

BROWN TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1830

Spring 2011

Town Center Master Plan Released for Public Review

The Big Darby Accord Town Center Master Plan is now available for public review and comment. The document may be accessed at www.Brown.Twp.Franklin.oh.us

A public meeting to review the document and seek public comment is set for 6:30 p.m. on April 5 at the Prairie Township Fire Station located at 421 Hubbard Road, Galloway 43119. The public comment period will extend until April 30.

The Town Center Master Plan is an implementation initiative of the Big Darby Accord, the multijurisdictional watershed master plan adopted in 2006. Undertaken by four jurisdic-

tions (Brown and Prairie townships, Franklin County, and the City of Columbus), the Town Center Master Plan establishes a more specific vision for development of the Town Center and provides detailed recommendations, including level of development, infrastructure requirements, design guidelines, phasing, and implementation. The proposed Town Center straddles Brown and Prairie townships in unincorporated Franklin County.

For more information on the Town Center Master Plan or the public review process, please contact Franklin County Planning Administrator Lee Brown at rlbrown@franklincounty.ohio.gov



Hilliard Representatives to Present Comprehensive Plan Update

Hilliard Public Service Director Clyde "Butch" Seidle and Hilliard Planner John Talentino will attend the March 21 Brown Township Trustees meeting to discuss the proposed Hilliard Comprehensive Plan Update with particular focus on recommendations concerning land use and development for areas in Brown Township.

According to the City of Hilliard's news release, the plan is intended to serve as a tool to help Hilliard officials evaluate development proposals, balance land uses, create successful parks and other public spaces, and construct new multi-modal connections between neighborhoods and community gathering areas.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 and will be held in the second floor meeting room of the Fire Station at 2491 Walker Road.

Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel — A Case Study

The Big Darby Accord, the landmark multijurisdictional watershed master plan adopted by Brown Township and other jurisdictions in 2006, is implemented in a variety of ways.

One key element of the Accord's implementation was the establishment of the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel to review and make recommendations on development proposals within the Big Darby Accord planning area. The Panel's recommendations are to be based on provisions contained within the Big Darby Accord Watershed Master Plan and are advisory and non-binding. The recommendations are forwarded to the appropriate jurisdiction for use in its individual development review process. Each jurisdiction remains responsible for final plan approval or denial for proposals within its jurisdiction.

The goal of the Panel process is to ensure that zoning and site development review processes are fair, consistent, and apply equitably to all portions of the Big Darby Accord planning area.

The Panel is made up of ten members, nine appointed by individual jurisdictions with the tenth at-large member appointed by the Panel itself. Brown Township's representative on the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel is Panel Chair Joe Martin with Melissa Brinkerhoff serving as Brown Township's alternate.

An example of the Panel process is a small development rezoned by Columbus City Council in 2009.

In 2006, Broad/Galloway Associates, a partnership between Dominion and M/I Homes, filed an application with the City of Columbus to rezone 4.1 acres of land on the south side of West Broad Street, west of Doherty Road, from the Rural District to zoning districts that would permit commercial and residential uses. This site is a part of the Summerlyn development, which incorporates larger single family and commercial developments to the

south and east which are not within the Big Darby Watershed.

The first public step in the official review process was a stop at the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel which considered the case on May 13, 2008. After reviewing the development checklist prepared by the developers' team and hearing presentations from the applicant and staff as well as questions and discussion, the Panel recommended approval of the proposed rezoning with five conditions. The conditions included, among other things, tree protection, stormwater guidelines, and use of native plants.

The recommendation for approval with conditions of the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel was forwarded to the City of Columbus for use in the consideration of the case by the Columbus Development Commission and Columbus City Council.

Columbus Development Commission considered the case on July 10, 2008 and recommended approval with additional conditions involving construction fencing and pedestrian connections.

On July 6, 2009, Columbus City Council passed Ordinance 0602-2009 to rezone the territory and to incorporate language which would establish permitted uses, development standards, and stormwater requirements. All conditions recommended by the Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel and the Columbus Development Commission were incorporated into the ordinance passed by Columbus City Council.

The Panel has heard a variety of cases, most of which have not yet been considered by the legislative authority of the individual jurisdiction.

Big Darby Accord Advisory Panel meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in Meeting Room A at 373 South High Street, Columbus, but are typically cancelled if there is no development case to consider. Panel meetings are open to the public. Check the website to determine if a meeting is to be held – www.franklincountyohio.gov/bigdarbyaccord/

*Contributed by Elizabeth A. Clark, AICP
Executive Assistant to the Board of Trustees*

Norwich Fire Offers Help to Older Adults

The Norwich Township Fire Department, which provides service to Brown Township under contract with the Brown Township Trustees, has established a program to provide guidance on safety conditions in the home for adults over 55.

Older adults represent a small percentage of the population, but account for an average of about 40% of requests for emergency medical service. This program is aimed at preventing illness, injury, and fire.

An individual wishing to take advantage of the program should contact the Norwich Township Fire Depart-

ment for a home visit. Fire officials will visit the home and conduct a home safety inspection, help with organization and safety tips for medications, and complete a form for each occupant of the home. The Fire Department will also provide referrals to area service providers for needs which the department is unable to meet.

The telephone number for the Norwich Township Fire Prevention Bureau is 614-876-7694.

Condensed from an article in the September 2010 issue of the Norwich Township newsletter.

Jane Dever Kienzel — A Profile

A woman before her time and a woman to look up to for all time. The phrase is simple, the woman was anything but. The words fit my grandmother, Vera Jane Dever Kienzel.

Jane, as she was known to her family and friends, was born February 28, 1919, the youngest child of Frank and Laura Belle Kaiser. Her siblings, in birth order, were Ruth, Harold, Anna and Daniel. The Kaiser family home where Jane grew up still stands at 92 South Center Street in Hilliard. Jane graduated from Hilliard High School in 1937 and began working as a bookkeeper. She married a Brown Township farmer, Donald "Bill" Dever, in 1940 and their marriage produced two children, Gary and Scott.

Bill and Jane moved their family to the Walker farm on Walker Road in Brown Township in 1951, the place that Jane would call home for the rest of her life. Jane embraced life as a farm wife and homemaker, and helped Bill farm by driving the baler until Gary was old enough to do so. She had a large produce garden and used it not just to provide food for her family, but as a means for profit. One year the proceeds from her melon patch sales raised enough money to buy Bill a new tractor and Jane a sewing machine.

Although the farm and her family kept her busy, Jane took charge when she saw things the community needed. She started the hot lunch program at Brown Elementary School and helped form the Brown Township Civic Association. She met weekly with the Hilltop YWCA for gourmet cooking classes, and contributed recipes and time to create cookbooks sold to raise money for the YWCA.

Jane also served her community through a variety of associations. She was a member of Franklin County Home Demonstrations, OES Level #109, Hilliard Grange for 65 years, Hilltop YWCA, Franklin County Agriculture Society, and Northwest Franklin County Historical Society. Jane was a recipient of the Hilliard High School Alumni and Friends Association Hall of Fame Award for her years of service to the community.

Jane's bookkeeping skills were put to use in running the farm. She kept meticulous records and knew the business side of farming as well as her husband and



sons did. She possessed a wealth of information on the history of the farm and partnered with her sons in farm business and decisions before and after Bill's death in 1976.

Resourceful and creative, Jane had a knack for making something out of nothing and knowing how to fix things. She was a skilled seamstress, and knitted and crocheted beautifully. She made houses out of shoeboxes for the grandchildren to play with, and once helped me decorate a miniature Christmas tree when I was a child by using household items. The star on top was cut from a silver lid. Ornaments were made from pipe cleaners, felt, family pictures, old jewelry, bells, and fancy string. She knew what to do when a grease pen found its way into your dryer or you spilled candle wax on your favorite sweater, and was wonderful at calming down a hysterical young woman who found herself facing these situations.

Jane was a top-notch card player. Her couples' card parties in her younger years were legendary, stretching far into the night. She later played in women's bridge club, giving it up only when it became physically difficult for her to attend. My mother tried to fill in once, and admitted that, although these ladies were seniors, she found them intimidating and serious about the game.

Blessed with a green thumb, Jane was known for her beautiful flowers, especially roses and African violets, and she enjoyed working outside well into her later years. She mowed her own yard into her late 80s, and demanded that her sons remove the kill switch from her riding mower, because she was small enough that when she

hit a bump in her yard, the mower would turn off when she bounced up from the seat. More than once I came home from work to discover she had weeded my flower beds, accomplishing in her senior years something that made me ache just thinking about it.

Faith played a large role throughout Jane's life, and it sustained her as she outlived her parents, siblings and husbands. She was a lifelong member of the Hilliard United Methodist Church, where she served on the Altar Guild for many years. It was through church that she met her second husband, John "Harry" Kienzel. Jane and Harry shared time between the farm and snowbirding in Florida until Harry's death in 1991.

Family was important to Jane, and she actively participated in the upbringing of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and the daily lives of her sons. Each morning and afternoon there was hot coffee and conversation around her kitchen table with not only her family, but for any neighbor or friend who might be passing by. The door was always open, and Jane had the rare ability to truly listen without giving advice or an opinion unless asked to do so, which made her a trusted confidante for many.

She cherished her friends and honored the promises she had made to them. Her lifelong best friend, Betty Russell, moved to an assisted living facility in her later years, and Jane had a standing lunch date with her every week. Betty had been in declining health and suffered a stroke, which left her uncommunicative and near death the day before their weekly lunch date. Jane still went to see Betty on the planned date and time, because "I told her I'd be there, and I was." Betty died shortly afterwards.

Jane died May 12, 2010. Her mark on Brown Township is visible today through the work she did throughout her life, and in the yellow rosebush that grows just off my front porch.

Contributed by Gay Dever Sowers

This is one of an occasional series of articles on noteworthy Brown Township residents. If you have a suggestion for a future profile, please let us know.

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- Via **fax** to the Township Office (614-876-2421)
- Or by **mail** to the return address above.
- To have your newsletter addressed in your name instead of "Brown Township Neighbor," please visit <http://www.Brown.Twp.Franklin.oh.us/newsletters.htm>.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Clockwise from left: Gary Dever, Ronald Williams, Pamela Sayre and Barbara Bloxam

Brown Township Administration Office

2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio 43026 876-2133

Website

www.brown.twp.franklin.oh.us

Fiscal Officer

Barbara Bloxam 876-2133

Trustees

Mr. Gary Dever 876-4768

Mr. Ronald Williams 876-6118

Mrs. Pamela Sayre 878-0199

Norwich Fire Department

David Long, Chief 876-5367

Brown Township Board of Trustees Meeting

When: 3rd Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

Where: 2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio

For Police, Fire and Medical Emergencies, Dial 911