

Beech Street Journal

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY ENGINEER'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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From the Engineer's Desk

Fereidoun Shokouhi P.E., P.S.
County Engineer

Large Road Projects Ahead

This summer, the Champaign County Engineer's Office will complete the largest paving and road reconstruction project that they have tackled yet. In 2002, we plan to reconstruct Millerstown Road from S.R.29 to S.R.560, Ward Road from N. Heck Hill to Kiser Lake Road, Ludlow from S.R.296 to S.R. 245 and Parkview Road from S.R.29 to Urbana Woodstock Pike. The total paving and reconstruction road mileage is 19.55 miles at an estimated cost of \$2,398,888.00. This project will be contingent upon grant and loan approval by the Ohio Public Works Commission.

Between 1997 and 1998 the County Engineer's staff completed a comprehensive study of all county and township roads in our County. This study concluded that 50% of the total daily traffic (25,967 vehicles per day) occurs on 20% (48 miles) of the County's roads. Using this information, a Pavement and Road Reconstruction Program was developed aimed to mortgage our road

rehabilitations by reconstructing an average of 5 miles of targeted roadways per year. To date, we have reconstructed 21.7 miles of county roads as part of this program. This work includes full depth pavement reconstruction, road widening, shoulder and embankment construction and drainage improvement. Once the paving is completed the new pavement is paint stripped. All these improvements have been done by the County Engineer's workforce except the paving portion which was done by contract. The cost of paving has ranged between \$200,00.00 and \$250,000.00 per year. Thus far the program has been funded by the Engineer's share of motor vehicle license fees and gasoline sales tax.

The majority of the estimated \$2,398,888.00 funding needed for this year will be through the State Capital Improvement Program which is administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission. The funding will be a combination grant (\$881,040.00), a 0% interest loan (\$926,475.00) and force account funds of \$591,367.00. Upon completion of the 2002 construction we will have constructed 40.7 miles of County roads under our Pavement and Road Reconstruction Program. We expect to achieve our goal of having 20% of our roads reconstructed by the end of 2003.



From left to right: Tom Schneider, Doug George, Bud Hoffer and Fereidoun Shokouhi

December 31, 2001 Retirements.....

This date marks the retirement of three dedicated employees of the Champaign County Engineer's office. Tom, Doug and Bud had a combined total of service in excess of 81 years. They were each presented with a watch and a plaque in appreciation of their service to the residents of Champaign County. Their experience and expertise will be missed by us all. We wish them well in their retirement.

Engineer's Office Entrance to be Handicapped Accessible

Plans have been made and work begun for the modification of the front entrance to the Engineer's office to make it accessible to the handicapped. The Engineer's Highway Maintenance crew will be performing this work. Once the construction work is done we will landscape the yard and hope to make our office more attractive as well as functional. Be sure to check out the next newsletter issue for a picture of the completed project. Below is the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new steps by several overanxious employees. A ramp will be constructed next.



Annual Township Trustees/County Engineer Meeting

The County Engineer's office hosted the Township Trustees January meeting at 7:30 P.M. on January 23. Mr. Shokouhi spoke to the group regarding the accomplishments of our office for 2001 and detailed some of our plans for 2002 and beyond. We all enjoyed the refreshments furnished by the Engineer's office and served by Mrs. Shirley Shokouhi.

New Truck !!!

We have taken delivery of another new Navistar International cab and chassis for dump truck service. This cab and chassis was purchased directly from Navistar under the ODOT Cooperative Purchasing Contract. This truck has been sent to Kaffenbarger Truck Equipment at New Carlisle for installation of a dump body and hydraulics system. We should have the completed unit available to us in February.

January, February and March Birthdays.

Doug Bovey	01-02
Bob Harmison	01-14
Carl Davis	01-16
Gary Pendergrass	01-20
Rick Bahan	01-30
Steve Uhlenbrock	01-31
Ed Markin	02-04
Dan Belville	03-04
Phil Kandel	03-07
Todd Anderson	03-11
Steve McCall	03-22

Employment Anniversaries:

David Richards	01-10-72
Mike Knotts	01-16-90
Mike Toops	01-16-90
Paul Wright	02-10-86
Dan Belville	03-26-01
Billy Black	03-26-01
Steve Kite	03-28-94

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for our newsletter, please contact the Editor, Rick Bails.