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Fairfield Township Times

PUBLISHED FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS OWNERS IN FAIRFIELD, TOWNSHIP, BUTLER COUNTY, OHIO

Spring/Summer 2017



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Fairfield Township Administration Building
6032 Morris Road
Fairfield Twp., Ohio 45011
513.887.4400 • Fax 513.887.4405



Fairfield Township

Spring Clean Up Day 2017

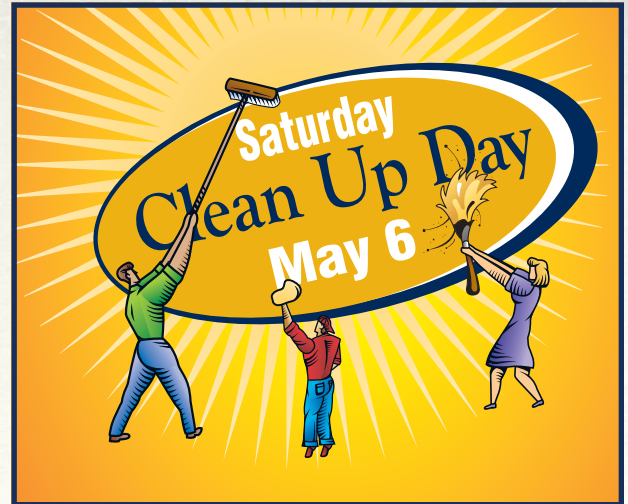
This year's Spring Clean Up Day will be held on May 6, 2017 from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM. In the past, volunteers have joined Township employees and Board members to walk streets and parks, plant flowers, spread playground mulch and collect trash, tires, and oil. In order to make this year's event a success, **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**

If you are willing to help, please contact Gail Asher at 785-2247. Clean Up Day is a great time for Scout Troops, Church Organizations, Businesses and Families to get involved. Lunch is provided and the community benefits.

The EPA has once again awarded Fairfield Township with funding

to assist with charges related to rental of Rumpke dumpsters and oil collection containers. Business sponsors have contributed in the past and will be asked to donate again.

Please consider taking advantage of Clean Up Day and remember that volunteers are needed! Also, don't forget to visit



www.butlercountyrecycles.org for information on Butler County recycling initiatives which occur year round.

Funding of Township Roads

All trips begin and end on local roads. Of over 122,000 miles of road in Ohio, 1,308 townships are responsible for the maintenance of 41,387 (34 %) miles of road and 80,000 lane miles. Fairfield Township is responsible for repair, maintenance, paving, and snow removal of almost 80 road miles and over 220 lane miles.

Over the past 50 years, the number of people living outside municipal (city) boundaries has increased 22%. This indicates more road usage within township boundaries on roads that are not built to sustain the traffic and which the township cannot afford to upgrade. Revenue for townships

has been reduced, making road paving and improvements even more challenging. Not only has the Local Government Fund revenue from the state been reduced, but the estate tax was eliminated in 2013 and Tangible Personal Property tax phase out was accelerated. To add to all of these hits, the cost of raw materials has drastically increased.

Just like every other municipality, county, state, and township. Fairfield Township is faced with the challenge of meeting road repair demands within a finite budget. This year the Township will be performing more than \$600,000 worth of road paving and repair. The Board's strategy is

to pave several collector roads in the township for greatest impact to all residents. In addition, crack seal, durapatch, and mill/hot patch work are being considered for subdivision areas of greatest need. The Board is currently finalizing the road list for 2017.

Additional funding is imperative for townships to sufficiently maintain and service safe roadways for their residents and the countless individuals who travel on them. Fairfield Township is no exception, but will remain committed to finding solutions and funding streams that will allow for continued service and repair.

Financial Update

The financial health, borrowing power, and stability of current cash position are at the forefront of any Township across Ohio. Fairfield Township is no exception. At this time, Fairfield Township holds a Aa2 rating with Moody's which, according to Moody's, "reflects the township's modestly sized tax base, ample reserve levels across operating funds, manageable debt burden, and minimal exposure to poorly funded cost sharing pension plans".

Since 2014, the General Fund and overall cash position of the Township have trended up due to a combination of fiscal responsibility, increased

franchise fee collection, reduction in employee benefits, and the addition of a 3.9 mill Safety Service Levy. The total cash position at the end of 2016 was \$18,836,659.99, up from \$15,450,975.91 at the beginning of 2014.

Fairfield Township is consistently monitoring trends and best practices to ensure continued viability and financial well-being. As of March 26, 2017, the General Fund balance is \$5,121,943.89 and the cash position is \$17,780,385.21, without receiving either of the semi-annual tax settlements from the Butler County Auditor. Typically, about 85% of spending can be attributed to personnel

salaries, primarily for the police and fire departments.

For additional financial

information, please contact Administrator Julie Vonderhaar at jvonderhaar@fairfieldtwp.org.

Aggregation Information

Gas

For prices and questions about the Constellation gas program, visit www.constellation.com/oh-fairfieldtownship.

To enroll call toll-free at **1-866-711-6257**.

Participants: 3,161 residents and 77 businesses

February Gas Price: \$0.4576/ccf vs. Duke at \$0.5024/ccf

Electric

For questions about the Dynegy electric program or to enroll, call **513-762-8226**.

For additional questions, please call us at Energy Alliances, Inc. at **513-794-5555**.

Participants: 4,345

Electric Price: \$0.0549/kwh through November 2019

Environmental & Recycling Opportunities

Curbside Recycling - Easy, Convenient

The easier it is to recycle, the more material people recycle! Consider signing up for curbside recycling for your home and the convenience of weekly collection outside your door. Contact Rumpke Recycling at 742-2900.

Recycling Drop Boxes - Open to residents and

businesses for RECYCLABLE Materials ONLY

Please use the recycling drop boxes located at Shaffer Park next to the Fairfield Township Police Station, and the drop boxes at the Fire Station at 2659 Tylersville Rd. This service is provided by Butler County Recycling to assist residents with managing common household items like cardboard, newspaper,

glass bottles, plastic bottles and jugs, and aluminum and metal food cans.

Recycling drop boxes should never be used for discarding large household items

(mattresses, construction material, furniture).

Depositing materials that are not recyclable can result in fines of up to \$500.

Fairfield Township police are actively monitoring these sites.

Examples of recyclable materials include:



Spring Cleaning - Butler County Recycling Special Collection Events Starting Soon!

Curbside Freon Appliance Collection Program

WHEN: Weekdays (April - October 31)

WHERE: At the curb

WHAT: Refrigerators, Freezers, Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers

CALL to schedule pick up: 1-888-886-9268 / Unwanted Appliances

This "on-demand" service assists residents with managing their used/unwanted Freon appliances, and provides Freon removal for all units. Call Unwanted Appliances, and mention that you are a Butler County, Ohio resident to schedule a pick up. This program is available at no charge to residents.

Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off

WHEN: Every Thursday (July through October)

HOURS: 2 pm - 7 pm - Do not drop off outside of service time

WHERE: *New Location*
175 Westheimer Dr.
Monroe, OH 45044
Off Route 63 and Salzman Rd.

WHAT: Oil based paint, gasoline, motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides, fertilizers, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, tubes, varnishes, solvents, propane tanks

VISIT www.butlercountyrecycles.org for directions.

CALL (513) 887-3653 for more information.

Veterans Memorial Project Underway

Veterans Memorials can be found everywhere in the world and are developed to honor those who served in the military. The memorials can be buildings, monuments, statues or reflection areas built to celebrate and honor those who have risked and sacrificed their lives during wars and/or conflicts. No matter how simple, these memorials give people places to visit, reflect and study the history of our country.



In recent months, the Board of Trustees recognized a need for an area of reflection and honor for veterans of all branches. The Board authorized the Administration to work with local residents on a Veterans Memorial Vision Plan. Resident and CPAA/Fire Corp member, Dan Hare, volunteered to lead several Focus Groups to help create and establish this vision. By asking the

simple question, "If the Veterans Memorial were at its best, what would it look like?", Mr. Hare was able to assist the administration and identify key vision priorities.

At its best, both residents and Board members identified key factors for a potential memorial. These factors included, but were not limited to the following:

- a place of reference but also of convenience and visibility.
- an area that allows for growth over time.
- a safe and secure area with flags/monuments/plaques and seating.
- honor every branch.
- Provide reflection, learning and educational opportunities.
- Landscape, water features, and proper parking.

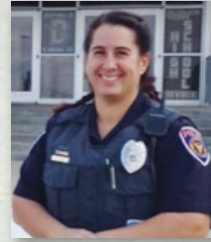
As the process continues, the vision created will move to concept, design and then dedication. It will be the Boards discretion to direct funding and location. Stay tuned as work progresses on this worthy initiative!

For questions, please contact Julie Vonderhaar at 203-4441.

Serving in Our Schools; DARE and School Resource Officers (SROs)

Many residents may not be aware of a very special and focused type of police service provided to many young people in Fairfield Township via our two School Resource Officers; one of whom also teaches the DARE Program at Fairfield East and North Elementary Schools.

Officer Jill Ebbing has been the SRO at Butler Tech for over three years.



Officer Ebbing is assigned to Butler Tech full time during the school year to serve the students, faculty and staff. (Butler Tech pays for her salary and benefits for ten months of the year). Jill has become an invaluable asset to the Butler Tech community and has brought a new level of safety, security and social resources to the school.

Officer Neil Thibault is the DARE Officer and SRO for Fairfield East

and North Elementary Schools.

The DARE program was re-established in 2016

with the cooperation of Fairfield Schools. Officer Thibault attended DARE and SRO training early in the year to prepare to take on these duties in addition to his regular patrol duties on day shift. (A State of Ohio grant funds fifty percent of the officer's salary when teaching DARE classes). Neil loves working with young people and has established a very positive presence at both schools.

Officer Ebbing and Officer Thibault demonstrate very effectively the importance of engaging with all levels of the community, in this case our young people, as they learn to view the police as a friend and resource who are always there for them.



Fairfield Township Fire Corps

The Fairfield Township Fire Corps program continues to provide the community with valuable services. In this article there are just a few highlights of what they have accomplished in 2016. If you are interested please contact Chief Thomas at 513-785-2240 for details on membership.

Just a bit on training- members have been trained in set up and running of the Fire and Smoke Safety Trailer (EDITH), Smoke Alarm installation and procedures, First Aid and CPR. A number of members have also been trained in operation of the Fire and EMT apparatus, Fire Extinguishers and Turn-Out Gear. Each meeting features Fire

and Safety lessons that members can share with the community. Such topics include: grill safety, Christmas tree fires, toaster fires, radio use, fire safety in work places such as restaurants, candle safety and other smoke/fire safety topics in the home.

The following is some of the events/details that members were able to participate in:

- Smoke Alarm event for 3/11/2016 training, planning and detail
- Township Easter Egg Hunt
- Metro Parks Frog Jog
- Metro Parks Mud Mania
- B.C. Bicycle Event at the Fairgrounds
- Community Fest Weekend Trailer Demonstration

- Fairfield Memorial Parade
- Fairfield 4th of July Parade
- Butler Co. Firefighter's Flag Dedication
- FFTWP Safety Day at Bridgewater
- Presentation of the McKendry Scholarship
- Fairfield High School Homecoming Parade
- Distribution of Smoke Alarm Flyers
- Installation of Smoke Alarms in the Community
- "Treat Street" at Bridgewater Falls
- Halloween with the FFTWP Firefighters
- Adopt a Family for Christmas

Volunteer Hours: The total hours recorded for specific

events/details number 594.25 for the corps. However, there are many more un-documented hours of volunteer time related to meetings, preparation for events and presentations, interviews, recordkeeping, and the web page, etc.

The federal government places the value of a volunteers' hourly rate at \$23.07 per hour. This means that the members of the Fire Corps have donated a total of \$13,709.35 worth of service to our community in the form of volunteer service. This was with just fifteen active members.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the Fire Corps please contact Chief Thomas.

Fairfield Township Elected Officials



Susan Berding
Trustee President
887-4400 x2020



Shannon Hartkemeyer
Trustee Vice President
887-4400 x2019



Joe McAbee
Trustee
550-1239



Nancy Bock
Fiscal Officer
785-2290

Trustee Meetings

Meetings: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
Township Administration Bldg. • 6032 Morris Road
Regular Meeting at 6:30 pm



6032 Morris Road • Fairfield Township 45011

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Around the Township

| <http://www.fairfieldtp.org>

New Website
Coming in April!

www.fairfieldtp.org

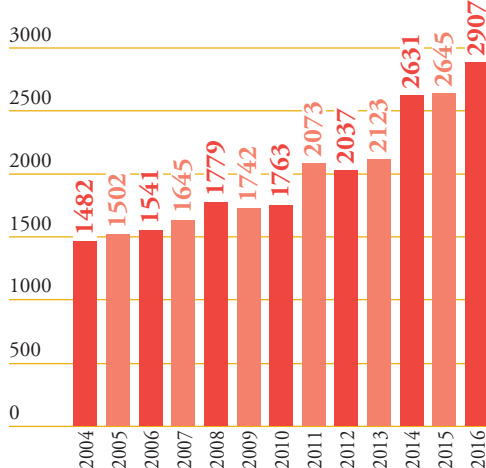
Current and Upcoming Events

Easter Egg Hunt – April 8 at 1:00pm with rainout date of April 9 at 2:00pm, held at Morris Road Park

Clean Up Day – May 6 from 8am-3pm, Held at Administration Building 6032 Morris Road

Movie Nights at Morris Road Park –
June 9 at 8:30pm (rainout date of June 10)
July 14 at 8:30pm (rainout date of July 15)
August 18 at 8:30pm (rainout of August 19)
Safety Fair – September 16 at Bridgewater Falls
Treat Street – October 25 at Bridgewater Falls

Fire Department Statistics 2004-2016 Incidents



Police Department Statistics 2016 Crime Information

Activity	Total
Total Dispatches	10,454
Crimes Reported*	1,738
Reports Taken – Incident/Offense	2,427
Reports Taken – Traffic Crashes	432
Arrests	912

*Crimes by Reported Type

Crime Types

