



# Community Newsletter

ROSSTWP.ORG

Fall 2024



## MEET OUR NEW POLICE CHIEF!

Chief Rob Gerhardt is a 29-year law enforcement veteran. He began his career in 1995 when he attended the Butler County Sheriff's Office Basic Peace Officer Academy, and later served as a Corrections Officer/Special Deputy. He served 5 years with the Reading (Ohio) Police Department before joining the City of Blue Ash Police Department in 2002. While at Blue Ash PD he served as a Patrol Officer, Traffic Safety Officer, Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Support Services Lieutenant, and finally as Captain-Deputy Chief Support Services Bureau. He previously served as a member on the HCPA SWAT Team, and the School Safety Team with Sycamore Community Schools. Chief Gerhardt has a Bachelors Degree in Public Safety Management and

holds a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Degree with concentrations in Justice Administration and Criminal Behavior. He has attended the Police Executive Leadership Collage (PELC), earned the Leadership Trilogy Award from F.B.I. LEEDA, and is a Certified Law Enforcement Executive through the Ohio Association of Chief's of Police. He was awarded Ohio's Mothers Against Drunk Driving Top Cop Award and Award of Excellence. He has also been awarded the Excellence in Police Service and distinguished Valor Award. Chief Gerhardt is married to his wife Melissa of 25 years and has two grown children. He enjoys golfing and martial arts in his spare time.



## RESIDENTIAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM



The Ross Township Fire Department is always looking for new ways to improve in the areas of fire prevention, injury prevention and public education. We have developed our newest program to make sure residents are living in safe conditions and are prepared for a fire or medical emergency. The Ross Township Fire Department's Residential Health & Safety Program reaches out to our residents and focuses on areas of fire prevention, fall prevention, and preparation for a medical emergency.

We would like to invite you to participate in the Residential Health & Safety Program. The focus of the program is to keep our residents safe through education and preparation. Once enrolled in the program a Ross Township Fire Department official will visit your residence to discuss what the program has to offer.

The Ross Township Fire Department would also

like to remind our residents of our Residential Knox Box Program. This program utilizes a secure Knox Box to have access to keys to your home in case of an emergency.

The Residential Knox Box Program provides rapid access into your home without causing unnecessary forcible entry damage to doors and windows. This program allows Fire and EMS personnel to gain quick access in the event the resident cannot get to the door to unlock it.

The Ross Township Fire Department wants to be certain that our residents are prepared and taken care of in a compassionate and professional manner during an emergency. These programs are offered at no cost to our residents. For questions or more information please contact the Ross Township Fire Department at (513) 863-3410.

## ROSS TOWNSHIP ELECTED OFFICIALS



**Trustee Keith Ballauer, Trustee Russ McGurrin, Trustee David Young, Fiscal Officer Julie Joyce-Smith**



## ROADWAY EMERGENCY ACCESS

The Ross Township Board of Trustees has noticed multiple areas in Ross Township where, when there are vehicles parked on both sides of the street, it makes it dangerously difficult, if not impossible, for emergency vehicles to safely navigate to their destination.

This notice is a “soft” ask, before we pursue possible legislation that will limit parking to one side of the street in specific areas. During this evaluation period we are asking residents to self-monitor the parking at their homes with consideration to the security and emergency access availability of their fellow residents that live in the pathway that an emergency vehicle may need to access.

If there is an area of particular concern to anyone

that you feel we need to look at, please contact us. Our hope is that there is never a case that vehicles are parked in a configuration that prohibits township emergency vehicles from safely arriving to their destination to possibly provide timely lifesaving assistance.

The safety of our residents is of paramount importance. If a plan needs to be implemented, we will consider that. At that point, our officers will be encouraged to engage with residents when they see issues of safety. It is not our intent to create a situation where parking citations are issued—that is a last resort. The Boards’ intent, once again, is to provide free and safe passage for emergency vehicles in all situations.

## SMART911

Smart911 is a free service that allows residents to create a “Safety Profile” for their household that includes any information they want 9-1-1 and first responders to have in the event of an emergency – things ranging from medical conditions to blood type to pets and service animals. Then, when anyone in that household dials 9-1-1 from a phone associated with their Safety Profile, their profile is immediately displayed to the 9-1-1 call taker providing additional information that can be used to facilitate the proper response to the proper location. At a time when seconds count, Smart911 provides details that could impact response the second an emergency call is placed, which could be the difference between life and death.

You can sign up for Smart911 at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com) and create a Safety Profile for your household to give 9-1-1 valuable information about yourself, family members, your home, pets and even vehicles that will display automatically on the 9-1-1 call taker’s screen when you make an emergency call. It’s free, private and secure and you control what information is in your profile. These details can save seconds or even minutes during an emergency.

**For additional information, please contact the Butler County Sheriff’s Office, Communications Section, at (513) 785-1299.**

## FRAUD ALERT THROUGH BUTLER COUNTY RECORDER’S OFFICE

The Butler County Recorder’s Office wants to give residents a way to detect possible fraudulent activity associated with their home or property. The Recorder’s office has implemented FraudSleuth as part of the records search portal to protect your investment. There are no fees to use FraudSleuth, however, you must open an account and create a FraudSleuth profile in order to activate alerts.

**Please go to [https://recorder.bcoho.gov/about\\_us/fraudsleuth/](https://recorder.bcoho.gov/about_us/fraudsleuth/) or call (513) 887-3192 for more information.**





4055 Hamilton Cleves Road  
Fairfield, Ohio 45014

PRSRT STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CINCINNATI OH  
PERMIT #215

# ROSS TOWNSHIP CONTACTS

## TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES:

**Keith Ballauer** ..... W 513-863-2337x113 ..... C 513-646-9242

**Russell A. McGurrin** ..... W 513-863-2337x110 ..... C 513-413-8840

**David M. Young** ..... W 513-863-2337x114 ..... C 513-262-0713

## FISCAL OFFICER:

**Julie Joyce-Smith**  
W 513-863-2337x112

## ADMINISTRATOR:

**Laurie Kile**  
W 513-863-2337x111

## NON-EMERGENCY:

**Police Chief Robert Gerhardt** ..... W 513-863-2337x130

**Fire Chief Chris Johns** ..... W 513-863-3410x150

**Road Superintendant Paul Bulach** ..... W 513-863-2337x180

**Police Department** ..... W 513-863-2337  
4055 Hamilton Cleves Rd.

**Fire Station #1** ..... W 513-275-1463  
2565 Cincinnati-Brookville Rd.

**Fire Station #2** ..... W 513-863-3410  
1308 Ross Millville Rd.

## SCHOOL NUMBERS:

### Ross Local Schools

District Offices ..... 513-863-1253

Morgan Elementary ..... 513-738-1986

Elda Elementary ..... 513-738-1972

Ross Intermediate School ..... 513-868-4550

Ross Middle School ..... 513-863-1251

Ross High School ..... 513-863-1252

### Private Schools

Stephen T. Badin High School ..... 513-863-3993

St. Joseph Elementary ..... 513-863-8758

St. Peter in Chains ..... 513-863-0685

Queen of Peace Elementary ..... 513-863-8705

## OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

**Butler County Building & Zoning** ..... 513-887-3205

**MRAA** ..... 513-738-1392

**Rumpke** ..... 800-828-8171

**EMERGENCY ..... DIAL 911**