

This flier is for information only and is not intended to support or oppose the proposed levy.

May 8 Ballot

# RECREATION

1-mill Replacement Levy • 5-Year Term

## ISSUE 16

Serving Centerville/Washington Township



www.washingtontwp.org

2018

### What the Recreation Levy Provides

- Funds the township's expansion of services for senior adults
- Pays for the maintenance & improvement of aging facilities
- Funds existing programs for all ages in aquatics, camps, fitness, sports, and the arts
- Offsets revenue loss from a 4.62% reduction in taxable property starting in 2012

### Levy Revenue

- Generates about \$640,800 per year in additional revenue
- Provides total revenue of about \$1.84 million in the first year
- First millage increase in 30 years
- Less millage than the original 1.5-mill Rec Levy in 1988

### Who Votes

All Washington Township residents, including those in the City of Centerville.



### The Monthly Cost

The levy adds \$1.14 per month for a \$100,000 owner-occupied property. Of this amount about 25¢ results from the state's recent elimination of 2 subsidies – a 10% rollback for residential property and a 2.5% rollback for owner-occupied residences.

| Annual Cost per \$100,000 of home value* |
|--|
| Replacement Levy: \$35                   |
| Current Rec Levy: \$21.29                |

\* Assumes the house is owner occupied

### Who Pays for Recreation?

Recreation pays mostly for itself. Unlike most government services, program fees, memberships and grants provided about 63% of the township's recreation budget last year. One recreation levy funded the rest.

#### Per Capita Recreation Costs

Washington Township ranks lowest in per capita expenditures among communities with similar recreation amenities.



# ISSUE 16 - RECREATION LEVY

1 mill • 5-year term • Replaces an expiring .7-mill levy

## A Closer Look at What the Levy Provides

### Funds the Expansion of Senior Programming

WT Recreation assumed sole responsibility for all of the community's senior programming in 2015 when Hithergreen Senior Center closed. The Rec West Enrichment Center now offers activities that span education, entertainment, exercise and wellness, plus access to all amenities on the recreation campus.

**The Cost** – Senior programming cost \$185,000 in 2017. Tax millage was established before the township began providing these services.

### Keeps Pace with Tax Values

The township's taxable property fell 4.62% in 2012 as part of the county's revaluation cycle. This has reduced recreation funding by nearly \$60,000 every year since. Only a replacement levy can erase the annual loss by collecting taxes based on current property values.

### Offsets State Funding Reductions

The Recreation budget lost \$129,375 from 2011-2015 due to elimination of the Tangible Personal Property Tax Reimbursement and Public Utility Deregulation Replacement Tax.

### Pays for Replacement & Improvement

During 30 years of recreation services, the Rec Center has expanded, the number of

buildings has increased, and structures have aged. However, the Rec Department operates with less millage than the day it opened. It must now repay a \$343,000 advance from the township and is faced with \$757,000 in unfunded projects:

**Buildings & Energy** – Energy-related repairs and investment include \$332,000 for HVAC systems at the Rec Center and Town Hall, energy-efficient windows at Town Hall, and conversion to energy-efficient LED lighting.

**Improvements** – Includes replacement of worn and outdated fitness equipment, a new indoor playground, locker room upgrades, cabin roof restoration, restrooms in Countryside Park, upgraded theater seating at Town Hall, permanent striping for the walking

## The Rec Levy Funds

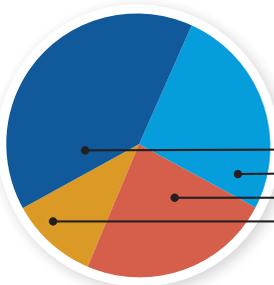
Aquatics | Athletic Leagues  
Fitness | Theater | Summer Camps  
Youth Care | Senior Programming  
Climbing Wall | Woodland Lights  
Competitive Diving | Sports Classes  
Special Events | Playing Fields  
Swimming Pools | Running Track  
Countryside Park | Meeting Space

### Programs for People of All Ages and Varying Abilities



track, and acoustic panels at the Enrichment Center.

**Township Advances to Repay** – These include replacement of the Rec Center's original water flume slide after corrosion was identified and investment in high-speed fiber connectivity.



## What the Millage Increase Provides

The proposed levy raises an additional \$640,800 annually. If it is approved, this is how funds will be used:

- \$253,865 – Maintain Current Level of Services
- \$167,000 – Provide Senior Programming (net cost)
- \$151,400 – Make Facility Repairs & Upgrades
- \$68,558 – Pay Back the General Fund
- \$640,823 – Total Annual Levy Increase**



## A Recreation Center for Everyone

### We're Expanding Services to Meet the Needs of People from All Backgrounds and Every Stage of Life

**Senior Adult Programs** – The Rec West Enrichment Center has grown to 2,000 members – a 67% increase since 2015. The demand is only expected to rise:

- Baby boomers will continue to retire through 2029
- Residents 55 and older numbered 19,662 in the 2010 census – 35% of the population.
- Nearly 10,000 people 55 and older currently are listed on recreation registration rolls

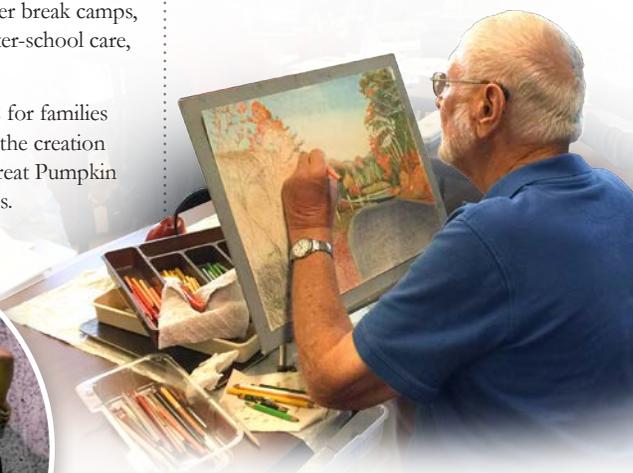
**Working Families** – Youth care helps fill the gap for working parents when school is not in session, including spring and winter break camps, extended summer camp hours, after-school care, and in-service training care.

**Families** – Creating opportunities for families to have fun together helped drive the creation of Family Adventure Day, The Great Pumpkin Shoot, and two family movie series.

**People of Varying Abilities** – New offerings include an inclusive kickball league, sensory friendly theater performances for those on the autism spectrum, and workshops for children with Down syndrome. Members of Special Olympics practice at the pool and adults with special needs use the Rec Center regularly.

**Senior Adult Fitness** – More seniors have an affordable way to keep fit now that the township contracts with two Medicare insurance plans that reimburse fitness benefits. Adults 65 and older who subscribe receive free Recreation memberships.

**Fitness Opportunities** – Open gym and lap swimming have been expanded and personal training sessions are included with the purchase of complete or physical passes.



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## Cost-Effective Recreation Services

### Rec West Enrichment Center

Providing senior programming at the Enrichment Center costs \$240,000 less than when services were provided by Hithergreen Senior Center, an independent nonprofit, even though more seniors now participate.

### Grants & Sponsorships

Grants and sponsorships help offset costs and improve services by funding projects and programs that the Recreation Department might otherwise not be able to provide.

**Grants** – Over the last five years, more than \$213,000 in grants have funded projects that include park paths and playground surfaces, theater programs, transportation for seniors and little libraries.

**Sponsorships** – Businesses and non-profits provided cash and in-kind sponsorships that totaled more than \$140,712 in 2017.

### Resources & Partnerships

**Partnerships** – Public and private partnerships – from the library and park district to hospitals and tax preparers – provide a wide range of programs and services for no cost.

**Volunteers** – Volunteer coaches, referees, instructors and assistants donated 23,268 hours of service valued at over \$193,000 in 2017.

**Rentals** – Recreation facilities are leased to Dayton Ballet for its south school and also provide meeting space for social gatherings and civic, business and religious organizations. Last year, rental income totaled nearly \$90,000.