

# Beech Street Journal

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY ENGINEER'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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## From the Engineer's Desk .....

### OUR WORK SAVES LIVES

We have been able to continue our construction through November this year. The fall season has been a mild one thus far. However, not knowing when the first snow will fall, we have made ourselves more than ready for the upcoming winter season. Our fleet has been inspected, the salt dome has been stocked and the grit pile is ready to be mixed. We are ready for snow but we will be more than happy to miss it.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, we will have completed our storm sewer and drainage project on North Heck Hill Road within the community of Millerstown. We replaced a bridge on Millerstown Road, which was reopened to traffic on October 26, 2001. We have also completed drainage, shoulder and embankment improvements at various locations on North Ludlow Road. As in the past, we have dedicated our resources in a significant way to roadside improvement this year.

Our mowing operation for this year will be completed by the third week of November. This will be the fifth mowing cycle this year and our tractors have traveled

2,420 miles of County Roads to provide safer and more pleasant roadways for our citizens. The roadside improvements of this office are broad and we view them as a long term commitment. They include tree and brush removal, embankment improvement, mowing and weed control, installation of guardrail, drainage and ditch improvements, fence removal, removal of structural barriers, etc. We know that our roadside improvements are not as noticeable as our other works but they do contribute in a very significant way to the safety of the traveling public and as such will not be overlooked on our part.

## Equipment Update

We took delivery of a new John Deere 544H wheel loader from Tiger Machinery Company on November 13, 2001. This machine was purchased through the State MAC-29 Cooperative purchasing contract at a cost of \$98,688.00. We are excited to have this new loader in time for the winter season.



We also received word that Truck #10, which is currently at Kaffenbarger Truck Equipment, should be ready for us by the end of November. We have recently taken delivery of #11 cab and chassis and will be sending this unit to Kaffenbarger's for installation of the dump body and hydraulic system in the very near future.

## United Way

We met with the Rhonda Lyle from the United Way and John Flora and Kathy Thomas from our local Red Cross Chapter on November 1, 2001. Rhonda explained briefly how United Way works in our community and how our donations stay right here in Champaign County. Kathy and John explained some of the many activities of Red Cross and how Red Cross helps residents right here in Champaign County as well as around the world. We were shown a very moving video about the attack on the World trade Center. We were asked to please consider a donation to United Way.



Kathy Thomas addresses our group.

## October, November and December Birthdays...

Ted Black 11-02-61  
Lawrence Nott 12-24-54

## Benefits Fair

On October 17, 2001 the County Benefits Fair was held at the Community Center auditorium. Over 25 vendors were present and well over 100 County Employees took advantage of the fair. There were many positive comments about the Benefits Fair. The Commissioners hope to have even better participation next year.

## Upcoming Events

Engineer's Safety Committee Meeting  
November 28, 2001

Insurance Advisory Committee  
January 29, 2002

**Seasons Greetings and Best  
Wishes for a  
Safe and Joyful Holiday  
Season!**