



LIBERTY NEWS

JUNE 2010

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SUNDAY, JULY 4

7:15 a.m.
5K Registration

8:30 a.m.
5K Run for Liberty
Lakota East
High School

1 p.m.
25th Annual July
4th Parade—begins
at Lakota East High
School and ends at
the Lakota YMCA



Embraced by nature. Inspired by progress.

6400 Princeton Road
Liberty Township
Butler County, Ohio 45011
P: 513.759.7500
F: 513.759.7501
www.liberty-township.com

Elected Officials:

Patrick Hiltman, President
Christine Maticic, Vice-President
David Kern, Trustee
Pamela Quinlisk, Fiscal Officer

For information concerning
Liberty News, please contact
Caroline McKinney,
Economic Development Director
(cmckinney@liberty-township.com).



ANNUAL 4th of JULY PARADE AND 5K RETURNS TO LIBERTY TOWNSHIP—SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2010

The Liberty Township Events Committee has revamped the Fourth of July Festivities this year. The 5K Run for Liberty will follow a new route beginning and ending at Lakota East High School. The race will begin at 8:30 a.m. on **Sunday, July 4th** with registration starting at 7:15 a.m. The 5K Run for Liberty is certified by Steve Prescott with Prescott Racing. An awards presentation recognizing the male and female winners and the top three in each age division will follow.

5K race registration is \$20 for online registration through June 30. After June 30, the cost is \$25. 5K registration can be found online at www.liberty-township.com.

The 25th Annual Liberty Township Fourth of July Parade will begin at 1 p.m. and go from the Lakota East High School parking lot, down Wyandot Road to Yankee Road and end at Liberty Park. Lifelong Township resident and vet **James L. McClung, DVM** will serve as Grand Marshal. The parade winners will be announced by the flagpole after the National Anthem. Liberty Township will NOT hold a festival this year.



Special thanks to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Liberty Campus for being the gold-level sponsor for this year's events.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ROUND-UP

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP NEW BUSINESS UPDATES

El Rancho Grande Mexican Grill & Cantina will open in The Commons @ Liberty Falls along Cincinnati-Dayton Road very soon.

Hodapp Funeral Home has announced plans to build a new location along Cincinnati-Dayton Road in the Downtown Bethany corridor. They plan to begin construction this Summer.

Liberty Family Medicine LLC has opened in the office condos located off Hamilton-Mason Road. A ribbon cutting was held April 30 to welcome Liberty Family Medicine to the community. Dr. Aleda Johnson's (center) medical practice focuses on establishing a respectful and caring relationship with her patients which range from newborns to the elderly.



Reunions Banquet Center has opened on the second floor of The Commons @ Liberty Falls along Cincinnati-Dayton Road.

Walgreens will begin construction soon for their new store in Liberty Township on the corner of Cincinnati-Dayton and Princeton Roads.

The Web: Extreme Entertainment celebrated their grand opening with a ribbon cutting on Friday, March 26. Jerry Weber (below center) is excited to bring 56,000 SF of entertainment fun to Liberty Township!



KEEP CURRENT ON LIBERTY TOWNSHIP HAPPENINGS

Liberty Township is developing an email list of residents and community people who want to keep current on Liberty Township happenings. If you find the *Liberty News* newsletter beneficial, we encourage you to join our email list to receive additional and more frequent updates on topics including road closures, special events, important reminders and other community offerings. How do you join the Liberty E-News List? It's easy—just call or email Vickie Daniel at 759-7500 or vdaniel@liberty-township.com and asked to be added to Liberty E-News!

DELHI FLOWER AND GARDEN CENTER TO HOST FARMER'S MARKET ON FRIDAYS

Delhi Flower and Garden Center will host a Farmer's Market for the community on Friday afternoons beginning June 25. The Farmer's Market will take place on Fridays throughout the summer from 2 to 6 p.m. in their parking lot at 6282 Cincinnati-Dayton Road in Liberty Township. This is the second year that Delhi is offering the opportunity for community members and vendors to purchase and sell local goods. Spaces are still available for local vendors. For more information about visiting and being a vendor, please call 759-4700 or email Jill Besl at jillb@delhifgc.com.

REMINDER: FALSE ALARM POLICY

Please be aware that Liberty Township has a false alarm policy, which is based on Ohio Revised Code 505.511. The Trustees put this policy into place in an effort to minimize the amount of time and resources spent responding to false alarms after finding that the number of false alarms requiring the services of the Butler County Sheriff Department were on the rise. This policy is meant to address repeat offenders only and is not meant to deter businesses and residents from using alarms. The policy defines the following fines which may be assessed on residents or business owners who have a combined total of three false alarms in the same calendar year.

- ◆ 4th false alarm—\$50
- ◆ 5th false alarm—\$100
- ◆ For any false alarm after the 5th occurrence—\$150

ROADS AND PARKS UPDATE

TOWNSHIP PARK SHELTERS AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

The Liberty Township park shelters can be a great setting for picnics, birthday parties, sports team gatherings or family reunions. The Township has six park shelters available for rental. Rental fees are \$30 for Liberty Township residents and \$60 for non-residents. The rental fees help offset the cost of coordinating the rentals and extra wear rentals cause to the shelters. Reservations will be for four hours. The Township parks are open to the public from dawn until dusk. The shelters available for rental include:

- ⇒ **Liberty Park**
2 shelters
- ⇒ **Fort Liberty Playland**
2 shelters
- ⇒ **Dudley Memorial**
1 shelter
- ⇒ **Reserves Park**
1 shelter



The new shelter at Fort Liberty Playland, constructed last summer.

Park shelter reservation forms can be found on the web site or contact Vickie Daniel at 759-7500 to check availability and learn more.

LIBERTY RESIDENT HOSTS NATURE WALKS IN PARKS

Resident and volunteer Chuck Holliday is hosting a series of nature walks dubbed "Holliday in the Parks" in various Liberty Township parks this year. All ages and levels of expertise are welcome to attend. The trails are easy walking but generally not paved. Chuck encourages people to bring field guides, binoculars and friends! Check out HollidayintheParks.com for directions and email ChuckH@HollidayintheParks.com with questions.

- Dragonflies & Bullfrogs**—Saturday, July 10 at 9:30 a.m.—Wetlands Park
- Butterflies & Wildflowers**—Saturday, August 14 at 9:30 a.m.—Cherokee Park
- Edible Plants**—Thursday, August 26 at 6:30 p.m.—Cherokee Park
- Tree Walk**—Saturday, September 25—10 a.m.—Wetlands Park
- Fall Walk**—Thursday, October 28—5:30 p.m.—Dudley Memorial
- Christmas Bird Count**—Saturday, December 18—8:30 a.m.—Cherokee Park



DUDLEY MEMORIAL PARK

Be on the lookout for some exciting changes to come at Dudley Memorial Park later this summer! New playground equipment will be installed for the enjoyment of Liberty Township residents. Dudley Memorial Park is located at 5700 Yankee Road. Stay tuned!

2010 PAVING AND RESTRIPIING LIST

Each year Liberty Township works in collaboration with the Butler County Engineer's Office to pave streets and areas within the Township that are in most need. Below is the list of targeted areas submitted to the BCEO for paving and retriming this fall.

PAVING

- Lesourdsville-West Chester Road**
North from Kyles Station to Gregory Creek Bridge
- Bethany Road**
From Highway Bridge 3950 feet east
- Moselle Drive**
From 260 feet west of Chablis to 150 feet east of Sharps Ridge Court
- Chablis Drive**
From Moselle south 906 feet
- Providence Ridge Drive**
From new pavement to 50 feet east of High Saddle Court
- Cabernet Court**

BLACK MAT SLURRY (a thinner layer of asphalt)

- Clawson Ridge Court**
- Valley Falls Court**
- High Saddle Court**
From Providence Ridge to Cottage View Court

RETRACING/RESTRIPIING

- Hankins Road**
Double yellow 500 feet west from Yankee Road
- Lakota Lane**
Including crosswalks at Liberty One intersection
- Maud Hughes Road**
Princeton to Hamilton-Mason
- Lesourdsville-West Chester Road**
Hamilton-Mason north to SR 129 Bridge
- Princeton Road**
From Cincinnati-Dayton west to new pavement
- VanGorden Road**

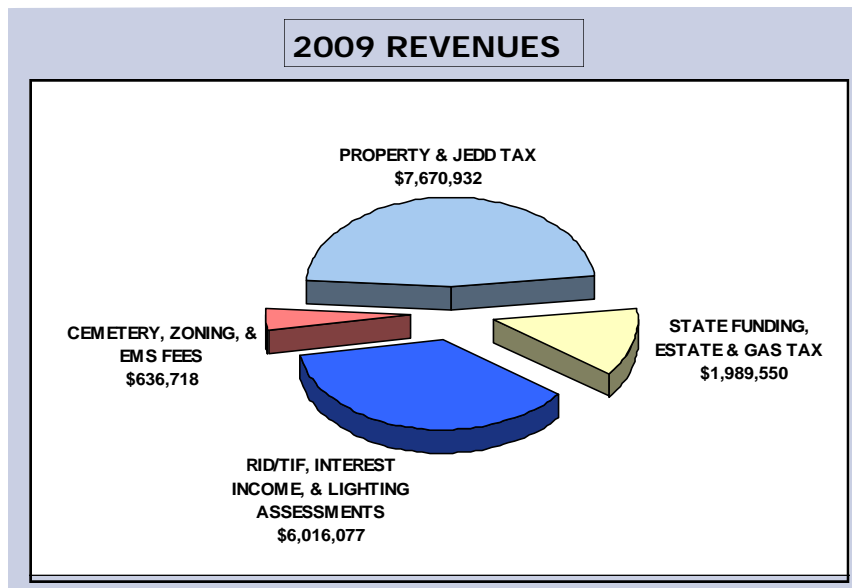
FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

PLANNING AND ZONING NEWS

TOWNSHIP'S FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY RECOGNIZED DURING AUDIT PROCESS

The 2009 fiscal year was a positive time for the Township because it received a clean audit, free of findings and recommendations, for fiscal years 2007 and 2008. This demonstrates that the Township has put all necessary controls in place to ensure the tax payer's dollars are being responsibly managed.

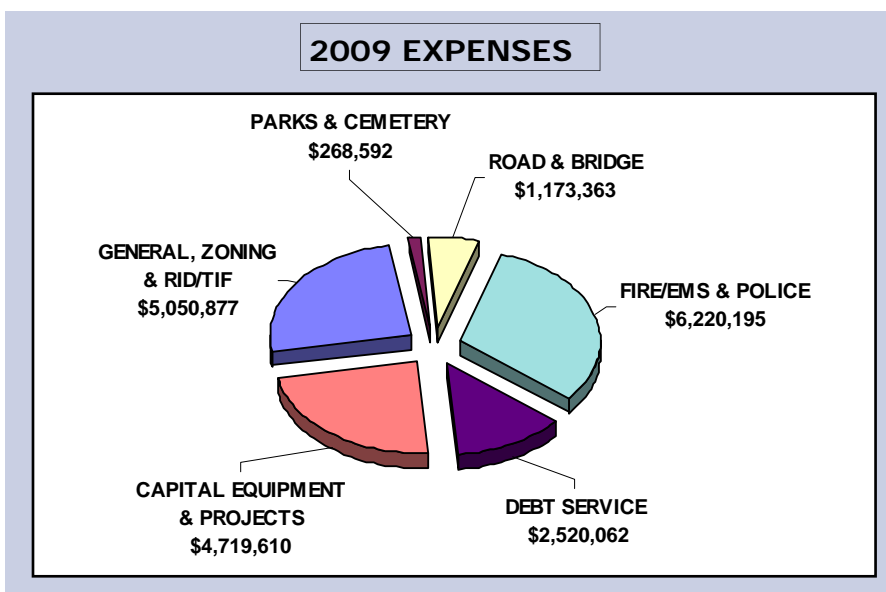
Liberty's 2009 total expenditures were \$19,324,220 compared with total revenues of \$16,313,277. The net result was a shortfall of revenue over expenditures of \$3,010,943. This is largely due to the reduced State funding for local governments, and capital improvement costs that occurred in 2009, whereas the funds for the improvements were borrowed (General Obligation Bond) and reflected in 2008.



Liberty's 2009 expenditures include capital improvement projects, which consisted of the replacement for Fire Station 111, and an additional salt storage facility to help improve the operation of treating the roads. Both of these projects were near completion by the end of 2009.

Liberty saw a significant increase in Joint Economic Development (JEDD) revenues. This revenue stream increased \$271,548 or 50% over 2008. These revenues are pledged toward improvements within the JEDD area. This additional source of revenue, along with the RID (Residential Incentive District) and TIF (Tax Increment Financing) revenues have a tremendous impact on the Townships ability to complete projects, such as the Liberty Interchange and Kyles Station Road/SR 747 road improvements. These projects may not be possible without the ability to put such funding mechanisms in place.

Overall for 2009 the Township's expenses came in under budget by approximately 5%, which is largely due to the Trustees and staff diligently watching their expenditures for the year. The revenues exceeded the budgeted amount by approximately 3%, which is due in part to the increase in RID (Residential Incentive District) and JEDD (Joint Economic Development) revenue over what was expected.



For more information please contact Pam Quinlisk, Fiscal Officer, or Kristen Bitonte, Finance Director, at 759-7604.



FIRE DEPARTMENT FLASH

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP OPENS NEW FIRE STATION 111

Earlier this year, Liberty Township opened Fire Station 111 on Princeton-Glendale Road (State Route 747) between Kyles Station Road and Hamilton-Middletown Road (State Route 4). The new 10,400-square-foot pull-through firehouse was formally dedicated to the community on Saturday, March 13. The new station replaces the Township's original Fire Station #1, which was built in 1954 to house the Township's volunteer department. The residential and commercial base in the northwest quadrant of the Township will be served by the new facility. In addition to the new fire station, a new salt storage barn has been added to the site to assist the Township's services department.

Liberty Township was pleased to have so many people support the dedication and community open house. It was especially nice to see so many familiar faces of past members of the Liberty Township Fire Department.



Above: Liberty Township Trustees Pat Hiltman, Dave Kern and Christine Matic take a moment to thank Jim Danis and Chris Hammond of Danis Construction for their efforts as construction manager for Station 111. Right: Liberty Township Color Guard



Above: Liberty Township Fire Chief Paul Stumpf provides remarks during the dedication ceremony. Below: A moment of reflection



FIREWORKS: DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!

As we approach the July Fourth holiday and the September Labor Day celebrations we are inundated with questions and concerns about fireworks. Basically, the only types of fireworks that can be legally discharged by the average resident in the state of Ohio are trick and novelty items also known as **Exempted 1.4G** Fireworks. These include items such as sparklers, glow snakes, smoke bombs, snaps and similar devices. Traditional devices such as firecrackers, bottle rockets, fountains and roman candles are classified as 1.4G Fireworks—and while they may be purchased by residents over 18 years of age from a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler—they can not be legally discharged in the state of Ohio. When purchased in state the purchaser must sign a form stating that they will transport these devices out of the state within 48 hours. Aerial shells and other shells that are shot from mortars are classified as 1.3G fireworks and can only be discharged by a licensed exhibitor with a valid permit in accordance with Ohio laws.

The Ohio State Fire Marshall's Office has additional information on fireworks laws on their web site at: www.com.state.oh.us/sfm.

You may also contact the State Fire Marshall's Office at 614-752-8200 or Liberty Township Fire Headquarters at 759-7530.

Please enjoy one of the displays put on by the professionals and stay safe!

Past and present members of the Liberty Township Fire Department pose for a group photo in front of the department's oldest engine in their fleet.

March 13, 2010





Partners in Prime introduces the new West Chester Activity Center, opening this Fall at 7900 Cox Road, and serving the Lakota area. Dance, fitness classes, exercise and social activities will be offered at the Activity Center, with emphasis placed on **prime club** (55+) activities during the day, and classes for all ages at other times.

Partners in Prime has been serving the Lakota area community for nearly 20 years, providing meals on wheels, in-home assistance and transportation to older adults, and operating three Butler County senior centers (or prime clubs), including a small storefront on Cox Road.

Donations for capital support are being accepted at the Community Foundation of West Chester/Liberty. To date, the community has donated 61% of the \$255,000 needed to prepare the building for opening. Room naming and other opportunities still exist for potential donors and businesses. A wish list of items and services needed for the Activity Center include items such as furniture, a riding lawn mower and a storage barn.

For more information, contact Steve Schnabl, CEO, at 513.779.7360 or visit us online at WestChesterActivityCenter.org.



WEST CHESTER ■ LIBERTY CHAMBER ALLIANCE

A QUARTERLY REPORT PROVIDED BY THE CHAMBER



May Luncheon & Business Expo

The rainy weather did not discourage anyone from attending the West Chester ■ Liberty Chamber Alliance May Monthly Luncheon and Business Expo at Skatetown USA on May 11th.

The afternoon started with a Taste of West Chester/Liberty as 20 restaurants and clubs shared their signature dishes. Jason Kreul, General Manager of Cincinnati Marriott North, coordinated this lunch for our Chamber. Our luncheon speaker, Donna Salyers, President and Founder of Fabulous-Furs, spoke of how she got where she is today with a business beginning in her basement with just a sewing machine and a motivation for success. "Models" in the audience showed off a few of her faux fur coats and guests were inspired by what Donna had to share.

The luncheon was only the beginning...The Business Expo, consisting of over 100 exhibitors, followed from 1-5pm. It was an amazing transformation of a skating rink to an expo! The bright yellow definitely kept the crowd of over 1,000 people motivated and moving. Our Radio Media Sponsor, Warm 98, played great music throughout while our Premier Print Media Sponsor, Cox Ohio Media, provided the "Cox Media Center" where guests could be "spotted" and interviewed. This expo provided companies and organizations with the opportunity to network with guests and provide information and give-a-ways to those walking by. Those same exhibitors are looking forward to providing this same experience to guests in 2011.

Grand Opening or Groundbreaking Ceremony

Our Chamber would be delighted to help your business celebrate with a Grand Opening, Ribbon Cutting or Groundbreaking Ceremony as long as your business meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Opened its doors in the last 12 months
- Changed ownership or under new management
- Moved to a new location
- Has been remodeled or expanded at its present location
(*\$75 fee applies to non-Chamber members*)

A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is an important part of your overall marketing and advertising plan. It offers an opportunity to meet key leaders in the community and get acquainted with neighbors and chamber members.

Scheduling should take place a minimum of two weeks prior to the event. Chamber Ambassadors will conduct the ceremony, complete with a 3-foot long pair of scissors. The chamber takes digital photos to be used for publicity!

The Chamber Staff will help make things go as smoothly as possible by:

- Putting you in touch with other Chamber businesses to provide catering, publicity and even invitations.
- Bringing the giant scissors and taking pictures at the appointed time.

What is included in the \$75 fee? The ribbon, photographer, Chamber Ambassadors, Chamber plaque recognizing the special event and the posting of your photo in an upcoming issue of The VOICE (*there is no fee for Chamber members*).

Upcoming Events:

September 20th – Golf & Tennis Classic @ Heritage Club

November 19th – Women of Excellence @ Cincinnati Marriott North

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...LIBERTY TOWNSHIP FALL FESTIVAL SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2010

The Fall Festival will be held this year on **Saturday, September 18th** at Liberty Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In addition, the Events Committee has added a 5K to the Fall Festival. We are having a contest to name the run. Please submit entries to Melanie Brokaw at mbrokaw@liberty-township.com by noon on Thursday, August 5, 2010. The entries should have "Name the 5K Contest" in the title with your name, age, contact information, and race name suggestion. The top three submissions will receive free registration for the race and be listed in the September edition of *Liberty News*. The winner will be announced at the Fall Festival and receive four race t-shirts.



OTHER TOWNSHIP NEWS

NUISANCE COMPLAINTS PEAK THIS TIME OF YEAR

The Liberty Township Zoning Department responds to nuisance complaints, including tall grass, weeds, trash and junk in yards, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87. Properties going through the nuisance abatement process can take at least 6 weeks to go through the process, if the property owner(s) choose not to abate the nuisance.

- ◆ Once the Liberty Township Zoning Department receives a written complaint regarding the conditions at a property, Staff does a site inspection and takes photographs of present conditions.
- ◆ If the property is deemed to be in violation (i.e. grass >8" and/or excessive weeds) the property owner is notified and given 10 days to correct the violation.
- ◆ After 10 days, the site is re-inspected. If the violation has not been corrected (grass cut, trash removed, etc.), a certified letter of violation is sent to the owner and all lien holders of record stating the property will be put on the next available Liberty Township Board of Trustees agenda to be declared a Public Nuisance (minimum 10 days advance notice required). A copy of the notice is also posted on the property.
- ◆ If the violation remains on the day of the aforementioned Board of Trustees meeting, the Trustees pass a Resolution officially declaring the property a public nuisance and ordering that the nuisance be abated within 7 days. A second certified letter of violation is sent to the owner and all lien holders of record stating the property has been declared a public nuisance and they have 7 days to abate the nuisance. A copy of the notice is also posted on the property.
- ◆ Seven days after the Trustees Resolution, the property is re-inspected. Any violation remaining at this time will be corrected by the Township, with the cost of the abatement placed on the owner's property tax bill.

Complaints may be made by filling out the Resident Complaint Form, in person, by mail, fax or email. For additional information, please contact the Zoning Department at 759-7500.

Liberty Township Offices

Administration	759-7500
Fax	759-7501
Fiscal Office	759-7604
Roads/Parks	759-7585
Zoning	759-7500
Emergency	911

Sheriff's Office (Non-Emergency)

Dispatch.....	785-1300
Liberty Substation	759-7340
Traffic Unit.....	759-7345

Fire Dept. (Non-Emergency)

Station #1 (5763 Princeton-Glendale).....	759-7521
Station #2 (6957 Yankee).....	759-7570
Station #3 (6682 Princeton-Glendale)	
Fire Headquarters	759-7530
Fax	759-7531

Lakota Schools

Central Office	874-5505
Creekside Early Childhood Center	874-0175
Liberty Early Childhood School	777-6194
Shawnee Early Childhood School	779-3014
Wyandot Early Childhood School.....	759-8100
Adena Elementary	777-0100
Cherokee Elementary	755-8200
Endeavor Elementary	759-8300
Freedom Elementary	777-9787
Heritage Elementary	863-7060
Hopewell Elementary	777-2258
Independence Elementary	755-8300
Union Elementary	777-2201
Van Gorden Elementary.....	644-1150
Woodland Elementary	779-7775
Hopewell Junior School	777-2258
Lakota Plains Junior School	644-1130
Liberty Junior School	777-4420
Lakota Ridge Junior School.....	777-0552
Lakota East Freshmen School	588-7700
Lakota West Freshmen School	874-8390
Lakota East High School.....	755-7211
Lakota West High School	874-5699

Butler County Offices (411)

Auditor	887-3154
Board of Elections	887-3700
All County Officials	887-3000
Animal Shelter	867-5727
Child Abuse Hotline.....	868-0888

Libraries

Hamilton.....	894-7156
Middletown	424-1251
Monroe	360-0714
West Chester	777-3131

Other

Drivers License Bureau (Hamilton)	868-2180
Titles (West Chester)	860-9705
US Post Office	800-275-8777
Vehicle Registration (Mason)	398-8928
West Chester Chamber Alliance.....	777-3600

LOCATIONS

All meetings are at the Liberty Township Administrative Building, 6400 Princeton Road, unless otherwise noted.

The Liberty Township Historical Society meets at the Hughes School House, 6040 Princeton Road (next to Liberty Elementary).

The Parks Committee and the Events Committee meet at the Roads Garage, 6959 Yankee Road, unless otherwise noted.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY

Every Monday: Butler County Commissioners Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

For more info: www.butlercountyohio.org

1st Monday of the Month: Zoning Commission Meeting at 7 p.m.

Last Monday of the Month: Trails Meeting at 2 p.m.

TUESDAY

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month: Trustees Meetings at 6 p.m.

2nd Tuesday of the Month: Board of Zoning Appeals at 7 p.m.

Last Tuesday of the Month: Parks Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Every Thursday: Butler County Commissioners Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

2nd Thursday of the Month: A representative of John Boehner's office is available at 11 a.m.

2nd Thursday of the Month: Liberty Township Historical Society at 7 p.m. (7:30 p.m. during the summer months)

Embraced by nature. ♦ Inspired by progress.
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