County Update

BACK TO SCHOOL

Fred's Desk

JULY IS ABOUT OVER, and in spite of all the rain, a lot of work has been accomplished by our crews and contractors. The road crews have been busy preparing over 10 miles of four separate county roads for resurfacing later this summer. They are ditching and berming these roads, along with replacing bad culverts.

The bridge crew will soon finishing the bridge replacement project on Pultney Township Road 325 (Indian Run Road). This will be the fourth bridge completed this year, and the 52nd bridge since 2008. Twelve larger bridges, costing over $3.6 million, have also been built by contract during the same period of time.

Bids will be opened on August 14th for a new bridge replacement project on County Road 4 (Sand Hill Road) over McMahon Creek near Neffs. This $650,000 project will be funded 62% by the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) and 38% local funds. Work should begin later this year.

Oglesby Construction recently completed striping of 168 miles of centerline on various county highways. This was done at a cost of $172,105 provided by the Belmont County Commissioners.

Our annual road oil project for dust control is now 99% complete. Lash Paving provided the 59,500 gallons of bituminous liquid asphalt for this project.

The signal traffic project at the intersection of Mall Road and Banfield Road has been bid and awarded to Perram Electric, Inc., and we are now awaiting for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approval to sign the Contract and begin work. This should happen any day now.

Bids were opened last week for resurfacing 10.24 miles of four different county highways. Lash Paving was low bidder at $690,395. The only other bidder was Shelly and Sands at $712,339.20. This project has been awarded to Lash Paving.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

www.belmontcountyengineer.com

www.belmontcountygis.com

Back To School Safety

The **National Safety Council** is reminding us that schools will be back in session next month and that means school buses and children on our roads.

Be extra careful while driving in the early morning and mid afternoon hours as children are being picked up or dropped off.

The NSC has several publications that discuss many aspects of school safety, which can be found at the following website:

http://www.nsc.org/safety_home/SafetyObservances/Pages/BackToSchoolSafety.aspx

Readers Digest also has a list of tips for parents and children for traveling to and from school.

1. Plan a walking route to school or the bus stop.
2. Walk the route with your child beforehand.
3. Teach your child never to talk to strangers or accept rides or gifts from strangers.
4. Be sure your child walks to and from school with a sibling, friend, or neighbor.
5. Teach your kids — whether walking, biking, or riding the bus to school — to obey all traffic signals, signs and traffic officers.
6. When driving kids, deliver and pick them up as close to the school as possible.
7. If your child bikes to school, make sure he wears a helmet that meets one of the safety standards (U.S. CPSC, Snell, ANSI, ASTM, or Canadian).
8. If your child rides a scooter to school, make sure she wears sturdy shoes, a helmet, kneepads and elbow pads.
9. Teach children to arrive at the bus stop early, stay out of the street, wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before approaching the street, watch for cars and avoid the driver's blind spot.
10. Remind your children to stay seated at all times and keep their heads and arms inside the bus while riding. When exiting the bus, children should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, exit from the front using the handrail to avoid falls and cross the street at least 10 feet (or 10 giant steps) in front of the bus.

Road Work

In preparation for the 13-3 paving project, culvert replacement and ditching is being done on various county roads.

Culvert replacement on County Road 82, Airport Road.

Ditching on County Road 5, Crescent 250.

2013 Belmont County Fair

The 164th Belmont County Fair begins on September 3rd and ends on September 8th.

See the website at: http://www.belmontcountyfair.org/2013-belmont-county-fair/

Besides the judging of livestock and 4H projects, attractions include the opening ceremonies and a rodeo on Wednesday, Phil Dirt and the Dozers on Thursday, a tractor and truck pull Friday evening, motocross races on Saturday and things wrap up on Sunday with a demolition derby and closing ceremonies.

A full schedule can be seen at:

http://www.belmontcountyfair.org/2013-belmont-county-fair/belmont-county-fair-schedule/

County Road 56 Bridge Opened

Albert Muntz was selected by his fellow workers to cut the ribbon to open the new bridge they built on County Highway 56 (Morgan Hill road). Looking on, left to right, are Eddie Bond (Bridge Worker 2) , Keith Williams (Bridge Worker 1), Matthew Yudasz (Summer Intern), Mike Drake (Bridge Worker 1) and Marvin Hickenbottom (Bridge Worker 1). This is the 51st bridge built by the bridge crew since 2008.