

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Western Reserve Outreach Center Property Changes Ownership**

*Township Takes Title to 5.35+/- Acres; Extends Option on Adjacent 4.82+/- Acres*

**Twinsburg Township, Summit County, Ohio – September 24, 2010** – With all remaining property title issues resolved, Twinsburg Township on September 24, 2010 purchased 5.35+/- acres of land at 8776 Harvard Road from Western Reserve Outreach Center (WROC), a non-profit entity separate from the Township. On a related note, the Board of Trustees at its September 15, 2010 regular meeting approved an amendment to the purchase agreement for the adjacent 4.82+/- owned by Shirley Burton, et al. The amended Burton property purchase agreement extends, through September 2011, the agreement's due diligence period, to allow time for multiple title issues, all of which are the responsibility of the current property owner, to be resolved. Both the WROC and Burton property purchase agreements were approved by the Board of Trustees on September 16, 2009, in an effort to assemble land in the Heights area for a 10+ acre park in walkable proximity to the most densely populated area of the Township.

Completion of this purchase also enabled WROC to pay off three debts that were secured to its property. WROC's debts included a Liberty Bank mortgage (\$110,039.52), a State lien (\$15,398.51), and a note held by the estate of Morris Moore of Waukegan, Illinois (\$5,000.00). The WROC purchase agreement called for a purchase price equal to WROC's total outstanding liabilities, not to exceed \$130,000.00. The final purchase price was \$127,323.00.

In early 2010, the Township had the WROC property's main building evaluated for potential use as a public facility. The Township's architect and the Twinsburg Fire Department identified numerous code violations and safety/security concerns, finding the building uninhabitable and unsafe for occupancy. The only options to accommodate future public use of the building were either to repair and substantially upgrade or completely replace the building, with the cost of either option estimated in late 2008 to be in excess of \$2 million. In conjunction with the recent change of ownership, the Board of Trustees commissioned its architect to prepare plans for interim development of, as well as specifications for removal of buildings and certain outside amenities on, the property. Improvements to be removed include tennis courts, swing sets, and playground equipment. Amenities to remain include basketball courts, baseball field, pavilion, parking, and lighting. Remaining improvements can, at minimal cost, provide continued short term amenities for nearby residents, until such time as all surrounding land has been acquired, a long term development plan is prepared, and capital and operating funding is secured.

### **About Twinsburg Township**

Twinsburg Township was founded in 1817, had a population of 2,554 (est.) in 2009, and will soon celebrate its bicentennial with great pride. The Township is home to an unparalleled combination of rich history, abundant natural resources, outstanding parks, well-planned neighborhoods, thriving businesses, and top-notch institutions. Whether you're looking for a great place to live or do business, or just a spot to spend a quiet afternoon, you'll find it all right here in Twinsburg Township. So stop by and see us sometime, and if you can't make it in person, please check out [www.twinsburgtwp.com](http://www.twinsburgtwp.com) to get a glimpse of all that Twinsburg Township has to offer. For more information, contact Robert S. Kagler, Township Manager, via telephone at (330) 425-4497 or via e-mail at [rkagler@twinsburgtwp.com](mailto:rkagler@twinsburgtwp.com).

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