

ROSS

TOWNSHIP

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2020

A newsletter with community information for all township residents

Volume 13 Issue 1

MEET YOUR NEW ROSS TOWNSHIP POLICE CHIEF

Hi, my name is Burton Roberts, the new Chief of Police for Ross Township, and I would like to tell you just a little bit about myself. I graduated from Finneytown High School in 1986 and then served four years in the U.S. Air Force. In 1992 I began my law enforcement career with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. In 1994 I was hired by the Springfield Township Police Department, where I had a very fulfilling career. I served six years on the regional narcotics task force, fifteen years on the Hamilton County Police Association SWAT team and retired as a sergeant, just to name a few of my accomplishments. I also currently instruct at multiple police academies throughout Ohio. In my spare time I enjoy coaching baseball and have coached at Finneytown, Fairfield, St. Xavier and Cedarville University.



One of my goals is for the police department to become more community-focused. I want our officers to be more visible in our communities. To go along with this, I plan to continue some of the successful programs that we have conducted in the past such as Fish with a Cop, Christmas with a Cop and The Citizen's Police Academy.

The department is instituting a new record's management system which will keep better track of the department's daily activities. In addition, the police station is being renovated to have a more professional appearance. The Ross Township Police Department has an officer that is a member of the Butler County SWAT team, and we are planning to have officers serve on the Butler County Regional narcotics unit, as well as the Butler County Accident Reconstruction team.

This is a great community with a great school district, and I will strive to keep it that way. If you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at (513) 330-1248. I am looking forward to a great working relationship between the Ross Township Police Department and our community.

— Burt

MEET YOUR NEW ROSS TOWNSHIP FISCAL OFFICER

A life-long Butler County resident, Julie made Ross Township her home in 2004. She and her husband Brian have been married 27 years and have two sons who are products of the Ross Local School system. Julie and her family are members of the St. Aloysius parish in Shandon.



Julie is a graduate of Stephen T. Badin High School and Bowling Green State University. She is a 32-year employee of the Butler County Auditor's office. This experience provides her a unique perspective in working for the citizens of Ross Township in terms of tax codes, levies, valuations, and governmental accounting practices.

She is currently serving as Secretary for the Butler County Township Association. Julie is active in the local community, volunteering with the RAMM Food Pantry and as a Ross Schools Band Booster as well as serving as past Chairman for Parachute - Butler County CASA, and for Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre. She was also a board member for Encore Summer Theater for Youth. In 2007, Julie was honored with the Butler County YWCA Outstanding Women of Achievement Award.

Julie is proud to serve her home, her community and her neighbors. Her goal is to provide Ross Township with trustworthy public service and fiscal integrity.

BEFORE YOU LIGHT IT...

One of the most often asked questions we receive is in regards to open burning. Although we understand that burning is often a useful tool, many accidental fires can be attributed to open burns that got out of control. These fires have caused significant losses to property and cost thousands of dollars to mitigate. When you burn refuse in burn barrels or open piles, the potential cost to your health, your home, your neighbors and your environment far exceeds the price of adequate collection services.

WHAT IS OPEN BURNING?

You are open burning any time you light an outdoor fire without a chimney or stack.

WHY IS OPEN BURNING A PROBLEM?

Open burning can release many kinds of toxic fumes. Leaves and plant materials send aloft millions of spores when they catch fire, causing many people with allergies to have difficulty breathing. The pollutants released by open burning also make it more difficult to meet health-based air quality standards. It is also a nuisance if you have neighbors that live close by you.

WHAT OPEN BURNING IS NEVER ALLOWED?

Under Ohio law, these materials may not be burned anywhere in the state at any time:

- garbage—any wastes created in the process of handling, preparing, cooking or consuming food;
- materials containing rubber, grease and asphalt or made from petroleum, such as tires, cars and auto parts, plastics or plastic-coated wire; and
- dead animals unless approved for control of disease by a governing agency.

Other restrictions:

- Open burning is not allowed when air pollution warnings, alerts or emergencies are in effect.
- Fires cannot obscure visibility for roadways, railroad tracks or air fields.
- No wastes generated off the premises may be burned. For example, a tree trimming contractor may not haul branches and limbs to another site to burn.

WHAT YOU CAN DO INSTEAD OF OPEN BURNING

Reduce the amount of waste you generate.

Reuse items in another way.

Recycle – Contact your waste collector about curb-side pickup or drop off locations for bulky or hazardous items.

Compost yard trimmings and food scraps, while creating a natural free fertilizer.

WHAT WILL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT DO IF CALLED FOR OPEN BURNING?

The fire department is required to enforce the laws as they pertain to the Ohio Fire Code. If we are called to your residence for an open burn complaint we will check for compliance. If compliance is not met you will be asked to extinguish the fire.

For further information on the Ohio Open Burn Standards contact:

Ross Township Fire Department
513-863-3410

Ohio EPA Southwest District Office
800-686-8930

Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency
800-889-0474

ROAD CONTRACT WORK FOR 2020

This year we will be putting a micro surface treatment on the following roads: Moeller, Mikehill, Donbar, Bruce, Chad, Scottwood, Laurie and Clyde. Crack sealing will be done ahead of this on these roads as well as all streets in Venice Gardens. We will also be paving Warvel Road. Please be cautious when you spot our crews working on the roadways and, as always, if you see any problems with our roads, signs or ditches, please call Road Superintendent Paul Bulach at (513) 863-2337 x180, so we can address them.



The 2020 Census is happening now! Residents can respond via online, phone or mail. It's imperative to every community across the U.S. that an accurate count of every resident is completed. The count, which is mandated by the U.S. constitution to occur every 10 years, assists in determining where billions of federal dollars are allocated across every community annually. These resources help fund critical community programming such as road improvements, schools, emergency responders and much more. Many grant programs which have assisted Ross Township over the years are directly based on the results of the census. The census

is also imperative to continued economic development as the business community look to data generated from the survey results to determine which communities to invest in. It only takes a few minutes to complete and the results will have a large impact on funding assistance for Ross Township for the next 10 years. Please do your part and complete the census survey if you have not already. If a household does not respond to the 2020 Census, a census taker will follow up in person to collect their response. This will occur between May-August. For additional info, you can visit their web page at <https://2020census.gov/>.

THANK YOU JUDY HUFFMAN!



Congratulations to the former Ross Township Fiscal Officer Judy Huffman on her retirement. Judy completed over 25 years of outstanding public service to Ross Township on March 31st. Please join the Ross Township Board of Trustees and staff in expressing sincere appreciation and gratitude to Judy Huffman for outstanding service to the citizenry of Ross Township. Thank you Judy! And from the township

employees that have been recipients of one of her beautiful hand-made quilts, a very special "thank you".



CONGRESSMAN WARREN DAVIDSON MOBILE OFFICE



Congressman Warren Davidson provides mobile office hours to give constituents across the 8th District the opportunity to meet face-to-face with a member of the Congressman's congressional staff to discuss problems or opinions they have with regard to the federal government.

Open Door sessions in Ross Township are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 9:00am at the Ross Township Government Center, 4055 Hamilton Cleves Road, Fairfield, OH. We hope to see you there.



4055 Hamilton Cleves Road
Fairfield, Ohio 45014

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ROSS TOWNSHIP CONTACTS

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES:

KEITH BALLAUER..... W-863-2337x113 C-646-9242
ELLEN YORDY W-863-2337x114 C-349-9511
THOMAS E. WILLSEY, JR......H-738-2409 W-863-2337x110 C-200-4322

FISCAL OFFICER:

JULIE JOYCE-SMITH
W-863-2337x112 F-863-6374

ADMINISTRATOR:

BOB BASS
W-863-2337x111 C-379-1381

EMERGENCY:**DIAL 911**

NON-EMERGENCY:

TOWNSHIP POLICE Chief Burton Roberts W-863-2337x130 F-863-6378

TOWNSHIP FIRE Chief Steve Miller W-863-3410x150

TOWNSHIP ROAD SUPERINTENDANT

Paul Bulach W-863-2337x180

POLICE DEPARTMENT 4055 Hamilton Cleves Rd... W-863-2337 x1

FIRE STATION #1 2565 Cincinnati-Brookville Rd. W-275-1463

FIRE STATION #2 1308 Ross Millville Rd. W-863-3410

SCHOOL NUMBERS:

ROSS LOCAL SCHOOLS

District Offices.....863-1253
Morgan Elementary738-1986
Elda Elementary738-1972
Ross Middle School.....863-1251
Ross High School863-1252

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Stephen T. Badin High School863-3993
St. Joseph Elementary863-8758
St. Peter in Chains.....863-0685
Queen of Peace Elementary863-8705

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Butler County Building & Zoning887-3204
MRAA738-1392
Rumpke800-828-8171