describe the County Recorder's Public Records (some types are restricted). Electronic/digital formats of our records started where the paper records left off as of Feb. 6th, 1996.

Rest assured, the land records of Lake County are accessible and secure and remember, if you need a copy of your Deed, you can contact your Recorder Office. Various other services, in addition to recording, are ongoing and every single day, the County Recorder records grow with new land documents. With state-of-the-art AVID software and on-demand scanning of documents, records are kept current for review and access. You will find the Recorder Department staff is experienced, very helpful, and at full staff every day setting 'records' with volume and activity. This county office is thankfully managing to remain at a status of 'current' every day and for the first time in the recent history of the Recorder Office, has set and achieved a budget of \$1,000,000.00 in recording fees for fiscal year 2021! This is a strong indicator that the Lake County Real Estate market is still red hot!

For the recording needs of all our good customers such as the attorneys, title companies, banks, businesses by e-recording, mail and in-person, for fulfilling public records requests by email, fax or phone call, for signing up for property fraud-alerts, getting your Veteran I.D. Card, participating in Honor Rewards thank-you online program, for records searches with AVA on our website and by Laredo by way of account registration, for these and other services offered at the Lake County Recorder Office, you can visit the website at www.LakeCountyOhioRecorder.com or by calling 440-350-2510. Your Lake County Recorder Office is located at 105 Main Street in Painesville, Ohio. Thank you for the opportunity to serve all the citizens of Lake County! ■

LAKE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AIRPORT



Aircraft first started flying into a dairy farm, now known as the Lake County Executive Airport, in 1929. Many improvements were made through the years and in the late 1970's, the airport was bequeathed by the owner, Kent Smith, to Case Western University. The City of Willoughby purchased the airport in 1986 and remained the stewards until 2014. The Lake Development Authority and Lake County have been the sponsors of the Lake County Executive Airport since October 8th, 2014. It is located at 1969 Lost Nation Road, Willoughby, OH 44094 and serves as an economic driver providing \$9.4 million dollars annually for Lake County, Ohio.

The airport is a public use, general aviation facility, and a reliever airport to Cleveland Hopkins. Aircraft parking is available in

two airport-owned and four privately-owned hangars as well as outdoor parking on the ramp. Lake County residents can be proud of their unique airfield that has two runways with asphalt surfaces. There are approximately 90-based aircraft with a mix of single, multi, and jet engines conducting 45,085 operations per year. Aircraft services are offered through Classic Jet Center for both general aviation aircraft and charter jets. "Their excellent customer service has caught the attention of pilots and businesses alike that return on a regular basis," said Airport Manager, Patty Fulop. "Traveling by charter jet instead of commercial airlines has become extremely popular since the pandemic," she continued.

Lake County Executive Airport is a valuable asset that brings numerous social and economic benefits to the community. It serves as a gateway to Lake County by providing a base for private pilots, local businesses, educational institutions, flight instruction, and other services. Pilots can learn to fly at Vector Aviation; a premier flight school. It is home to the Lost Nation Sports Park; an indoor and outdoor sports complex that includes soccer, basketball, golf driving, and batting cages. There is also a public restaurant on the grounds serving dinner and catering to a sports crowd. A few other community benefits include valuable space for a local law enforcement base, firefighting and police training, a sports complex, local organization meetings, public events such as air shows,

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CONCORD TWP. BICENTENNIAL *(continued from page 1)*

wonderful community throughout its bicentennial year. Visit our website or scan the code for details and to learn more about these events.

In addition to the beautiful landscape and excellent schools, Concord Township also offers one of the highest quality lifestyles in Lake County with excellent housing and restaurants. We will soon also add to that list a new fire station. The Fire Stations Project is another main focus in our community this year. Fire Station No.1 construction is moving forward. The new station will be located at 11599 Concord Hambden Road. The ground-breaking ceremony will be announced soon. We welcome all to join us for the event. The new station will be a great asset to the safety and health of our community and those who pass through for many years into the

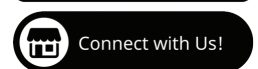


future. "Our firefighters provide 24/7 coverage to our township and mutual aid to others. The new stations will provide the support, facilities and equipment to allow them to do their jobs for many years to come," said Concord Township Fire Chief, Matthew Sabo.

You can read about the humble

beginnings of the fire department in the Concord Township's "Images of America" Book which is available for sale now on Amazon, at local bookstores and at the Community Center and Town Hall. You can also call 440-639-4650 for details or to order yours over the phone!

Morgan McIntosh, Concord Township Trustee, noted, "As we reflect on the beginnings of our community 200 years ago, it is amazing to see how we have evolved. We are so excited to celebrate the Bicentennial this year and look forward to working to make Concord Township the remarkable community that those who came before us once envisioned." ■





The Lake County
Board of Commissioners
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LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVE 25% DISCOUNT FOR LOW INCOME SENIOR CITIZENS

In an effort to assist low-income senior citizens with utility costs, the Board of Lake County Commissioners and the Department of Utilities established a program to provide a 25% discount on water and sewer bills to all qualifying senior citizens. Commissioner John Plecnik proposed the senior discount earlier this year, which was unanimously adopted by the Board of Commissioners on November 18th.

“Lake County is grateful to Commissioner John Plecnik for putting our seniors first,” said President John Hamercheck of the Lake County Board of Commissioners. “His proposal for a 25% discount on water and sewer bills for seniors in need will make a very big difference in our local community.”

Although Lake County Utility customers already pay some of the lowest rates in Northeast Ohio, the discount comes at the right time. With rising fuel prices, increasing costs on many consumer goods and growing home energy expenses, routine utility bills can be challenging for senior citizens with fixed or low incomes.

“Inflation is a hidden tax and seniors on a fixed income are being taxed out of their homes,” said Commissioner John Plecnik. “My colleagues and I are committed to running our government in Lake County super efficiently to keep taxes and fees low and return the savings to the taxpayer.” “Lake County is a family, and we care deeply about our seniors,” said Commissioner Ron Young. “My colleague John Plecnik is to be commended for working hard with multiple county departments to propose and draft this resolution to provide meaningful help to seniors in need. Lake County is lucky to have John as our newest Commissioner.”



COMMISSIONER JOHN PLECNIK's proposal for a 25% discount on water and sewer rates for low income seniors was passed by the Board of Commissioners on November 18th.

Applicants will need to satisfy three eligibility requirements that are set by the Ohio Revised Code. The applicant must be 65 years of age or older, must own and occupy the property, and must meet the income qualifier established by the Ohio Homestead Exemption. The household income threshold for 2022 is \$34,200 which is based on the 2021 tax year. ■

AIRPORT *(continued from page3)*

“Wings & Wheels”, and pancake breakfasts, in addition to school tours and career days. Airplane rides and up-close looks at aircraft are often used as auction items for local groups, charities, and fundraisers.

The recent completion of the masterplan provided direction and a vision for the airport. Funding to carry out the plan is provided through user fees facilitated by grants from the Federal Aviation Administration, ODOT, the Office of Aviation, and local grant matches. Future projects on the airport's radar include the rehabilitation of runways and lighting, addition of parallel taxiways, building of hangars, and an administration/terminal building along with a new entrance. Airport manager, Patty Fulop, remarked, “The new logo and bright colors provide for a fresh look and feel to an already incredible facility”. ■

2022 LAKE COUNTY OFFICES ANNUAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

ALL COUNTY OFFICES WILL
BE CLOSED ON THESE DAYS

FEB. 21	Presidents Day
MAY 30	Memorial Day
JUNE 20	Juneteenth
JULY 4	Independence Day
SEPT 5	Labor Day
OCT 10	Columbus Day
NOV 11	Veterans' Day
NOV 24-25	Thanksgiving
DEC 26	Christmas

To enroll, visit <https://www.lakecountyohio.gov/utilities/>, click Public Announcements, print the Senior Citizen Discount Application, and mail it in. Residents can also contact the Billing & Customer Service Office at (440) 350-2070 to have a form mailed.