

# Village of Morristown

Summer 2017 Newsletter



## A message from the Mayor

### DIRECTORY

Village Office  
740-782-1551

Mayor  
Heather Stitt

Village  
Administrator  
DJ Williams

Clerk/Treasurer  
Cheryl Borkoski

Solicitor  
Adam Myser

Council Members  
Vaughn Butler  
Doug Harris  
Art Henderson  
Pamela McCort  
John Rataiczak  
Jewell Yeary

*Council meets the  
second Monday of  
each month  
at 6 p.m. in the  
administration office  
on Church Street*

As summer turns into fall, let's take a look at what has been happening in Morristown this year.

### *Playground Equipment Installed*

The biggest news in 2017 had to be the awarding of a \$53,682 grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for playground equipment at the Lynn Hunkler Memorial Park. Village officials and the Park Commission worked together to apply for this grant, which paid for 80 percent of the new equipment. The equipment is now installed and rave reviews are coming in from kids, parents and grandparents!

### *New Mower for the Park*

The village purchased a new Toro Z Turn tractor for the park and it is already being put through its paces by tireless volunteers who make sure the park looks its best.

### *Drainage and Paving Projects*

Drainage and paving projects are priorities at this time. The Main Street drainage project was completed this summer, funded by a Community Development Block Grant we received several years ago. Village Administrator DJ Williams and village worker Gordon Price have been working on drainage issues all across town, repairing grates, placing stone where needed and redirecting water.

Wilson Blacktop will soon be patching and paving some areas of our streets, smoothing out the rough edges through town.

### *Our Financial House is in Order*

Morristown's budget hearing was recently held at the Belmont County Courthouse where we learned that local government funds (LGF) have been cut again for 2018.

Over the last 10 years, LGF has been reduced by 50 percent in Ohio. This has made it difficult for small villages, like ours. We have been very careful with all types of spending and leasing mineral rights of village properties has filled the gap. Our finances are in good shape and the county took note. The auditor and treasurer were very happy with our fund balance and the way we manage our finances.

## The Value of a Volunteer

Volunteers in communities large and small are getting the job done, saving taxpayers millions of dollars in the process. We may appreciate the work they do, but do you really know their value? According to Independent Sector, a national organization, the latest value of a volunteer hour is \$24.14.

Think about that for just a minute and remember it the next time you drive by or take a walk in the Lynn Hunkler

*Please turn over*

## Parking Rules Near Intersections

Concerns have been raised about parking in some areas of town, specifically along Main Street, where vehicles are parked too close to intersections, obstructing the view of motorists.

Per Ohio Revised Code, the parking of any vehicle within 30 feet of a stop sign is prohibited. The village will begin marking these “no parking” areas. If you are parking that close to an intersection, please find an alternate location.

Remember, parking in front of our homes is a privilege, not a right. Please be considerate of your neighbors and abide by the law. We don't want anyone to receive a ticket for parking in a “no parking” zone.



## MORRISTOWN VFD REPORT

The 12 members of the Morristown VFD have been at work to make sure they are ready when we need them. The members actively sought grant funding that helped in the purchase of turn out gear and extrication (rescue) equipment.

The VFD received the following grants:

- \$2500.00 from Smith Goshen Rice Enrichment Fund
- \$10,000.00 from Ohio Dept. Of Commerce for turn out gear
- \$14,000.00 from Rice Energy

The VFD also replaced its old 1983 Pierce Arrow pumper with a newer model fire truck. The old fire truck was put out for bid and the St. Clairsville Noon Rotary Club was the successful bidder. The Rotarians are in the process of refurbishing it where it will be sent to Guatemala to help fill a need there.

We're online at [www.morristownohio.org](http://www.morristownohio.org)

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### Value of a Volunteer

Memorial Park. That beautiful setting remains that way because of volunteers.

One of those volunteers, Randy Burghy, spends day after day mowing and performing grounds keeping tasks. He, Park Commission Members Vicki Burghy, Don Hearn and Josh Nagy and others supervised installation of the new playground equipment and even kept people informed by posting pictures on social media.

If you really want to make a difference, volunteer. There are no special skills needed, just willing hands and a big heart.



### Cake Walk

Mayor Heather Stitt and Village Council are already making plans for the Annual Halloween Cake Walk. This fun event will be held at the Fire Hall in October. The date will soon be announced, so watch for it!

### General Info

Water bills are due on the 16<sup>th</sup> of every month and can be placed in a drop box at the Village Hall on Church Street any time of the day or night.

Contact your village by calling [740-782-1551](tel:740-782-1551).

Dial 911 for all emergencies