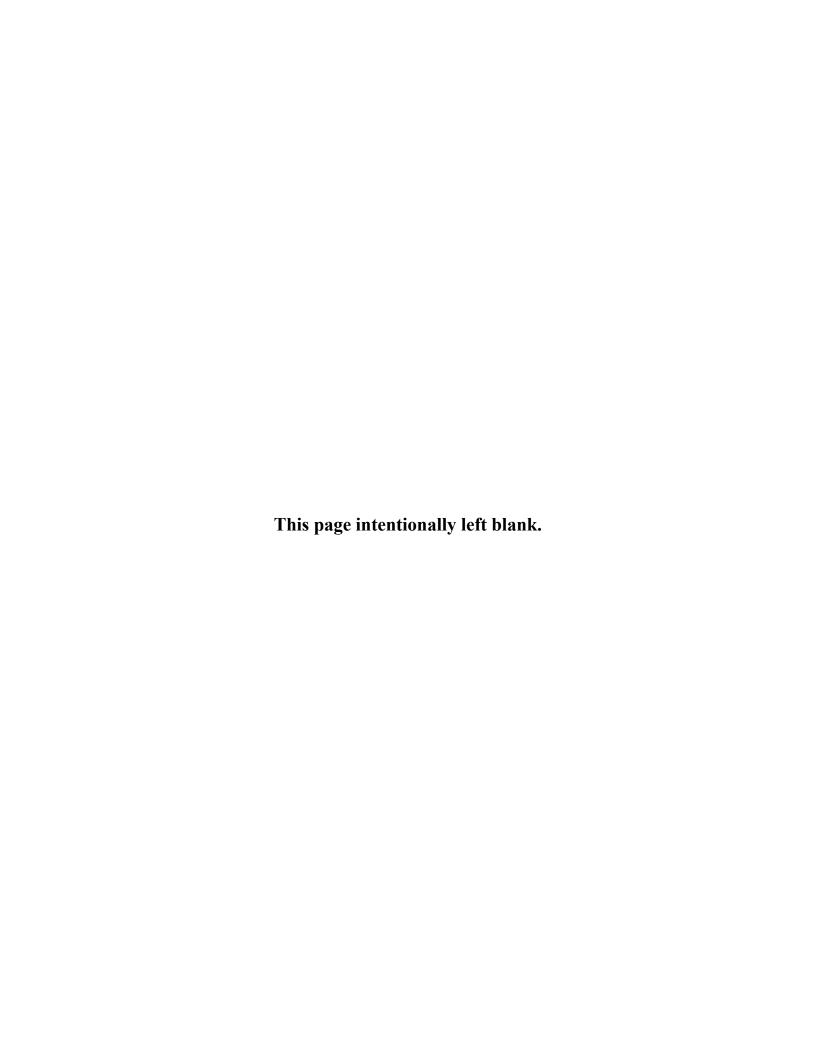




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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Loudon Township Seneca County 9130 West County Road 18 Fostoria, Ohio 44830-9558

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Loudon Township, Seneca County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The Township's financial transactions were processed using the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to conduct the audit of the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and operates UAN. However, *Government Auditing Standards* permits the Auditor of State to audit and opine on this entity, because Ohio Revised Code § 117.101 requires the Auditor of State to provide UAN services, and Ohio Revised Code §§ 117.11(B) and 115.56 mandate the Auditor of State to audit Ohio governments.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Loudon Township Seneca County Independent Accountants' Report Page 2

As discussed in Note 1, the Township prepares its financial statements on the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the combined fund cash balances and reserves for encumbrances of Loudon Township, Seneca County, as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and its combined cash receipts and disbursements for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 11, 2004 on our consideration of the Township's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, the Board, and other officials authorized to receive this report under § 117.26, Ohio Revised Code, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomeny

March 11, 2004

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL AND FIDUCIARY FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003

	Gove	rnmental Fund			
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Fiduciary Funds	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts Local Taxes Intergovernmental Licenses, Permits, and Fees Earnings on Investments Other Revenue	\$ 33,989 29,345 24,314 3,272 56	\$ 80,194 81,053 - 742	\$ - 17,677 - -	\$ - - - 22,132	\$ 114,183 128,075 24,314 4,014 22,188
Total Cash Receipts	90,976	161,989	17,677	22,132	292,774
Cash Disbursements Current: General Government Public Works Health Capital Outlay	78,191 - 8,809	52,546 - 49,356	- - 17,677	- - -	78,191 52,546 8,809 67,033
Total Cash Disbursements	87,000	101,902	17,677		206,579
Total Receipts Over Disbursements	3,976	60,087		22,132	86,195
Other Financing Disbursements Other Uses				(22,132)	(22,132)
Total Other Financing Disbursements				(22,132)	(22,132)
Excess of Cash Receipts Over Cash Disbursements and Other Financing Disbursements	3,976	60,087	-	-	64,063
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	174,945	189,444			364,389
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$ 178,921	\$ 249,531	\$ -	<u>\$</u> -	\$ 428,452
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$ 956	\$ 1,775	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,731

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, CASH DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

		Government	nd Types	_		
	General		Special Revenue		(Me	Totals emorandum Only)
Cash Receipts						
Local Taxes Intergovernmental Licenses, Permits, and Fees	\$	32,549 57,709 18,475	\$	81,502 76,267	\$	114,051 133,976 18,475
Earnings on Investments Other Revenue		5,436		1,403 130		6,839 162
Total Cash Receipts		114,201	-	159,302		273,503
Cash Disbursements Current:						
General Government		75,706		_		75,706
Public Safety		· -		3		3
Public Works Health		- 8,706		67,168		67,168 8,706
Capital Outlay		102,579		82,566		185,145
Total Cash Disbursements		186,991		149,737		336,728
Total Receipts Over/(Under) Disbursements		(72,790)		9,565		(63,225)
Other Financing Receipts						
Sale of Fixed Assets		6,600				6,600
Total Other Financing Receipts		6,600				6,600
Excess of Cash Receipts and Other Financing Receipts Over/(Under) Cash Disbursements		(66,190)		9,565		(56,625)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1		241,135		179,879		421,014
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$	174,945	\$	189,444	\$	364,389
Reserve for Encumbrances, December 31	\$	487	\$	1,486	\$	1,973

THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of the Entity

Loudon Township, Seneca County, (the Township) is a body corporate and politic established to exercise the rights and privileges conveyed to it by the constitution and laws of the State of Ohio. The Township is directed by a publicly-elected three-member Board of Trustees. The Township provides general government services including fire protection and emergency medical services.

The Township's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the Township is financially accountable.

B. Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the basis of accounting prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State, which is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. Receipts are recognized when received in cash rather than when earned, and disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when a liability is incurred. Budgetary presentations report budgetary expenditures when a commitment is made (i.e., when an encumbrance is approved).

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters, as prescribed or permitted by the Auditor of State.

C. Cash

Certificates of deposit are valued at cost.

D. Fund Accounting

The Township uses fund accounting to segregate cash that is restricted as to use. The Township classifies its funds into the following types:

1. General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

2. Special Revenue Funds

These funds are used to account for proceeds from specific sources (other than from trusts or for capital projects) that are restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. The Township had the following significant Special Revenue Funds:

<u>Road and Bridge Fund</u> - This fund receives property tax money for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads and bridges.

<u>Gasoline Tax Fund</u> - This fund receives gasoline tax money to pay for constructing, maintaining and repairing Township roads.

3. Capital Project Fund

This fund is used to account for receipts that are restricted for the acquisition or construction of major capital projects (except those financed through enterprise or trust funds). The Township had the following significant capital project fund:

<u>Issue II Fund</u> - The Township received a grant from the State of Ohio to repair Township roads.

4. Fiduciary Funds (Agency Funds)

These funds are used to account for funds for which the Township is acting in an agency capacity. The Township had the following significant fiduciary funds:

<u>Reinhart Account Fund</u> – This fund received insurance proceeds to be held for removing, repairing or securing structure damaged by fire pursuant to provisions of § 3929.86, Ohio Revised Code.

<u>Deuble Account Fund</u> – This fund received insurance proceeds to be held for removing, repairing or securing structure damaged by fire pursuant to provisions of § 3929.86, Ohio Revised Code.

E. Budgetary Process

The Ohio Revised Code requires that each be budgeted annually.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

1. Appropriations

Budgetary expenditures (that is, disbursements and encumbrances) may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Trustees must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. The County Budget Commission must also approve the annual appropriation measure. Unencumbered appropriations lapse at year end.

2. Estimated Resources

Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus unencumbered cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must also approve estimated resources.

3. Encumbrances

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Township to reserve (encumber) appropriations when individual commitments are made. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are carried over, and need not be reappropriated.

A summary of 2003 and 2002 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

F. Property, Plant and Equipment

Acquisitions of property, plant and equipment are recorded as disbursements when paid. These items are not reflected as assets on the accompanying financial statements.

2. EQUITY IN POOLED CASH

The Township maintains a cash pool used by all funds. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits. The carrying amount of cash at December 31 was as follows:

	2003	2002	
Demand Deposits	\$ 1,874	\$ (612)	
Certificates of Deposit	139,001	-	
Savings Account	287,577	365,001	
Total	\$ 428,452	\$ 364,389	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

Deposits are either (1) insured by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation, (2) collateralized by securities specifically pledged by the financial institution to the Township.

3. BUDGETARY ACTIVITY

Budgetary activity for the years ending December 31, 2003 and 2002 follows:

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted		Actual			
Fund Type	Receipts		Receipts		Variance	
General	\$	75,639	\$	90,976	\$	15,337
Special Revenue		146,593		161,989		15,396
Capital Projects		17,687		17,677		(10)
Fiduciary		22,132		22,132		
Total	\$	262,051	\$	292,774	\$	30,723

2003 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	App	propriation	Budgetary			
Fund Type	Authority Expenditur		penditures	V	⁷ ariance	
General	\$	163,387	\$	87,956	\$	75,431
Special Revenue		251,486		103,677		147,809
Capital Projects		17,677		17,677		
Fiduciary		22,132		22,132		
Total	\$	454,682	\$	231,442	\$	223,240

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts

	Budgeted			Actual		
Fund Type	F	Receipts		Receipts	Variance	
General	\$	101,436	\$	120,801	\$	19,365
Special Revenue		144,799		159,302		14,503
Total	\$	246,235	\$	280,103	\$	33,868

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

2002 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures

	App	Appropriation Budgetary			
Fund Type	Authority Expenditure		penditures	 ⁷ ariance	
General	\$	249,308	\$	187,478	\$ 61,830
Special Revenue		225,508		151,223	74,285
Total	\$	474,816	\$	338,701	\$ 136,115

4. PROPERTY TAX

Real property taxes become a lien on January 1 preceding the October 1 date for which rates are adopted by Board of Trustees. The State Board of Tax Equalization adjusts these rates for inflation. Property taxes are also reduced for applicable homestead and rollback deductions. Homestead and rollback amounts are then paid by the State, and are reflected in the accompanying financial statements as Intergovernmental Receipts. Payments are due to the County by December 31. If the property owner elects to make semiannual payments, the first half is due December 31. The second half payment is due the following June 20.

Public utilities are also taxed on personal and real property located within the Township.

Tangible personal property tax is assessed by the property owners, who must file a list of such property to the County by each April 30.

The County is responsible for assessing property, and for billing, collecting, and distributing all property taxes on behalf of the Township.

5. RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The Township's employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. This plan provides retirement benefits, including postretirement healthcare, and survivor and disability benefits to participants as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

Contribution rates are also prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code. For 2003 and 2002, members of OPERS members contributed 8.5 percent of their gross salaries and the Township contributed an amount equal to 13.55 percent of participants' gross salaries. The Township has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2003.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Pool Membership

The Township belongs to the Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority (OTARMA), a risk-sharing pool available to Ohio townships. OTARMA provides property and casualty coverage for its members. OTARMA is a member of the American Public Entity Excess Pool (APEEP). Member governments pay annual contributions to fund OTARMA. OTARMA pays judgments, settlements and other expenses resulting from covered claims that exceed the members' deductibles.

Casualty Coverage

OTARMA retains casualty risks up to \$250,000 per claim, including loss adjustment expenses. Claims exceeding \$250,000 are reinsured with APEEP up to \$1,750,000 per claim and \$5,000,000 in the aggregate per year. Governments can elect additional coverage, from \$2,000,000 to \$10,000,000, from the General Reinsurance Corporation.

If losses exhaust OTARMA's retained earnings, APEEP covers OTARMA losses up to \$5,000,000 per year, subject to a per-claim limit of \$2,000,000.

Property Coverage

OTARMA retains property risks, including automobile physical damage, up to \$10,000 on any specific loss with an annual aggregate of \$700,000 for 2001 and \$1,250,000 for 2002. The Travelers Indemnity Company reinsures losses exceeding \$10,000 if the annual aggregate is reached and all specific losses exceeding \$100,000. APEEP's Operating Fund and Guarantee Fund pay for losses and loss adjustment expenses should they exceed operating contributions.

The aforementioned casualty and property reinsurance agreements do not discharge OTARMA's primary liability for claims payments on covered losses. Claims exceeding coverage limits are the obligation of the respective government.

Financial Position

OTARMA's financial statements (audited by other accountants) conform with generally accepted accounting principles, and reported the following assets, liabilities and retained earnings at December 31, 2002 and 2001 (the latest information available):

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND 2002 (Continued)

Casualty Coverage	2002	2001
Assets	\$ 23,757,036	\$ 23,703,776
Liabilities	(9,197,512)	(9,379,003)
Retained Earnings	\$ 14,559,524	\$ 14,324,773
Property Coverage	2002	2001
Assets	\$ 6,596,996	\$ 5,011,131
Liabilities	(1,204,326)	 (647,667)
Retained Earnings	\$ 5,392,670	\$ 4,363,464

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Loudon Township Seneca County 9130 West County Road 18 Fostoria, Ohio 44830-9558

To the Board of Trustees:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Loudon Township, Seneca County, (the Township) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, and have issued our report thereon dated March 11, 2004 wherein we noted that the Township's financial transactions were processed using the Auditor of State's Uniform Accounting Network (UAN). *Government Auditing Standards* considers this service to impair the independence of the Auditor of State to conduct the audit of the Township because the Auditor of State designed, developed, implemented, and, as requested, operates UAN. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Township's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

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Loudon Township
Seneca County
Independent Accountants' Report on Compliance and on Internal
Control Required by *Government Auditing Standards*Page 2

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Township's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the audit committee, management, and the Board of Trustees, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Betty Montgomery Auditor of State

Betty Montgomery

March 11, 2004



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LOUDON TOWNSHIP

SENECA COUNTY

CLERK'S CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report which is required to be filed in the Office of the Auditor of State pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in Columbus, Ohio.

CLERK OF THE BUREAU

Susan Babbitt

CERTIFIED APRIL 6, 2004