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### AUTOPAY REMINDER

**Mayor—Pat Putnam**  
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**Council Members**  
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Belinda Harry  
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**Municipal Manager**  
Jeffrey Sewert  
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Did you know that you can have your water bill automatically paid directly out of your checking account? We only need a voided check and your signature for authorization. Payments will be taken out of your account on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. If the 15<sup>th</sup> lands on a weekend or holiday, the transaction will be made on the next business day. You will never have to worry about missing a payment. You can go on vacation and your bill will automatically be paid. If you have questions or would like to sign up, please contact Margee at the Village office at 962-4377.

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Don't want to sign for up Autopay but don't want to incur a late fee if your bill doesn't get to you in time? Just contact the Village office at 962-4377 before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. We can look up your account and let you know the amount of your utility bill.



# The Village View

January 2016



## Reflections of 2015

Taking a look back to 2015 and entering into a new year, I want to take time in this edition of the Village View to sincerely thank our Elected Officials, Board Volunteers, and Village employees who serve the citizens and businesses of the Lewisburg community.

First, thank you to Mayor Pat Putnam and Village Council for their leadership and guidance for the mission and vision of the Lewisburg community.

Thank you to the Administrative Staff in the front office, who are diligent in providing the best customer service to our citizens.

Our Fire and EMS personnel, under the direction of Chief Robert Sewert, are prepared and manned 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by three full-time paramedic/firefighters and supplemented by part-time employees. A special thank you goes out to the Fire and EMS volunteers who are the true backbone of the department with many years of service and dedication to the community.

Under the direction of Chief Rick McGee, the Police Department is

staffed by three full-time officers, along with 12 Part-time officers, who provide 24-hour-a-day police protection for our community. The Police Department also works very closely with the Tri-County North Schools to provide for a Police Resource Officer for grades K through 12.

The Public Service Department is staffed by four full-time employees and currently employs 6 part-time employees. These men, under the direction of Josh Harry, make sure each and every day the refuse and recycling gets picked up. They operate and maintain the Water and Water Reclamation facilities to provide for the best water quality and ensure Ohio EPA rules and regulations are met. They perform all aspects of street duties, including picking up leaves in the fall, snow removal in the winter months, construction and maintenance of Village streets in the summer. In the springtime, they prepare our Community Park for the various activities from little

league baseball, pee wee football and family reunions.

Accolades go out to our Park Board of Trustees, Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Commission members. These men and women volunteer their time every month to make for a better Lewisburg.

As Municipal Manager, I'm very proud of our employees and the job they do each and every day. They are the BEST! Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress and working together is success!

Finally, I want to sincerely thank the citizens and businesses for truly making Lewisburg the best kept secret in Preble County! Please don't hesitate to contact me at 962-4377 with any questions or concerns so that we may keep our Village one of which we can very proud.

Best regards,  
Jeff Sewert  
Municipal Manager

### 2016 Village of Lewisburg Holiday Closings

Friday, January 1	Thursday, November 24 (refuse on Friday)
Monday, January 18	Friday, November 25
Monday, February 15	Friday, December 23
Monday, May 30	Monday, December 26 (refuse on Tuesday)
Monday, July 4	Friday, December 30
Monday, September 5	

## VOTERS SUPPORT ISSUE 22 - THANK YOU!

The Mayor, Village Council, Municipal Manager and Staff would like to thank the voters for supporting Issue 22. Issue 22 provided a 0.25% income tax rate increase. Issue 22 was approved with 339 votes for the tax increase and 207 votes against the tax increase.

Beginning January 1, 2016, the income tax rate will increase from 1.5% to 1.75%. The increase of 0.25% will be used for capital improvements for the Village of Lewisburg including, but not limited to, development and construction of storm sewers and

street improvements; public buildings, parks and playgrounds; and necessary equipment for the police, fire, street, traffic and safety departments.

Taxpayers will receive 100% credit for income taxes paid to other cities. If you live in Lewisburg and work in a community with an income tax rate of 1.75% or more, there will be no additional tax owed. If you live in Lewisburg and work in a city with an income tax rate less than 1.75%, you will pay that tax rate to that city and owe the difference to the Village of Lewisburg. This tax is an annual

tax levied on the income (earned) of every person residing in or earning or receiving income in the municipal corporation. "Person" means every natural person, partnership, limited partnership, corporation, fiduciary or association.

The Municipal Manager stands behind the Tax Department in their efforts to ensure all tax returns have been filed and all taxes owed to the Village have been collected.

Again, thanks for your support!

### VILLAGE INCOME TAX REMINDER

Tax season is upon us once again. Just a reminder that **Village ordinance requires everyone, including renters, to file an income tax return with the Village - even if you have no taxable income.** Tax returns are due in the Village office by April 15th. You can pick up a Village tax return form at the Village offices. Please feel free to contact Margee at 962-4377 with any questions.

## Brown Memorial Library News

Winter is upon us at last - what better time to read anything & everything! With access to print materials, magazines, e-books, and more, the library is one-stop shopping for all things literary. Don't forget about music and movies as well - with over 7 million items available through the SEO Consortium, the possibilities are endless.

During the past year, library usage has increased tremendously. All Preble County libraries now use the same system and materials may be returned to any county or SEO Consortium library. We have patrons using our library whose original cards were issued in Cadiz, Perry County, New Madison, West Mil-

ton, and Tipp City.

The library receives a very limited number of federal & Ohio tax forms. With 80-90% of individuals filing online, the elimination of paper forms affects the quantities we receive for distribution. Village of Lewisburg tax forms are also available.

The conversion of the Lewisburg Leader newspaper from microfilm to digital is complete. The database is accessible through the library's website at <http://brownmemorial.lib.oh.us>. Donations are still being accepted toward the project's costs.

Upcoming events include a Downton Abbey Farewell Tea, the Rowdy Readers adult book discussion group, Homeschool Hour, preschool story and craft time, and more. All events are listed on our website calendar. Speaking of events, do you have ideas or suggestions for programs at the library? If so, please share them with library staff, via the contact form on our website, or e-mailing the director Dianna Oda at [doda@seolibraries.org](mailto:doda@seolibraries.org). Like us on Facebook @ Brown Memorial Library.



## Fire and EMS Department News

Two members of the Lewisburg Fire/EMS were honored at a recent Village of Lewisburg council meeting. Allie Kring and Kendra Vanover were recognized for completing requirements to be certified as Level 2 firefighters by the State of Ohio. These young ladies are to be commended for their dedication and compassion in meeting the many challenges this course presented. The level of instruction was an intensive eight-week course taught at the Ohio Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg.

These two individuals are continuing their training this month at two local institutions. Kendra is enrolled in various fire related courses at Sinclair Community College and Allie is pursuing her EMT certification at the Miami Valley CTC.

Firefighter Derrick Barnhart recently completed a course of study to become an EMT. He is now certified by the State of Ohio.

The department is indeed fortunate to have these individuals joining our team. They will definitely be assets in helping us pursue our mission of protecting the lives and property of our citizens.

The Fire/EMS would like to thank the citizens who supported the recent .25% increase to the Village income tax. A portion of this increase will help fund capital im-

provement projects for our department.

The fire department has recently applied for an Assistance to Firefighter Grant under the authority of FEMA. If the department would be so fortunate to acquire these monies we would be able to purchase personal protective equipment which includes coats, pants, boots, and helmets. This replacement would enable us to update our gear that is ten years old.

The EMS department recently received two new heart monitors for use in both of our medics. These valuable pieces of equipment are utilized on almost every incident. As with all of our equipment, we have attempted to take the utmost care in extending the life of our present monitors that were purchased some 13 years ago.

Recently the EMS department was called to assist one of our Lewisburg families that were expecting a child. Our crew that day was tasked with taking care of the expectant mother. Upon arrival at the residence, they removed the patient and made their way to Good Samaritan Hospital. The newborn had other ideas. The bundle of joy entered the world on Salem Ave. before her arrival at the hospital. Congratulations to the proud mother and father, as well as the overjoyed crew.

We would like to pass along our condolences to the families of several of our citizens who have passed recently. These are individuals that we were called upon to assist. We hope that we were able to provide compassionate care in time of need.

As we proceed through the winter months, we need to remind our citizens of some safety concerns. When using a portable generator, make sure it is placed in a well ventilated area. When using a space heater, keep it three feet from anything that will burn. Candles should not be left unattended, so extinguish them when you leave a room.

Our department is always looking for new members. For those that may have a desire to join our team please stop by the station and talk to one of our members. Anyone with a question or concern, please do not hesitate to call the station at 962-4640.



### SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!

You can help keep businesses in Lewisburg and keep our downtown buildings occupied. BUY LOCAL! Save time and gas. Walk into a business where you are greeted with a smile and they know you by your first name. You may even see a friend you haven't seen for a while. Be sure to check out our newest businesses - Studio 40, Twisted Sisters, and RubyPurl Chocolates. Thanks for your support!