

ROAD REPORT

The Official Newsletter of the Sandusky County Engineer

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FROM THE ENGINEER

Last week we hosted four students from Clyde who have an interest in civil engineering. This is part of a mandatory class that requires students to seriously consider what their future vocation might be. The teacher is Mrs. Laurie (Michaels) Good, who actually worked here mowing roads during her college years.

The RUMA has been finalized and has been reviewed and approved by the County Prosecutor. It is now in the hands of the pipeline companies. One feature is that they set up a \$100,000 escrow account to cover our expenses involved with installation of the proposed pipelines.

Our OPWC application for paving Napoleon Road looks like it will be funded. If so, that road will most likely get paved next year. CR 198 from CR 181 to the Bypass is another leading candidate.

Work is continuing on next year's budget. Our Budget Hearing with the Commissioners is scheduled for December 15th. If you have any suggestions or ideas, now is the time to turn those in. So far, the only piece of equipment planned for next year is a mini excavator which was actually ordered today. It will be a Kubota with a digging bucket, ditch bucket and a thumb. Should work nice for ditch cleanouts and culvert installations. Cost was about \$103,000.

The election results are now history. We'll have a new President and here in Sandusky County we will have two new Commissioners, a new Prosecutor and a new Sheriff in 2017. At least eleven counties in Ohio will have new County Engineers due to elections and retirements. At least two other counties got new engineers in 2016 due to a death and a retirement. Incidentally, the longest serving County Engineer in Ohio is Bert Dawson in Columbiana County. He has been in office since 1969 and was just re-elected to another term!

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone! As always, we all have a lot to be truly thankful for.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

(Years of County Employment)

Carlos Baez	December 6 th	6 years
Tim Below	December 6 th	17 years
Tim Reed	December 6 th	17 years

FROM THE OFFICE MANAGER

PAYCHECKS

Paychecks will be deposited Friday into your bank accounts.

THANKSGIVING

Our Department will be **closed** the day after Thanksgiving.

FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT (BENNY CARD)

Check the website www.mybenny.com or call 1-877-810-2600 to check your account balance. Remember to submit any outstanding claims or receipts. **Keep your Benny Card; you will use it for 2017.**

OPEN ENROLLMENT is Now through December 12th

Enroll now for 2017 and pay less into Federal, State, City, School, and Medicare Tax.

What is FSA? It is a **"Tax Free saving account"** for the following expenses: Medical, Dental, Vision, Medication - prescriptions and over the counter **AND** Dependent Care - day care, babysitter... If you are interested in enrolling **and/or** would like more information, please let me know.

Open Enrollment Superior Dental (includes Vision discounts) and Guardian Life

Open Enrollment is Now through December 12th. At no cost to you, Superior Dental offers vision discounts through Eye Med. Dental rates will be the same as 2016 with no increase.

UNITED WAY

United Way Pledge Cards are now available and payroll deduction **or** a one-time donation can be made. Why invest in United Way? Your donation (large or small), touches the lives of Sandusky County residents. Invest in your community, invest in yourself... you will never know when you or your family will need the help of a United Way Funded Agency or Program. **As a donor, you can be assured that 100% of your donation stays here in Sandusky County.**

HEALTH INSURANCE

Reminder that everyone covered under our health insurance will receive one free annual eye exam. You must go to a preferred provider or the exam will not be covered. A list of preferred providers is posted in the Ready Room. There are several providers on the list that also are on the Eye Med provider list too.

FROM THE ROAD SUPERINTENDENT

What a change in the weather. To go from 60s and 70s one day to the 30s and snow showers the next day. I know I was definitely not prepared for it. I guess it had to come sometime. Last week the guys did go over our snow plow equipment. Over all everything is ready to go. There were a few minor lighting and hydraulic repairs done, but overall we will be ready for that first snow storm when it comes.

We have had quite a few projects going on in the last week or so. The culvert extension on TR 278 was completed, we finished berming TR 220 from CR 213 to the entrance of the airport, Ed has been boom mowing some for the townships, mowing over west, crack sealing on CR 13, and Eric, Tim R. and Steve have been cleaning up spoils along CR 119 were we repaired and widened the road.

I just got word today that we will finally be getting our new boom mower the first part of next week. The new service truck is also due in at any time. Another piece of equipment we will be adding to our fleet is a mini excavator. I put in an order today for a Kubota KX080. It is the same model as the one we demoed this summer.