

# AMHERST TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

www.amhersttownship.us

Summer 2014

Vol. XIX No. 2

## Recycling Report

Amherst Township recycled the following quantities in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2014.

Newspaper	29.40	#1 PET	4.65
Cardboard	14.70	#2 HDPE	5.14
Mixed Paper	11.76	#2 - #7 Plastic Mixed	1.96
Steel Cans	2.45	Aseptic Containers	0.49
Alum. Cans	0.98	Residuals	9.80
Mixed Glass	16.66	Total	97.99

\* Above quantities are all listed in tons.

2.20 tons of various paper through the "ABITIBI Paper Retriever" program

-----There were no dumpster days in the first quarter, therefore no scrap metal.

For questions concerning the new "Curbside Recycling Program", contact **RUMPKE** at **1-800-828-8171**.

## "2014" Dumpster Days

Amherst Township has set the following dates for "Dumpster Days" in 2014:

**October 2, 3, 4**

Hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Please note: **NO TIRES!**

**NO PROPANE TANKS!**

## Drop-Off Hours for Yard Waste!!

Brush, limbs, grass clippings, and leaves may be brought to the Amherst Township property located on the **EAST** side of Oberlin Road (directly across from the Township Garage which is located at 7530 Oberlin Road) at the following times:

- 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Mon – Fri
  - 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Saturday
  - 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays
  - Amherst Township Residents only
  - I.D. may be checked
  - No Commercial
  - **No Plastic Bags** – place bags in 55 gal drum
- ➔ **Yard Waste Pile** is located at the far back of the property on the east side of Oberlin Road.

**Have a problem?** Complaint forms are available at the Township Hall, inside the white bulletin board, or they may be downloaded from the Township's website.

## Township Hall & Garage 988-5894

Fax ..... 988-5877

Fiscal Officer ..... **Ext. 104**

Email: [amhersttwpfo@oh.rr.com](mailto:amhersttwpfo@oh.rr.com)

Road Superintendent (garage) ..... **Ext. 111**

Email: [amhersttwproads@oh.rr.com](mailto:amhersttwproads@oh.rr.com)

Office (Zoning Inspector) ..... **Ext. 103**

Office Hours for Zoning Insp.:

Mon., Wed., & Sat. – 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Voice Mail is checked daily

Email: [amhersttwpzoning@oh.rr.com](mailto:amhersttwpzoning@oh.rr.com)

Remi Cerrone, Zoning Inspector

## Trustees

**Dennis Abraham** ..... (cell) 213-6775

(Ambulance, Cemetery, Park, Water, Buildings,

Land, Enterprise Zones, County Health Rep.)

**Neil Lynch** ..... 988-7681

(Zoning, Sewer, Fire, Equipment, Personnel, LORCO,

Phase II Storm Water/ Environmental Strategy,

Senior Services, Facility Security, NIMS Primary Contact,

Lorain County Community Alliance Rep,

Lorain County Joint Police District Rep.)

**David C. Urig**..... 385-0333

(Lighting, Solid Waste, Roads, Ditches)

## Fiscal Officer

Howard Akin ..... 233-7624

## Road Superintendent

John Szefcyk ..... 320-7157

## Amherst Twp Senior Services Office

Lynda Ashley ..... **Ext. 101**

Email: [amhersttwpseniors@oh.rr.com](mailto:amhersttwpseniors@oh.rr.com)

Office Hours – Mon thru Fri – 8am to 12 Noon

## Fire Prevention Officer

Wayne Eppley ..... 324-3921

## LifeCare Ambulance, Inc.

Pete or Herb de la Porte ..... 323-6111

## Sheriff's Department ..... 329-3710

## Ohio Edison

Automated Outage Reporting Line ..... 1-888-544-4877

## TRUSTEE MEETINGS:

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month at **7:00 p.m.**

Amherst Township Trustee Meetings may be viewed on Amherst Cable Channel 12. They will air for 7 days, running Mon – Mon, following the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. Air times are at 9 am, 4 pm, & 11 pm. All airings are subject to change.

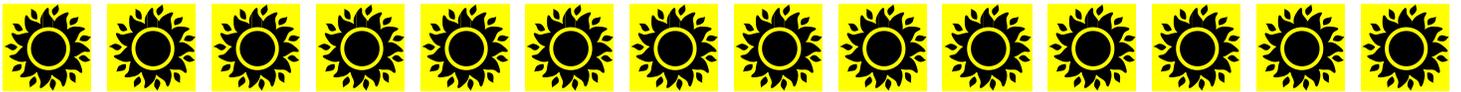
# OHIO TURNPIKE MITIGATION PROGRAM

Amherst Township and the City of Amherst collaborated jointly by applying for funding from the Ohio Turnpike Mitigation Program that would mitigate the flooding and storm water quality degradation impact of the Ohio Turnpike.

The Ohio Turnpike Mitigation project funding request was approved for \$270,000 for one of the two proposed retention basins. This proposed retention basin will sit north of the Turnpike and west of Leavitt Road.

The second proposed retention basin will require more research regarding environmental issues. Amherst Township and the City of Amherst will re-apply for funding this retention basin at a later date.

The Ohio Turnpike Mitigation Program is a 2-Year program that includes \$5 million of funding that will be made available annually, with no more than \$1 million awarded to any single project. Projects for consideration include noise walls, drainage, bridge preservation, minor resurfacing and other infrastructure improvements required for public transportation systems. To be eligible, projects must lie within one mile of the turnpike and demonstrate a negative impact to the community caused by the turnpike. Projects for consideration must be sponsored by a local government.



## Amherst Hospital

University Amherst Health Campus provides outpatient services for Lab and Radiology including ultrasound, CAT scan, and x-rays. The out patient laboratory services are available Monday – Friday from 7am-4pm and Saturday from 7am-12 noon.

University Amherst Health Campus emergency room is considered “free standing” which means that it is not located in a traditional hospital. However, all the resources needed to operate a full-service ER are available, including a dedicated radiology department for 24 hour x-rays, CAT scan and ultrasound, as well as a round-the-clock laboratory. The University Amherst ER features an experienced and friendly staff of nurses and physicians, along with significant shorter wait times than some of the larger emergency departments in the area. If patients need to be admitted, they will be transferred to the patient’s desired location.

The physicians in the emergency room rotate to the University Elyria Campus ER. However, many of these physicians like University Amherst Campus’ free standing emergency room because they are able to spend more time interacting with patients, providing important information and education. The services at University Amherst are expertly provided with great patient satisfaction.

## Gas Aggregation Program

On March 2, 2004, the electors of Amherst Township approved the Township’s authority to aggregate the retail natural gas loads located within the unincorporated area of the Township and enter into service agreements for the sale and purchase of natural gas, such aggregation to occur automatically, except where any person elects to opt out.

The Amherst Township Board of Trustees entered into a Natural Gas Aggregation “Opt-Out” Program agreement with NOPEC (Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council). Customers who receive their gas supply from Columbia Gas will receive communication directly from NOPEC on the “Opt-Out” Program.

If an Amherst Township resident receives their gas supply by a supplier other than Columbia Gas, they will not receive any notification from NOPEC. These residents can contact NOPEC if they are interested in participating in the Township’s Natural Gas Aggregation Program. Residents should verify that there is not a penalty for leaving their terminating their current gas supply contract.

If you have any questions, you can contact NOPEC at **1-855-667-3201**.

# Mailbox and Lawn Damage Policy

(Reference Ohio R.C. 5547.03; 5547.04; 5571.14)

Although undesired, there is always a potential for damage to mailboxes and lawns during the snow removal process, road work or roadside mowing. Mailboxes and lawns that are damaged along Amherst Township roads by actual physical contact with Township equipment will be repaired at the Township's expense, but only if they were properly located and installed. Damage will be evaluated by the Township Road Superintendent on a case by case basis.

Mailboxes and lawns that are damaged on County or State roads within Amherst Township will be addressed by the policy of the agency responsible for the road maintenance.

Damaged lawn area will be repaired and reseeded as determined by the Township.

Mailbox repairs will not take place until current snow operations are finished. Future snow events could delay repairs. Altered or custom-made mailboxes damaged by plow strike, will be replaced with a standard U.S. postal mailbox and post. The Township is not responsible for any mailbox that is not the standard U.S. postal mailbox permitted in the right-of-way. Replacement of "designer" mailboxes will be the responsibility of the owner.

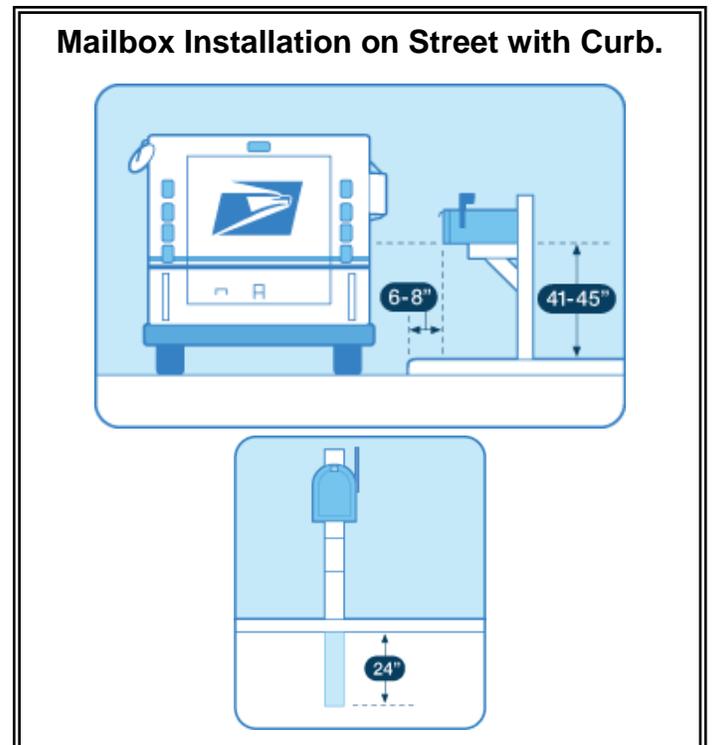
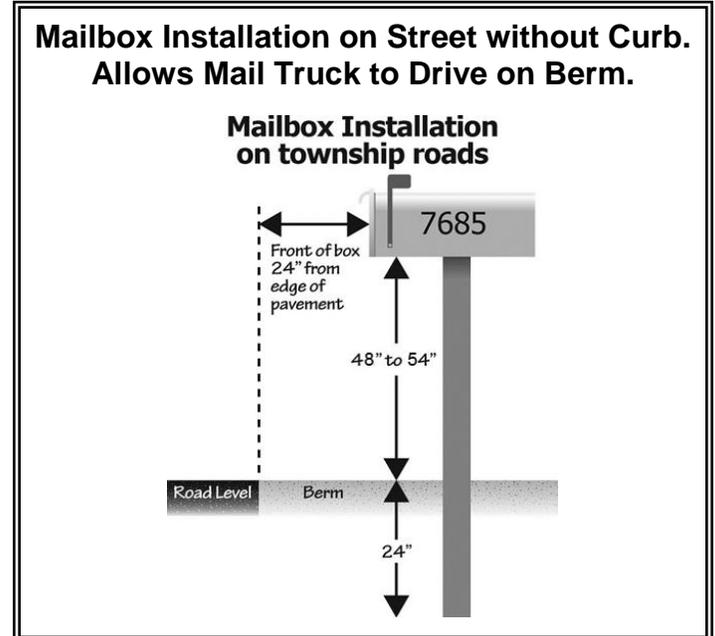
Owners eligible for a replacement mailbox, as determined by the Township Road Superintendent, may choose to be reimbursed **\$75.00** in lieu of the replacement box. Reimbursement request will occur only after completion of the form found at the end of this policy. *(Please contact Amherst Township or visit their website for this form.)*

Mailboxes that have been confirmed damaged by physical contact of Township equipment will be repaired or replaced by the Township with a standard rural type mailbox on a 4x4 wood post provided that:

1) The damaged mailbox had been installed properly per the United States Postal Service.

2) If the mailbox and its post were deteriorated, the decision to replace either part will be at the discretion of the Township Road Department.

The mailbox owner is responsible for repair or replacement of the mailbox if the mailbox was damaged by the pressure of the plowed snow and there was no physical contact with the snow plow equipment.





Amherst Township would like to thank Jerry & Nancy Simko, Rob Wingeier, Susan Knight (all from the Amherst Fastpitch Softball Organization) as well as Amherst Township residents Joe & Donna Azok for volunteering their time and talent in beautifying the Amherst Township Middle Ridge Road Park by maintaining the park's corner gardens. (Not shown in photo is Nancy Simko.)

## “C.A.B.” Trailer Program

“C.A.B.” (Clean And Beautiful) is an enclosed trailer stocked with equipment necessary for clubs and organizations to perform litter clean up and/or beautification projects here in Lorain County. Some of the equipment in the trailer includes: lawn mower, leaf blower, trimmer, assorted rakes, shovels, pruners, gardening tools, safety vests, gloves, safety cones, garbage bags, etc.

Clubs, communities and organizations can request to borrow the trailer for FREE!! For more information about this program, visit the Lorain County Solid Waste Management District's website at: [www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste](http://www.loraincounty.us/solidwaste).

The C.A.B. trailers will be available for use from spring through late fall. Anyone interested in borrowing one of these trailers should contact Tiffany Barker at 440-328-2368 or Sally Pecora at 440-329-5467.

## “DROP-OFF” OPPORTUNITIES

Do you ever find yourself searching for locations to drop off certain materials? There is a new online database to make your searches easier. Vendor information for several Lorain county businesses is now available on the Ecoville website at:

[www.myecoville.com/ecopoint](http://www.myecoville.com/ecopoint)

You can search by material, location or organization. Maybe you have a bag of aluminum cans you'd like to recycle. Put “aluminum cans” in the material search box.

If you type in your zip code, a list of vendors will appear at the bottom of the page. Click on a vendor for their address, hours of operation and the materials that they accept. If you are unfamiliar with the business, click on the pin on the map, type your address in the box and a map will appear with detailed directions.

### Zoning Commission Board

Glenn Thome – Chairman  
 Mary Torma – Vice Chair  
 Hank Harsar – Secretary  
 Jim Conrady – Member  
 Darryl Saladin – Member  
 Ron Sleasman – Alternate I  
 Open – Alternate II

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Kirsten Hill – Chairman  
 Joan Whitman – Vice Chair  
 Marcie Jaworski – Secretary  
 Rose Betchker – Member  
 Ron Friend – Member  
 Bill Latrany – Alternate I  
 Open – Alternate II

Amherst Township would like to welcome **Bill Latrany** to the Board of Zoning Appeals, as an Alternate. Ron Friend will move from the Alternate I position to a regular member, replacing Ron Sleasman who is now on the Zoning Commission as an Alternate.

Please contact an Amherst Township Trustee or Zoning Board Member if you are interested in serving on one of these boards.



F.A.C.E.'s 4<sup>th</sup> Annual "Wine Tasting Party" was once again a fun and enjoyable event. Proceeds from this fundraising event will be used for Amherst Township Park Improvements. We would like to thank the businesses and individuals that donated to this event, as well as all those who attended.



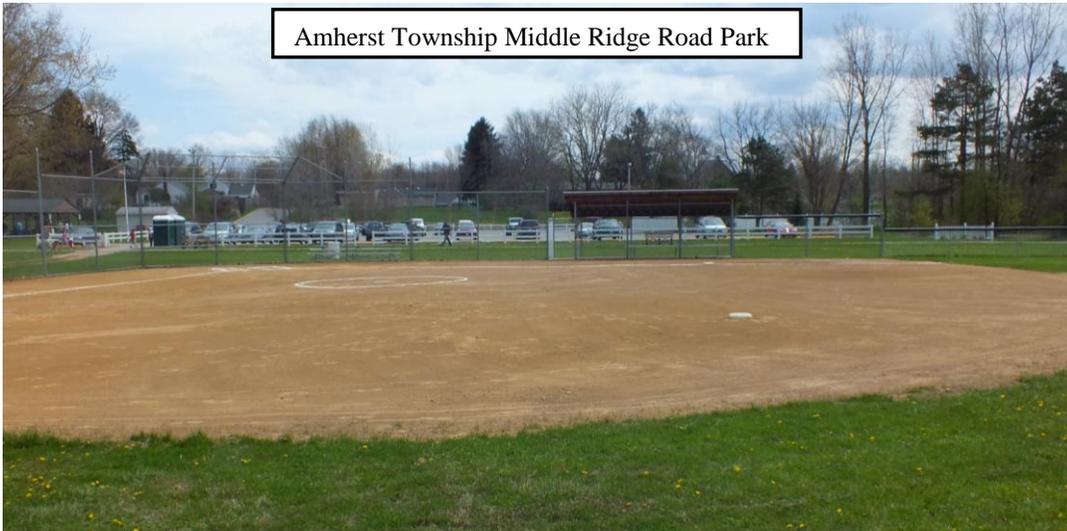
## Rumpke Yard Waste Disposal

The Township's waste collection contract with Rumpke includes curbside bulk pick up **one time per month**, at no additional charge.

Residents are not required to call in with the "bulk" pick up and are automatically invoiced when "bulk" is placed out more than one time per month. If **yard waste** is placed at the curb, it will be counted as "bulk". If yard waste is placed out more than once per month, it will be charged as an additional "bulk" on your invoice.

Amherst Township residents also have the option of bringing their yard waste to the Township facilities, as noted on the first page of this newsletter.

Amherst Township Middle Ridge Road Park



Coaches and players of the Amherst Fastpitch Softball Organization worked hard to get this Fastpitch Softball field in shape for the 2014 season and to be compliant for the Ohio Girls Softball Organization field regulations. For more photos that show the progress of their work, visit their "Amherst Fastpitch Softball Organization" Facebook page. All of the labor and materials needed to get this field in shape were contributed by the AFSO.



# PERMITS REQUIRED

Residents are reminded that permits are needed for pools, decks, porches, patios, gazebos, fences, ponds, signs, garages, new construction, building additions, accessory buildings, and driveways. When a permit is obtained before the start of construction, the fee will be reduced by 50%. Be sure you or your contractor has obtained a permit. **Payments must be made by check only. Cash is not accepted.**

Please contact Remi Cerrone, Amherst Township Zoning Inspector for these permits. Office hours for the Zoning Inspector are from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. He can be reached at 988-5894. Voice Mail is checked daily.

Effective May 11, 2012, residential "Building Inspections" through the Lorain County Building Department are **no longer required**. It is recommended that residents hire their own inspectors.

## Curfew

Please be aware that a curfew exists in Amherst Township for minors age 16 and under between the hours of Midnight and 5 a.m. This curfew will be enforced by the Lorain County Sheriff's Dept.

# LIFECARE

Amherst Township, as a member of the Sandstone Joint Ambulance District, has chosen "LifeCare" to be their ambulance provider. President Pete de la Porte and Vice-President Herb de la Porte own and operate LifeCare. They can be reached at 323-6111. To learn more about their services, visit them at:

[www.lifecareambulance.com](http://www.lifecareambulance.com)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Ambulance Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon. This meeting is being held at Lifecare's Main Business Office located at 640 Cleveland Street in Elyria, which is at the corner of Cleveland Street and Abbe Road. These board meetings are open to the public.

## Contact Sheriff's Dept.

Residents are reminded that they can help deter crime by keeping home and car doors locked, as well as keeping garage doors closed. If residents know of, or see, any suspicious activity in the township or at the Amherst Township Park, please contact the Sheriff's Dept. at **329-3710**. To contact the sheriff's dispatch from your cell phone without being charged, call **323-1212**. These are not "911" emergency lines.

Printed on Recycled Paper

Amherst Township  
7530 Oberlin Road  
Elyria, OH 44035  
www.amhersttownship.us

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LORAIN, OHIO

**Monthly Meeting**                      **Trustees:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.  
**Dates & Times:**                      **Zoning Commission:** 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

# Senior GAZETTE

Summer 2014

by Lynda Ashley, Director, Amherst Township Senior Service Office (ATSSO)

## Home-Delivered Meal Program

ATSSO provides home-delivered meals for those over 60 and disabled adults over 18, with a cost that is adjusted to your income. This nutritious, hot lunch program includes your choice of an entrée, soup & sandwich, or soup & salad. A “soup only” option is also available as a choice. If you would like to receive a home-delivered meal, please contact the Senior Service Office at **988-5894, ext. 101**.

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED

ATSSO is in need of a few **“substitute”** volunteer drivers to deliver meals from 10:30-12:00 noon. You can volunteer as much or as little as you like. Please call the Senior Service Office if you are able to help. Mileage is reimbursed.

## TIP OF THE MONTH

Did you know seniors who volunteer enjoy better health, make new friendships, and stay more active?

Find your passion and share it with others, whether it is reading to children, gardening, or feeding the hungry.

Know that you are giving your time, talent, wisdom, and experience to your community and neighbors who may need it now or in the future. No matter what you do specifically to volunteer, there are so many opportunities. The rewards will far outweigh the costs.

**ATSSO OFFICE HOURS:**

**8:00 A.M. – NOON (M-F)**

**Phone: 988-5894 – Ext. 101**

Email: [amhersttwpseniors@oh.rr.com](mailto:amhersttwpseniors@oh.rr.com)

## Dehydration in the Elderly

With warm weather approaching, dehydration is a serious problem that many seniors can experience. Dehydration is a major cause for hospitalization among the elderly because seniors have less fluid content in the body. Water is lost through simple activities like sweating, urination, and exhalation during breathing.

Though it can occur in any age group, dehydration is most common among senior citizens. Dehydration can also be caused due to the side effects of medications (e.g. diuretics and laxatives) and other medical problems such as high blood sugar, diarrhea, vomiting, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, infections, and even exercise.

The signs of dehydration are mild and vague, in many cases. They are more or less similar to dementia and Alzheimer's symptoms. The following are some of the signs of dehydration in the elderly:

Confusion, Muscle weakness, Constipation, Sunken eyes, Dizziness, Irritability, Fever, Pneumonia, Disorientation, Weight loss, Dry and poor skin elasticity, Less urine output, Increased heart rate, Low blood pressure (hypotension), Increased infection occurrence

If you experience any of these symptoms or observe them in an elderly person, it is advisable to consult and seek advice from a qualified physician immediately.

## “AGING IN PLACE”

Want to remain in your own home as independently as possible? Creating a plan now will help in your time of need. Some things to consider while making your plan:

- What is the condition of your home? Small modifications such as lever style knob extenders, handrails, and extra lighting may be needed.
- Will you need in home assistance? – What is the cost? Who provides assistance in your community?
- What, if any, are your community options for transportation, adult area services, and meal assistance?
- How close are medical facilities?

- Will there be legal issues that need to be addressed? Who do you want to be your decision maker if you cannot?
- Have you planned ahead financially?
- Do you have a Durable Power of Attorney? Living Will? Health Care POA?

These are just a few things to consider when planning for the future. If you would like to investigate what services are available in our area you can contact the “Lorain County Office on Aging” at **440-326-4800** or the ATSSO at **988-5894** for assistance.



### DO NOT CALL REGISTRY SCAM

Scammers have been making phone calls posing as representatives of the National Do Not Call Registry. The “official” asks for personal information such as name, address, and Social Security number. The “representatives” are asking for verification that you are on the “Do Not Call” list or they offer the opportunity for you to register your phone number. In either case, just **HANG UP** the phone.

**DO NOT GIVE OUT OR VERIFY ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION OVER THE PHONE!**

### PASSPORT

Passport is a Medicaid Waiver Program providing screening, assessment, case management, and in home services to low income, age 60 or older adults as an alternative to care in a nursing facility. Services help preserve the independence of the individual, as well as maintain ties to family and friends.

To learn more about the **PASSPORT** program or to set up an assessment in order to see if you qualify for services, contact the “Western Reserve Area on Aging” at **1-800-626-7277**.

For more information about **PASSPORT** visit the Ohio Dept. of Aging web page at: [www.aging.ohio.gov/services/passport/](http://www.aging.ohio.gov/services/passport/)