



July - September 2023

Volume 60 Issue 3



Planning Progress

Galen L. Stoll passed away on May 2, 2023 after a courageous battle against cancer. He was a lifelong resident of Hartville and contributed to his community in many capacities. He served on the Lake Township Zoning Committee and Zoning Board of Appeals as well as a Lake Township Trustee for 12 years. Galen was a member of the Stark County Regional Planning Commission for 18 years – the first 12 were as a representative of Lake Township as a Trustee. The last six years he served on the Executive Committee, held the positions of Secretary and Vice-President and was currently serving his second year as President of the Commission.



He enjoyed spending time with his children and extended family, playing golf and traveling as he and his wife visited all 50 states and over 30 countries and/or islands.

Galen will be missed by many of the people he worked with at Regional Planning.

Perry Township – Comprehensive Plan 2024



The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) has teamed up with Perry Township's Board of Trustees to devise the Township's 2024 Comprehensive Plan. SCRPC created a survey for Perry Township residents which was active from March 2023 through June 2023. Gathering views and opinions from Perry Township residents during the early stage of planning is vital, as the data will be utilized to lay the foundation in which the Plan is built upon. It is imperative that the Comprehensive Plan is fluid in an ever-changing community, yet paving a direct path targeting growth, development and outlining strategic decision-making based on feedback received from the community.

To help promote the survey, SCRPC took part in community engagements at two of Perry Township's events, including the Fallen Heroes Remembrance Ceremony on May 27th at Perry High School and the Picnic in the Park on June 10th at Hartwick Park. Staff gathered information regarding where in the township residents reside, what they specifically love about Perry Township and what/where the township should prioritize improvements. Residents were supportive and optimistic in speaking of the future of their close-knit community.



Fair Housing

Valerie Watson, Fair Housing Manager for Stark County Fair Housing Department, was the Keynote Speaker at Massillon's Fair Housing Luncheon. The theme for the day was: "Fair Housing, Embracing Challenges and Changes in 2023." She spoke about the 55th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, Rental Increases, Changes in the Fair Housing Act and Landlords not Accepting Vouchers.



Stark County's Fair Housing Manager, Valerie Watson and the city of Massillon's Fair Housing Director, Beverly Lewis



Valerie Watson (center) supported by co-workers - Jill Ross, Gwen Arthur, Diane Sheridan, Lisa Snyder



Over 75 people attended the event

SAVE THE DATE

The Stark County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) VIRTUAL Workshop for FY 2024-2026 is scheduled for:

**Friday, August 25, 2023
9:00 – 10:00 am**

Via the platform Microsoft Teams

**Please mark your calendar!
We hope to see you there!**

For any questions, please contact Lisa Snyder at Lcsnyder@starkcountyohio.gov or 330-451-7247



SAVE THE DATE

The Stark County HOME Consortium VIRTUAL Workshop for FY 2024 is scheduled for:

**Friday, October 6, 2023
9:00 – 10:00 am**

Via the platform Microsoft Teams

**Please mark your calendar!
We hope to see you there!**

For any questions, please contact Lisa Snyder at Lcsnyder@starkcountyohio.gov or 330-451-7247



Traffic Counting Program

The Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS) conducts over 1,200 total traffic counts across Stark County roadways every three years. Traffic counts are used in a myriad of ways, helping to identify which roads are busier than others. Local businesses use traffic counts to determine which is the best location to have their business and/or a particular roadway or direction of roadway to install a billboard. ODOT and local municipalities use traffic counts to help plan road repairs, lane additions and/or subtractions, and traffic signal timing. In the past, SCATS conducted its traffic counting program using dual rubber tubes stretching across the roadway; today SCATS is utilizing radar technology to conduct its traffic counts in a much more safe and efficient manner. Typically, the counters are in place for 24-48 hours, giving a snapshot of an average day of traffic. These radar counters are housed in an opaque box and are able to determine the size (small, medium, large) of a vehicle, direction of travel and rate of speed. Link to our traffic counting database can be found here:

[https://rpc.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/regional_planning_commission/departments/stark_county_area_transportation_study_\(scats\)/traffic_counts.php](https://rpc.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/regional_planning_commission/departments/stark_county_area_transportation_study_(scats)/traffic_counts.php)



2023 Intern, Jacob Hodge
installing a radar counter

Stormwater Education Coloring/Billboard Contest

As part of the Stormwater Education Program, students in grades K-5 had the opportunity to enter a Coloring/Billboard Contest. There were 669 entries from 17 schools and the top four winning entries had their artwork displayed on actual billboards throughout Stark County in May/June. This year's theme is "A Wish for a Fish is Not to Swim with Rubbish" with a general message of
"Only Rain Down the Drain!"



A Wish for a Fish is
Not to Swim with Rubbish

Artwork by

Riley Ferrante-Dean

**St. Michael School
4th Grade**

Board of Stark County Commissioners Stormwater Education Program



A Wish for a Fish is
Not to Swim with Rubbish

Artwork by

Maria Azar

Lake Cable Elementary
5th Grade

Board of Stark County Commissioners Stormwater Education Program



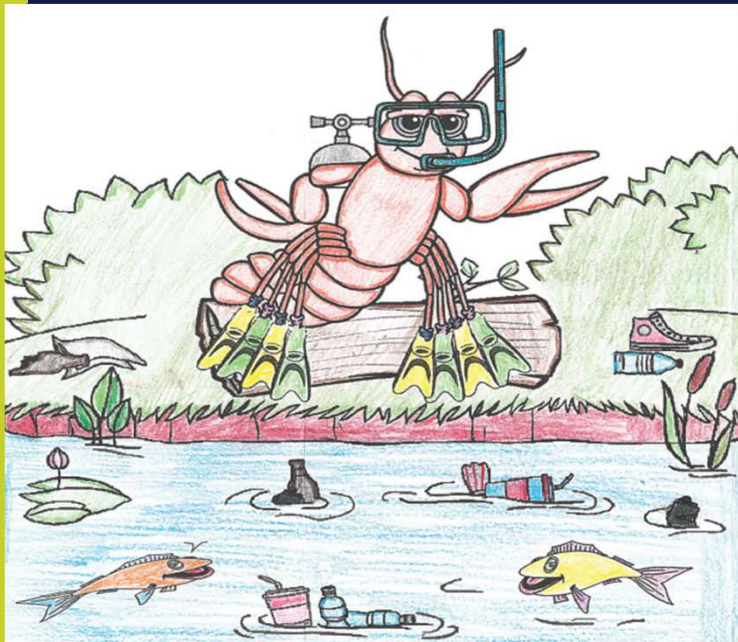
A Wish for a Fish is
Not to Swim with Rubbish

Artwork by

Vera Hill

Orchard Hill Intermediate
4th Grade

Board of Stark County Commissioners Stormwater Education Program



A Wish for a Fish is
Not to Swim with Rubbish

Artwork by

Kennedy Winkhart

Watson Elementary
4th Grade

Board of Stark County Commissioners Stormwater Education Program

July

10	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
11	SCRPC	7:00 PM
24	SCATS	1:30 PM

August

7	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
8	SCRPC	7:00 PM
28	SCATS	1:30 PM

September

5	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
5	SCRPC	7:00 PM
25	SCATS	1:30 PM

Visit our website:
www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov

Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201- 3rd St. N.E., Suite 201
Canton, Ohio 44702
330-451-7389



Executive Director: Robert Nau

