



Jackson Township Newsletter

FALL
2014

We make things happen!

A Message from your Jackson Township Officials...

JACKSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES



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JACKSON TOWNSHIP FISCAL OFFICER



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(Left to Right) Randy Gonzalez, Fiscal Officer, and Jackson Township Trustees Todd J. Hawke, President, James N. Walters, Vice President, and John E. Pizzino.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP POLICE LEVY

The Jackson Township Board of Trustees believes it is very important that residents are informed about their township government, and particularly so when making decisions about the funding of our local services. To meet that goal, this article is intended to provide important information about the budget for our Police Department.

The Board of Trustees and the Police Administration strive to provide our community with the highest quality services at the least cost possible. To provide some perspective on the current budget situation for the Police Department, it is important to understand that the department has been operating on the same amount of tax dollars for the past nine years. Additionally, another challenge the Police Department has faced is the reduction

of local monies returned by the State of Ohio. Our department has lost approximately \$550,000 due to these cuts.

The Police Department budget for 2015 is \$7,753,259, with our current income totaling \$6,603,840. The department has worked hard to save money during the early years of the levy knowing we would have to use those savings at the end of the levy cycle. This is because while the funding level stays consistent from year to year, the costs of operating the department increase during this time. While the department has worked to successfully stretch the levy dollars nine years, without the new levy dollars, we cannot maintain our current level of service.

For the Police Department to continue to provide the same level of services going forward, there is a need for a renewal of the 4.5 mill levy along with an additional 1.25 mills. This additional millage will be combined with the renewal for one vote on the ballot this November.

The additional money will only allow the department to keep its current level of staffing. Without the additional dollars there will be no choice but to cut some of the services now provided. That will mean less police officers on patrol in our neighborhoods and protecting our community.

The only increase we have allowed for in the budget is to hire more part-time officers to place in the elementary schools in cooperation with the Jackson Local School District. The cost for these officers is shared by the Police Department and the school district.

Please understand without levy dollars our Police Department cannot continue to operate. The additional 1.25 mills being voted on will cost the owner of a \$100,000 home \$3.65 a month or 12 cents a day.

One of the true benefits of township government is that you the voter will decide what our Police Department will look like going forward. I hope this information will assist you as you vote this November. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me or any member of the Board of Trustees.

Chief Mark Brink

Police Levy Information

Renewal of Current 4.5 Mills (Existing Tax)			
Market Value	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$175,000
Annual Tax Per Home	\$137.34	\$206.01	\$240.35
Cost Per Month	\$11.45	\$17.17	\$20.03

Annual Property Tax Cost of Proposed 1.25 Mills Additional (New Tax)			
Market Value	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$175,000
Annual Tax Per Home	\$43.75	\$65.63	\$76.56
Cost Per Month	\$3.65	\$5.47	\$6.38

Total Both Per Year	\$181.09	\$271.64	\$316.91
Total Both Per Month	\$15.09	\$22.64	\$26.41

Jackson Township Fire Department News

KEEP YOUR HOLIDAYS FROM GOING UP IN FLAMES!



Tracy R. Hogue
Fire Chief

For most of us, the holiday season represents a time for family festivities and good cheer. What few of us consider is that the holiday season is a time when there is an increased risk of home fires. Many households engage in holiday activities that serve as some of the leading causes of U.S. home fires, including cooking. Christmas trees, candle

usage and holiday decorations also significantly contribute to the seasonal causes of home fires. Add to that the hectic nature of the holidays, when people are trying to accomplish multiple tasks at one time, and the chance for home fires grows even more.

As everyone gets busier during the holidays, we often become rushed, distracted or tired. That's when home fires are more likely to occur.

Fortunately, with a little added awareness and some minor adjustments to holiday cooking and decorating, the season can remain festive and safe for everybody. By taking some preventative steps and following simple rules of thumb, most home fires can be prevented.

With unattended cooking as the leading cause of U.S. home fires and home fire injuries, stay in the kitchen while you're frying, grilling or broiling food. Most cooking fires involve the stovetop, so keep anything that can catch fire away from it, and turn off the stove when you leave the kitchen, even if it's for a short period of time. If you're simmering, boiling, baking or roasting food, check it regularly and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking. The Jackson Fire Department suggests creating a "kid-free zone" of at least three feet around the stove and areas where hot food and drinks are prepared or carried.

Candles are widely used in homes throughout the holidays, and December is the peak month for home candle fires. The nonprofit National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) statistics show that two of every five home deco-

ration fires are started by candles. The Jackson Fire Department encourages residents to consider using flameless candles, which look and smell like real candles. However, if you do use traditional candles, keep them at least 12" away from anything that can burn, and remember to blow them out when you leave the room or go to bed. Use candleholders that are sturdy, won't tip over and are placed on uncluttered surfaces. Avoid using candles in the bedroom where one-third of U.S. candle fires begin or other areas where people may fall asleep. Lastly, never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle.

According to NFPA, U.S. fire departments respond to 230 home structure fires caused by Christmas trees each year. One of every three of them is caused by electrical problems, and one in five resulted from a heat source that's too close to the tree. The Jackson Fire Department offers the following advice for picking, placing and lighting the tree:

- If you have an artificial tree, be sure it's labeled, certified or identified by the manufacturer as fire-retardant.
- If you choose a fresh tree, make sure the green needles don't fall off when touched; before placing it in the stand, cut 1-2" from the base of the trunk. Add water to the tree stand, and be sure to water it daily.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit, and is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, space heaters, radiators, candles and heat vents or lights.
- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory, and make sure you know whether they are designed for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights that has worn or broken cords, or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini-string sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving the house.
- After Christmas, get rid of the tree. Dried-out trees are a fire hazard and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside the home.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

By following these fire prevention tips and measures, we believe you can greatly reduce the risk of fire in your home, and enjoy a safe holiday season. The holidays can quickly turn from joyful to tragic when a fire occurs. By taking simple precautions, people can avoid potential fire hazards, and make this time of year a healthy and happy one.

Fire Chief Tracy R. Hogue



LOCAL, STATE, & FEDERAL GRANTS PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Jackson Township Fire Department has been the recipient of additional funding through Local, State, & Federal Grant Programs. Funding provided by these grant programs allows the Fire Department to support current programs and services, and purchase new equipment to better serve the Jackson Township community. This year alone, the Jackson Township Fire Department has received over \$83,000.00 in funding. The following lists the program, award amount, and funding use:

- Local Grants:** • \$1,700 – Technical Rescue Equipment
• \$2,500 – Fire Prevention and Education Materials
- State Grant:** • \$22,000 – Emergency Medical Service Equipment
- Federal Grant:** • \$57,000 – Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment

FILLING THE VOID

In addition to providing personnel that staff fire trucks and ambulances, the Jackson Township Fire Department conducts fire safety inspections for the more than 2,300 businesses within the community through the Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB). The FPB ensures that all new construction adheres to life-safety requirements, which includes the testing of fire alarms, fire suppression and sprinkler systems.

Due to retirements, the FPB had been reduced to just two personnel. In June 2014, Tim Coppock stepped into the vacant full-time Inspector's position. Ralph Copley also joined the Bureau in a part-time capacity. Inspector Coppock had previously served the department as a part-time Assistant Chief, overseeing the scheduling and training of the part-time members of the department. Inspector Copley, who recently retired as the Fire Chief from the City of Wadsworth, was selected due to his vast background and knowledge of building construction and plan review. Both of these individuals have added to the professionalism and quality provided by the Jackson Township Fire Prevention Bureau.



Ralph Copley



Tim Coppock

NEW PART-TIME FIREFIGHTERS/EMT'S



(Left to right) Brian Frank, Marc Taylor, Matthew Rabinin, Jason Berczik, Christopher Fultz, Steven Rabinin, Cameron Martin, Robert Eddy, Robert McEntire, Zachary Geib, Thomas Ross

In August, eleven new part-time members were also added to the ranks. Each of these members has come to the department as state certified Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians. They were selected after completion of a series of tests that included written knowledge, a physical assessment, a background check, as well as a physical and psychological exam. Upon completing an in-house training program, these new members were assigned shift duties operating out of the main fire station at the corner of Fulton Road and Wales Avenue.

\$20,000 GRANT AWARDED TO THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation recognized the Jackson Township Fire Department for its exceptional efforts to maintain a safe workplace.

BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer presented Chief Tracy Hogue with a safety grant check for \$20,000 to assist with the purchase of two chest compression systems that will help first responders better perform CPR while protecting them from on-the-job injuries.



(Left to right:) Jackson Township Deputy Fire Chief Tim Berczik, BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer, Jackson Township Personnel Assistant/Safety Coordinator Michelle Caldwell, and Jackson Township Fire Chief Tracy Hogue



(Left to right): Jackson Township Firefighters Joey McKnight, Jeremy Marzilli, John Kleinbeck, and Jackson Township Deputy Fire Chief Tim Berczik

BATTALION CHIEF MIKE SIBILA RETIRED FROM THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT ON MAY 31, 2014.

Mike has been a member of the department for over 42 years. He began as a volunteer at Station 4 and was appointed as a full-time firefighter on January 12, 1981. He was promoted to Captain on March 1, 1992 and became Battalion Chief in 2011.



Best of luck, Mike - we'll miss you!

JACKSON FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REUNION

The Jackson Fire Department held its 24th annual reunion on August 19, 2014 at the Lake Cable Pavilion. Volunteer and career members from the past and present gathered for an evening of fellowship and to reminisce at the annual dinner. The reunion drew members from as far away as Florida and Las Vegas, Nevada. The event provided members the opportunity to view



the new 2014 Sutphen Engine-4 and see the 1953 GMC pumper that many members used during their careers.

CARDIO-PULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR) CLASSES



**Want to make a difference?
Want to get involved?**

Did you know that the Jackson Township Fire Department conducts both CPR & First Aid Classes? Both of these courses are in accordance to the American Heart Association Standards. The cost for each is \$35.00. Whether you are a business looking to train your entire

staff or a resident looking to learn the newest life saving standards, contact the Jackson Township Fire Department at 330-834-3950 to register.

Local Safety Forces Seeing Effects of Funding Cuts

Article written by Jackson Township Fiscal Officer Randy Gonzalez that appeared in the July/August/September 2014 edition of "InCommand" Magazine.



Randy Gonzalez,
Fiscal Officer
Jackson Township,
Stark County Ohio

Fire departments all across Ohio are dealing with losses of funding from the state. In townships, voted fire levy dollars are primarily the lifeblood of operations/services. And in some cases, the township's general fund may help subsidize the departments, while cities primarily fund their fire departments exclusively through their general funds. Over the past few years, the state legislature has passed laws that may have reduced what you pay in state taxes, but also greatly reduced the income of the local safety forces.

First, let's start with the common fire/EMS property tax levy. Reductions or eliminations of Personal Property Tax, Personal Property Tax Reimbursement and the Utility Tax are direct losses to fire departments' levies across the state. In my community of Jackson Township, Stark County, those losses are well over \$500,000 a year and over the life of a 5-year levy, we are looking at a \$2.5 million lost. Coupled with the aforementioned losses, the Homestead Exemption has also been reduced, resulting in voted levies generating even fewer dollars. This leaves fire departments asking for more millage just to get back to where they were a few years ago.

Cities and some townships subsidize their fire departments through general fund dollars. Their story is even worse. The state has greatly reduced the amount returned to local government from the "Local Government Fund" and has also eliminated the Estate Tax. In my community*, that totals \$1.3 million a year lost from our general fund in addition to the fire levy losses. Many suggest making cuts, renegotiating contracts or living within your means. Well most fire departments are doing just that, although the true end result will be reductions to fire/EMS services or asking residents for more local tax dollars to make up for the state cuts.

Years ago in Jackson Township, we forecasted the reduced funding scenario. We were fortunate enough to have some money to put away to help deal with this dilemma. The problem was the Ohio Revised Code had no provision for the financial plan we put together. We needed changes to accomplish our goals. We went to work with State Legislator Kirk Schuring, and he was able to secure the needed changes to the law. The new laws broadened the existing capital funds laws and established more of them.

WE ESTABLISHED THREE FUNDS IN EACH DEPARTMENT:

1. **CAPITAL FUND** - for purchases of major equipment or buildings. This provided for the planning and purchase of a new fire station and numerous fire vehicles.
2. **ACCUMULATED BENEFITS ACCOUNT** - to pay out accumulated retirement benefits or potential employee buyout programs. When our Chief and some upper management retired within a short period of time, this fund was used to pay out their severance. None was taken from the day-to-day operational budget.
3. **REVENUE BALANCING ACCOUNT** - to put money away at the beginning of a levy cycle to make up for shortfalls towards the end of the cycle or make up for unanticipated funding losses. For the past couple years, money has been brought back from this fund to the general operations budget or else cuts would have been needed.

These accounts, along with good fiscal responsibility from our Chiefs, administration, firefighters and elected officials, have allowed our fire department to live with the same millage for ten years (no tax increase) even with all the state cuts. That's the good news. However, by the end of next year, the funds will be depleted and a new levy with more millage will be needed. The state cuts will catch up with us but we will do our best to stay ahead of the curve, looking at more consolidation, shared services, and tighter contracts. The reality is that fire departments will need to go back to the voters to ask for more money. The additional amount that will be requested will be close to what we lost from the state.

*** Jackson Township
is a community
of about 41,000
people with
an operating
budget of \$34
million for 2014.**

**SO I ASK YOU,
"IS IT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
THAT IS REALLY ASKING FOR
THE INCREASE?"**

Jackson Township Police Department



Police Chief Mark Brink

SIGN UP FOR ALERTS & ADVISORIES WITH "NIXLE"

We have a great new service available for you to receive community alerts. It's called "Nixle", and if you are interested in receiving alerts, please register through the "Nixle" website (<http://www.nixle.com/>). It immediately connects you to trusted, important information by text message, email, and over the web.

By registering, you get Jackson Township Police Department alerts and advisories. (NOTE: After selecting the "Nixle" link, you may register by entering your zip code in the field provided and clicking Go! On the next screen you will see a Sign Up Now box.)

Frequently, these alerts are advisories of areas to avoid due to crashes, construction, high water, and missing persons. These are just a few examples of many messages you may receive regarding your community.

POLICE - TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

The Jackson Township Police Department realizes the importance of taking part in traffic enforcement to make township roadways a safer place to travel. Our agency received a traffic grant to fund additional patrols in relation to traffic offenses. These additional patrols add up to 720 hours of additional free traffic enforcement in our community. Officers tend to use this as an educational type of enforcement versus citation based enforcement.

The Jackson Township Police Department also takes part in the Stark County OVI Task Force. This Task Force is made up of (17) different law enforcement agencies in Stark County. The goal of this agency is to educate and discourage persons from operating motor vehicles while impaired. These agencies conduct OVI Checkpoints in addition to saturation and corridor patrols. The patrols are looking for impaired drivers. Their hours are paid for by grant monies, and the township is reimbursed for these additional patrols.

- Major Ty Bissler



If we can be of any assistance, please contact the Jackson Township Police Department at www.jtpd.com or phone (330) 834-3960

Tips For Driving in the Winter Snow

- **Accelerate and decelerate slowly.** Applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry. And take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember: It takes longer to slow down on icy roads.
- **Drive slowly.** Everything takes longer on snow-covered roads. Accelerating, stopping, and turning – nothing happens as quickly as on dry pavement. Give yourself time to maneuver by driving slowly.
- **The normal dry pavement following distance of three to four seconds should be increased to eight to ten seconds.** This increased margin of safety will provide the longer distance needed if you have to stop.
- **Know your brakes.** Whether you have antilock brakes or not, the best way to stop is threshold braking. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- **Don't stop if you can avoid it.** There's a big difference in the amount of inertia it takes to start moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.
- **Don't power up hills.** Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning. Try to get a little inertia going before you reach the hill and let that inertia carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed downhill as slowly as possible.
- **Don't stop going up a hill.** There's nothing worse than trying to get moving up a hill on an icy road. Get some inertia going on a flat roadway before you take on the hill.
- **Stay home.** If you really don't have to go out, don't. Even if you can drive well in the snow, not everyone else can. Don't tempt fate: If you don't have somewhere you have to be, watch the snow from indoors.

Police Chief Mark Brink

POLICE CONTACT NUMBERS

- DISPATCH..... 330-832-1553
- OFFICE (SAFETY CENTER)..... 330-834-3960
- ANONYMOUS TIP LINE..... 330-834-3967
- EMERGENCY..... 911
- POLICE WEB SITE..... www.jacksonstwp.com
- VACATION CHECKS..... <http://redcenter.us/vaccheck.asp>



*Ralph E. Boger
Public Works Director*

Jackson Township Public Works Department Highway Division

2014 CONSTRUCTION & PLANNING

FRANK AVE. IMPROVEMENT PHASE II

Frank Avenue was widened from north of Portage to Applegrove to four lanes. The intersection at Frank and Applegrove received improved lanes and traffic signal operation.



**Frank Intersection with Huckleberry
looking West**

Frank Avenue tapered back to two lanes going north to Strausser. This project was constructed for \$2,184,261 and was funded with \$1,500,000 Ohio Public Works

Commission (OPWC) grant and local funding from Jackson Township and the Stark County Engineer in this joint venture. Design and improvement on Frank Avenue north of Strausser is currently on hold.



**Frank Road looking South from North
of Applegrove**



**Frank road looking South from
Huckleberry**

TRAPHAGEN AND WALES IMPROVEMENT WITH NEW TRAFFIC LIGHTS



**Wales / Traphagen New Traffic
Signal - looking North**



**Wales / Traphagen New Traffic
Signal - looking North**

EVERHARD IMPROVEMENT

The Stark County Engineer improved and resurfaced Everhard from Fulton north to Dressler, utilizing a \$150,000 OPWC grant and County funding on the \$553,486 construction contract.

FULTON DRIVE IMPROVEMENT

The final widening and improvement of Fulton Drive from Brunnerdale to Foxboro is progressing in design while awaiting right-of-way and construction funding. This is a Transportation Improvement District (T.I.D.) project expected to move the Yost Street connection with Fulton further west allowing the Fleetwood and Fulton intersection to be improved. Five lanes will exist from Brunnerdale to the new Yost connection. The remainder between Yost and Foxchase will be four lanes.

SNOW PARKING BAN



The Jackson Township Board of Trustees has established a snow-parking ban on all Township streets whenever snow has accumulated, or is expected to accumulate, to a depth of two (2) or more inches! Vehicles parked in the street create inefficient and hazardous snow plowing conditions.

Notice will be posted and announced when the snow ban is in effect. Violation of the ban can cause your vehicle to be towed away and stored. This action would incur storage charges, fines, and unhappy inconvenience for the vehicle owner.

Jackson Township requests strict cooperation from our residents to adhere to the snow parking ban.

Poor visibility, snow accumulations, and night operations can create unplanned and unpleasant damages. The Highway Department will again be placing stakes at locations difficult to plow. Residents can aid this effort with their own reflective staking if desired. Residents should inspect their roadside mailbox location for needed repairs to withstand flying snow. Portable basketball equipment should be removed from all roadways to allow snow plowing.



2014 JACKSON TOWNSHIP CONTRACTS

This was a record year as Jackson resurfaced 19.63 miles of aged asphalt allotment streets at a contract amount of \$1,272,630. The proper street preparation for this resurfacing kept the highway department crews very busy with necessary surface and catch basin repairs after the unusually hard winter.

The same contract improved and resurfaced the North Park walking track for 8,240 feet costing \$40,362 thanks to the new Park Levy.

This contract was also extended in cooperation with the Village of Hills & Dales by resurfacing 3.66 miles at the Village expense of \$221,621.

Deteriorated curbing replacement was accomplished ahead of the resurfacing on 4,927 feet with a separate contract valued at \$137,069.

Jackson Township typically stripes 40 miles of the busiest roads for your driving safety and assistance. A contract is in place for \$41,642 to restore the brightness of edge lines, centerlines, and intersection lane markings. Another 100 miles of roadway striping in Jackson Township is repainted by ODOT and Stark County on roads under their repair and maintenance jurisdiction, and is at their expense.



**JACKSON SOUTH
PARK YARD
DEBRIS DROP-OFF**

**STARTING NOVEMBER 1ST THROUGH MARCH 31ST,
THE WINTER DROP OFF TIME IS 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM.**

The fall season of falling leaves is by far the busiest use of the Jackson South Park drop-off area. Resident weekend cleanup efforts create lines of vehicles backing and maneuvering for drop off. Please recognize the hazards and stay alert. Only drop off biodegradable debris.

SOME ROADWAY & TRAFFIC REMINDERS

The Jackson Township Highway Department welcomes comments regarding operational traffic experiences in the Township. The safe and efficient movement of traffic requires responsive attention to traffic signal and signage problems.

Report observed problems to the Jackson Highway Division at 330-832-4016 or rboger@jacksontp.com.

- We service stop signs and fallen trees blocking roadways on a 24/7 basis.
- Removed, missing, or damaged stop signs can allow serious to fatal accidents.
- Removed, missing, or damaged street signs can delay emergency fire and police response in a serious manner.
- Jackson Township does not change, control, or repair traffic signals, but will assist in contacting the proper authority.

HIGHWAY FUNDING

The Jackson Township Highway Division has well utilized and appreciated the strong support from the residents with the road levy funding. It is obvious that the Township has grown continuously and with it traffic has multiplied. It is also true that expenses of labor, material, and equipment have continuously increased.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL INFORMATION:

- Stop at the intersection stop line location to reliably activate the traffic signal sensing devices.
- When your light turns green, check the left and right cross traffic for red light runners.

FOUR-WAY STOP SIGN PRACTICES:

- The first car to the four-way stop proceeds when safe.
- When cars arrive at intersecting positions simultaneously, the stopped car on the right proceeds first.
- Through traffic normally proceeds prior to the opposing left turning traffic across from you.
- Cross traffic alternates with your traffic direction, taking turns, as multiple cars arrive at the four-way stop.

GENERAL DRIVING:

- Always resist the desire to dangerously distract yourself from attentive driving with radios, cell phones, text messaging, and the numerous interior car panel adjustments.
- Patience, alertness, and politeness are always a partner to safe driving.

Jackson Township Zoning & Planning Department News



*Joni Poindexter
Zoning Inspector*

ZONING VIOLATIONS

Non-compliance with the Jackson Township Zoning Resolution constitutes a zoning violation. The exception is any building or structure lawfully existing on the effective date of the regulations or any amendment thereto, which, on such effective date, does not conform to the area, height, coverage, or yard regulations; parking requirements; sign regulations, landscaping or screening requirements; or other development standards of the district in which it is situated.



A few examples of zoning violations include, but are not limited to, unlicensed or inoperable vehicles being stored on the property, a building or structure being built on the property without a permit, a building or structure not meeting the required setbacks, height or size requirements, or a use of the property that is not permitted in a certain zoning district.

Trash or discarded items being stored on the outside of a building could be considered a nuisance and therefore fall under the nuisance legislation.

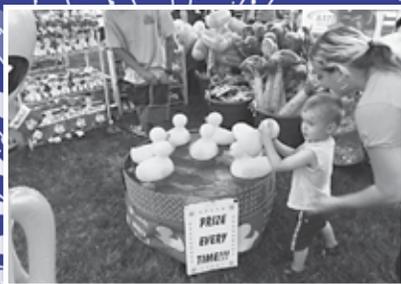
Upon the receipt of a zoning or nuisance complaint the complaint is forwarded to the zoning investigators, Ron Revlock or Ken Huot, who will conduct an inspection of the property. If the investigator finds that the complaint is a valid zoning or nuisance violation, depending on the type of violation, a courtesy or pre-nuisance letter is sent to the property owner notifying them of the type of violation that has been found, what steps need to be taken in order to correct the violation, and in what time frame the violation should be corrected. If the violation is not corrected within the time period, a Stop Order or Nuisance letter is sent to the property owner reminding them that a previous letter had been mailed to them regarding the violation and that the violation had not been corrected in the specific time period. Failure to correct the zoning violation as specified by the "Stop Order" may result in legal action or in the issuance of a citation under ORC Section No. 519.99, which states whoever violates Section 519.01 to 519.25 inclusive, of the Revised

Code, shall be fined not more than \$500.00 for each day's continuance of the violation. Failure to correct the nuisance violation may result in a public nuisance hearing being held by the Jackson Township Board of Trustees. The Trustees have the authority to order the nuisance abated. If the nuisance is not abated by the property owner, the Township will abate the nuisance, and any cost associated with the abatement is added to the tax duplicate for the property in question.

The zoning department prefers to work with people to get a violation corrected as opposed to issuing a citation or having the Township abate a nuisance. We understand that some violations may take a little longer than others to correct so if you receive a violation letter, always contact our office within the specified time period to see what we can do to help you get the violation corrected in a reasonable time.

The Zoning Department page of the Jackson Township website (jacksontwp.com) has a complaint form that residents can utilize to voice their complaints regarding zoning or nuisance issues. These forms can be printed and either mailed, emailed or dropped off at the zoning office.

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT COMMUNITY CELEBRATION!



The support of the residents and local businesses of Jackson Township contributed to a very successful 2014 Community Celebration. Again the attendance was over 55,000 for the four-day event. Thanks to MCTV for their special children's activities each day and for their major sponsorship. The 5K run again set a record with approximately 2,000 participants. The car show was a success with many unique vehicles.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the Volunteers, the Jackson Township Trustees, Fiscal Officer, Township employees, Kiwanis, Lions, and Rotary of Jackson Township, and the many generous sponsors who supported the event.

THANK YOU to our residents and friends who attended and supported this year's successful Jackson Township Community Celebration.

SAVE THE DATE !!!

Next year's Jackson Township Community Celebration is scheduled for June 24 through 27, 2015.



David R. Ruwadi
Park Maintenance
& Grounds Foreman

Jackson Township Public Works Department Parks and Recreation Division

“THANK YOU” TO THE RESIDENTS OF JACKSON TOWNSHIP FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR PARK SYSTEM.



In 2014 we have been able to accomplish many updates in the parks. The walking track was repaved, the shelters and restrooms were repainted, picnic tables were repaired and repainted, and a new fence was installed at our South Park. Your Park Department was able to purchase a new truck and a new riding striper. The lighting was updated at our maintenance garage, and we are back on schedule with our organic fertilization program.

JACKSON PARKS INFORMATION AND WINTER HOURS

Jackson Township residents have eight parks with approximately 240 acres.

Jackson Township Parks:

1. North Park 7660 Fulton Road
2. South Park 4811 South Park Drive
3. Joseph E. Fisher 5891 Lake O’Springs Avenue
4. Nelson Keck 7500 block of Wales Avenue
5. Edward and Mary Zink 38th Street and Michael Drive
6. Stuhldreher Street Fields Stuhldreher and Hills and Dales
7. Strausser Elementary Park 8646 Strausser Street
8. Crystal Springs Bridge Park 4400 block of Erie Avenue

North Park is open from 6:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. now through November 30. Beginning December 1 through February 28, North Park will be open sunrise to 8:00 p.m.

When visiting any of our other parks, such as South Park, Crystal Springs Bridge Park, Edward & Mary Zink Park, Joseph E. Fisher Park, Nelson M. Keck Park, Strausser Elementary Park, and Stuhldreher Street Fields, the hours of operation are dawn to dusk.

For your walking pleasure, the red walking track in the North Park is marked with yellow hash marks at every one-tenth of a mile. The outside loop of the track is 1+ mile.



Pets are permitted in all of our parks except the North Park. While on any other park grounds, lots, streets, drives or any other park facilities, all pets shall be controlled by a leash connected with a person or fixed object.

PARK PAVILION RENTALS

Beginning January 2, 2015, you can turn in your pavilion application forms or submit them electronically through our website to reserve any of the four Jackson Township park pavilions. Reservations will not be taken over the phone and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. You must pick up your permit approximately one week prior to your reservation.

For pavilion availability, you may contact the Jackson Township Parks at 330-832-2845. For Jackson Township residents, business owners, and non-profit organizations, there is no charge to use the pavilions. The charge is \$10 per hour for non-residents and for-profit organizations and companies.

SANTA’S MAILBOX ON DISPLAY IN JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson Township is making preparations for the “Santa’s Mailbox” program this holiday season. Santa’s Mailbox will be located in front of the entrance to the Jackson Township Administration Building, 5735 Wales Avenue NW, at the corner of Mudbrook Street and Wales Avenue.

Children can drop off their letters to Santa in the mailbox addressed to the North Pole between December 1 and December 15. All letters received by December 15 will receive a response from Santa himself. Children must remember to include their names and addresses on their letters. Letters must be dropped off personally. Any letters sent through the mail will not receive a response.

HOLIDAY IN THE PARK

The Annual Holiday in the Park and Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held in the Jackson North Park on Saturday, December 13, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Enjoy refreshments, caroling, and the community tree lighting. Children will enjoy a surprise visit from the guest of honor himself...Santa Claus! Jackson North Park is located on Fulton Drive across from Jackson High School.

This FREE holiday event is sponsored by Jackson Township Parks, Jackson Girl Scouts Service Unit, and Crosspoint United Methodist Church.

For additional information regarding “Holiday in the Park”, please call the Jackson Township Parks at (330) 832-2845, or visit the parks web page at www.jacksonstp.com.

SOLAR-POWERED LIGHT CHASES AWAY THE GEESE IN JACKSON PARK

Jackson Parks has installed solar-powered lights in the North Park to chase away the geese. The “Away With Geese” solar-powered lights disrupt the sleep of the geese, causing them to find another habitat after just a few restless nights. The solar-powered lights charge each day and flash 360 degrees, every two seconds from dusk to dawn, at eye-level of the geese. This product offers a humane solution to geese problems. Though they annoy the geese enough to relocate, they have no ill effect on them.



JACKSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION (CIC)

The Jackson Township Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) Was Formed Under The Following Mission Statement:

The purposes for which the corporation is formed are to advance, encourage, and promote the industrial, economic, commercial and civic development of Jackson Township.

With this Mission Statement in mind, the CIC is currently looking at many opportunities to assist Jackson Township; some of these are:

- Creating and maintaining an accurate listing of all available commercial properties for both purchase or lease.
- Planning ways to assist with the filling of these vacant properties.
- Researching opportunities for economic development assistance through various types of assistance, i.e. grant funding, abatement measures, JEDDs, etc.
- Working with State Legislators to address legislation that will allow a more active economic development environment with the township.

The CIC is looking forward to being a vital part of the future growth and success of Jackson Township. As we strive to add value to Jackson Township in these areas, we welcome and appreciate the involvement of township residents and businesses.

If we can be of assistance or answer any questions, please contact us through Michelle



(Left to right): Tena Wilson, Executive Director, Stark County District Library, Jean Campbell, Executive Director, David YMCA, and Steven M. Meeks, President, Community Improvement Corporation (CIC)



(Left to right): Fire Chief Tracy Hogue, Todd Locke, Michelle Moore, Cindy Hartzell, Steven M. Meeks, and Todd Hawke. Missing from photo are Michael Thompson, and Ryan Fulmer.

Moore at the Jackson Township Administration Office at 330-832-7416.

Current CIC board members are Steven M. Meeks, President, Cindy Hartzell, Vice-President, Todd Hawke, Township Trustee, Fire Chief Tracy Hogue, Michael Thompson, Todd Locke, Ryan Fulmer, and Michelle Moore, Secretary.

Additionally, on August 21 the CIC put the remaining funds from the fundraising account to work by presenting a check for \$1,763.99 to the Paul & Carol David YMCA for their expansion and a check for \$1,763.99 to the Stark County District Library – Jackson Township Branch for renovations of the branch.

NEW FLAG POLE AT THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP SAFETY CENTER



The next time you drive past the Jackson Township Safety Center, you will notice that a third flagpole was added. The additional flagpole and a new United States Flag were made possible by a generous donation from Chris and Denise Scala.

ENTRANCE TO SAM'S CLUB

Recently the entrance/exit drive from Sam's Club, next to I-Hop on Portage, has been reconfigured. This reconfiguration is partially due to a report put together by Detective Kim Haines and given to Major Ty Bissler. In the report, the statistics for the number of automobile crashes which occurred at this location for 2012 and 2013 were collected. The report was broken out into injury and non-injury crashes. This location was compared to the intersection which is just west at the traffic signal. The number of crashes was significantly lower at the traffic light than at the location next to I-Hop. Major Bissler contacted the Stark County Engineer's office and made them aware of the situation. Major Bissler then worked with Stark County Engineers and Stark Enterprises to make this location safer. Drivers now exit from Sam's Club next to I-Hop, turning right only, and the entrance to Sam's can only be made while traveling east on Portage. This reconfiguration should greatly decrease the number of traffic crashes at this location.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING POLICY

If you are looking for a great way to market your business, you should consider advertising in the Jackson Township Newsletter. The Township newsletter is published three to four times a year with a circulation of approximately 22,000 Jackson Township homes and businesses.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card size:	\$ 150.00
One fourth (1/4) page:	\$ 250.00
One half (1/2) page:	\$ 500.00
Full page:	\$1,000.00

The Jackson Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any advertisement for publication. Only retail ads will be accepted.

Please contact Mary Reno at 330-832-7416 for more information or visit our website at www.jacksonwp.com to download an application.

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT

Jackson Township's
Halloween Trick or Treat will be
held on Sunday, October 26, 2014
From 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP FARMERS MARKET



For the fifth year in a row Jackson Township has made "Healthy Things Happen" at the Jackson Township Farmers Market. This year's Farmers Market had the best season ever with a steady stream of customers shopping on

Thursdays between 3:00 & 6:30 pm. Vendors sold a large variety of home grown fruits and vegetables, delicious homemade baked goods, local honey, syrup, freezer meat, garlic products, gourmet popcorn, natural body products, and beautiful flowers.



We are looking for your input on the Jackson Township Farmers Market. Please take a few minutes to fill out the customer survey on our website www.jacksontwp.com.

*We appreciate our residents' support of our Farmers Market.
We hope to see all of you next year.*



Find us on:
facebook®

The "Jackson Township Board of Trustees" has launched a Facebook page in an effort to use social media as a way of increasing communication with our residents and engaging the public. Our Facebook page will feature announcements, press releases, and other useful resources. **Find us on Facebook!**

JACKSON TOWNSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Jackson Township local government to provide for and promote the general health, safety, and welfare of Township residents and businesses by:

- delivering service in a professional, impartial, and cost-effective manner;
- planning for the long-range development and improvement of the township; and
- being responsive to the individual needs of the township residents and businesses with an awareness of the community's collective needs.



WILLIAM "BILL" BURGER FORMER JACKSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE AND ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF PASSED AWAY ON AUGUST 8, 2014



On August 8, 2014 Jackson Township lost a dedicated former Trustee and retired Assistant Fire Chief.

Bill served the Jackson Township Fire Department for twenty-five years. He was elected a Jackson Township Trustee on January 1, 2001 and served eleven years until he stepped down on March 31, 2012 due to health reasons.

Bill will be missed by all who knew him.

**Tuesday, November 4
is Election Day.
PLEASE VOTE!**

*****ECRWSS**

Postal Customer



Printed on
Recyclable Paper



TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY...

www.jacksonstp.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

330-832-7416

Todd J. Hawke 330-705-5238 • thawke@jacksonstp.com
John E. Pizzino 330-936-4869 • jpizzino@jacksonstp.com
James N. Walters 330-833-7844 • jwalters@jacksonstp.com

FISCAL OFFICER:

330-832-5886

Randy Gonzalez 330-497-6357 • rgonzalez@jacksonstp.com

TOWNSHIP HALL:

5735 WALES AVE. N.W.

Administration: 330-832-7416 • mlyon@jacksonstp.com
Central Maintenance: 330-830-6279 • cmoore@jacksonstp.com
Fiscal Office: 330-832-5886 • randygonzalez51@gmail.com
Highway: 330-832-4016 • rboger@jacksonstp.com
Legal: 330-832-2918 • mvaccaro@jacksonstp.com
Parks: 330-832-2845 • druwadi@jacksonstp.com
Zoning & Planning: 330-832-8023 • jpoindexter@jacksonstp.com

FIRE DEPARTMENT: 7383 FULTON DRIVE N.W.

330-834-3950 • thogue@jacksonstp.com

POLICE DEPARTMENT: 7383 FULTON DRIVE N.W.

330-834-3960 • mbrink@jacksonstp.com

Fire, Police or Medical Emergency 911

JACKSON BELDEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

5735 Wales Ave. N.W. 330-833-4400 • www.jbcc.org
Steven M. Meeks, President smeeks@jbcc.org

PAUL & CAROL DAVID YMCA, JACKSON TWP.

7389 Caritas Circle N.W. 330-830-6275

JACKSON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 35171, Canton, OH 44735-5171 330-830-8622

JACKSON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORP.

5735 Wales Ave. N.W. 330-832-7416

JACKSON TOWNSHIP RECYCLING STATION

5717 Wales Ave. N.W. 330-833-7365

JACKSON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

(Branch of the Stark County District Library)

7487 Fulton Dr. N.W. 330-833-1010
Massillon, OH 44646 jackson@starklibrary.org

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Disclaimer: Advertisements published in the Jackson Township Newsletter in no way constitute an endorsement of a product or service by the Jackson Township Board of Trustees. For information about advertising opportunities, please contact Mary Reno at 330-832-7416.

911 HOUSE NUMBERING

Seconds count in emergencies. To aid safety personnel in finding your home, residents are encouraged to purchase a 911 House Numbering Sign made of blue metal background and large white reflective numbers.



A \$15 fee is required with proceeds benefiting the Jackson Township Safety Forces Associations. On-line registration forms are available under the Fire Department's program section at jacksonstp.com, or send this form to: Jackson Firefighter's Association, 8500 Traphagen N.W., Massillon, OH 44646

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

House Number: _____

House Number Placement: Vertical Horizontal