March 2005
Newsletter

Village of GALENA FOUNDED 1809

Galena Recognizes Eagle Scouts

Galena Mayor Tom Hopper recognized two local Boy Scouts from Galena Troop 300 at the February Galena Council Meeting. Hopper awarded Mayor's Proclamations to Steven Snider and Dan Dodson in recognition of their achievement in earning Eagle Scout Awards. The Eagle Scout is the highest advancement ranking in scouting. Hopper said, "Achieving this status exemplifies the goals of scouting: citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness." He added that both boys have proven their leadership, service, and outdoor skills and have demonstrated that they are self-motivated and diligent. The proclamation recognized Snider's and Dodson's outstanding leadership, character, motivation, and exceptional community service.

Receiving a Mayor's Proclamation are Eagle Scouts Steven Snider (left) and Dan Dodson (right) from Galena Mayor Tom Hopper (second from left) with Boy Scouts Troop 300 Leader Jim Irwin (second from right).

Easter Egg Hunt

Local children are invited to hunt Easter eggs and treasure at Galena's annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 26 at Ruffner Park in Galena. The event begins at 1 p.m. sharp.

The Easter Egg Hunt will be divided into age groups for infants-4 years old, 5-7 years old, and 8-10 years old. Ages 11-14 can participate in a Scavenger Hunt as well.

The event is organized by the Galena Parks and Special Events Committee.

Girl Scouts from the Big Walnut Service Unit cleaned and sorted 2,200 eggs and

stuffed them with 8,500 pieces of candy as well as pennies in preparation for Galena's upcoming Easter Egg Hunt.

Galena Wins Judgment; Purchases Sewer Plant

Every once in a while, the proverbial David does win battles with Goliath. The Delaware County Court of Common Pleas ruled in favor of Galena's right to purchase the sewage treatment plant serving its residents from Delaware County. Judge Richard Markus issued his judgment January 7 saying the Village has the constitutional right to purchase the plant.

"We are elated," says Galena Mayor Tom Hopper. "This vindicates what we've been saying all along! The plant is on our land and we just want the right to control our own Village's destiny. As government officials, it is our duty to serve our residents as best we can. We have tried for years to be good neighbors and talk this out with the County."

The judgment set in motion negotiations with County officials to settle on a purchase price rather than going to court in February.

Village Council held an emergency meeting on January 31 and unanimously passed a resolution authorizing the mayor to spend up to $350,000 to purchase the plant. Negotiations include the County keeping the more than $400,000 in tap fees they will receive before the closing date. The Village expects to receive at least $250,000 in tap fees paid after that time.

Galena Dates

Mark Your Calendar! The following are Galena Village Council and committee meeting dates as well as other local events. All Village meetings are open to the public and are at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Village Municipal Building, 9 W. Columbus St., unless otherwise stated.

March 26	Easter Egg Hunt, 1 p.m., Ruffner Park
March 28	Council Meeting
April 13	Zoning & Planning
April 19	Parks & Sp. Events
April 25	Council Meeting
May 11	Zoning & Planning
May 17	Parks & Sp. Events
May 23	Council Meeting

Attorneys have been negotiating details of the sale since January and a purchase agreement was signed in early March by Mayor Tom Hopper and County Commissioners Jim Ward and Glenn Evans.

On March 10, the Village inspected the facility along with their engineering firm Poggemeyer Design Group. The Village is arranging a short-term loan or bond and awaiting transfer of the EPA permit to operate the plant in order to complete the purchase.

Police Report

Police Chief Pat Bennett gave a 2004 report to Council showing that the Sunbury Galena Police Department issued 224 citations in Galena. There were 42 citations in the first quarter of the year; 67 in the second quarter; 78 in the third; and 37 in the fourth quarter of the year.

Annexation

In February, council passed an ordinance specifying municipal services for 16.839 acres upon annexation into the Village. The land is on Dustin Road and will be added to the Estates at Blackhawk development currently under construction. The annexation petition was filed with Delaware County by Trinity Home Builders and the Village is required by Ohio law to hold a hearing on the provision of services within 20 days of the filing.

The ordinance details water service through Del-Co Water and law enforcement services furnished through the Sunbury Galena Police Department. Sewer services would be provided upon expansion of the sewage treatment plant with the cost of extension of services borne by the property owner.

Developments

Public Service Director Dave LaValle reported on zoning permits in the Village's three new subdivisions. Maronda Homes informed him that ½ of the 51 houses in the Heathermere development beside Arrowhead Golf Course are sold or in contract already. Permits have been issued for model homes in the Estates at Blackhawk on Dustin Road and the Walnut Creek subdivision on Joe Walker Road.

Trash Service

After providing residential waste pick-up for everyone in Galena for the first two weeks in February, Waste Management stopped collecting for those who had not signed up for the service. Unfortunately, some of those who had signed up or attempted to sign up were also deleted from the pick-up list. Hopefully, by now this has been resolved and we apologize for any inconvenience.

If you still need to sign up or have any questions or concerns about your account, call Waste Management at 1-800-343-6047.

Income Tax

The Regional Income Tax Authority (RITA) wants you to know that you can file your Municipal Income Tax Returns electronically. For more information, call 440-922-3291 or visit www.ritaohio.com.

Church Services

Join Galena United Methodist Church on a Lenten Journey:

- Maundy Thursday - Seder Meal- March 24, 7:30 p.m.;
- Easter Sunrise Service, March 27, 7:30 a.m.; and,
- Easter Celebration, March 27, 10:30 a.m.

Chicken & Noodles Dinner

Join Galena United Methodist Church for a Chicken and Noodles Dinner, 4-7 p.m., April 2. Meals include chicken & noodles, green beans, slaw or applesauce and a roll for $6.50 for adults and $3.50 for children. Dessert and drinks are extra.

Village Contacts

Village Offices	965-2484
e-mail: galena@copper.net	
web: www.galenaohio.org	
Mayor Tom Hopper	965-1024
In an emergency, dial	**911**
Sunbury/Galena Police	965-3946
BST& G Fire Dept.	965-3841
Del-Co Water	548-7746
Del. Co. Sanitary Engr.	833-2240
AEP	800-277-2177
Columbia Gas	800-344-4077
Waste Mgt.	800-343-6047
Sprint	800-407-5411
Galena Post Office	965-2371
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