

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

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Fall/Winter 2019



MEET YOUR NEW TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR WELCOME MARK POTTS



On May 24, 2019, Franklin Township welcomed Mark Potts as your new Township Administrator. The Township is very fortunate to have found Mark. He has a long career in and around state, county and local government. After graduating from the Ohio State University in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Mark worked at the Ohio House of Representatives as an aide to various members of the legislature, ultimately serving as lead staff member for the House Insurance Committee. After moving on from the House, Mark served as the Legislative Policy Analyst for the County Auditors' Association of Ohio. He later served as the Chief Deputy County Auditor in Delaware County, the Legislative Liaison for the Ohio Department of Aging and the Director of Government Relations for the Office of the Franklin County Auditor. We are pleased to announce Mark as your new Franklin Township Administrator.



HAPPY RETIREMENT to Tom (Tommy) Chesshir

Tom Chesshir retired on August 29, 2019 after dedicating 17 years to the residents of Franklin Township. Tom played a vital role as a team lead on the Road Department. Tom's ability to make a complicated project into something the whole road crew would get excited about and get behind is a true talent. There are no words to reflect how much we will miss working with Tom. It's hard to imagine our workplace without him. We want to thank Tom for being a tireless professional, a helpful coworker, and a good friend. Now it's time for him to relax.

THE LOSS OF A TOWNSHIP PIONEER

Juanita Kaufman

Everyone who attended the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on July 25th, 2019 was saddened by the news of the passing of Franklin Township resident and community advocate Juanita Kaufman. For more than two decades Ms. Kaufman coordinated the annual National Night Out event as well as the Eastfield/Westfield (including Eastbrook and Westbrook) block watch captain. While Kaufman did not have a physical presence at the 2019 National Night Out event on August 6, 2019, her legacy remains. This year's event hosted over 400 individuals who enjoyed an evening of food, fun and friends. Ms. Kaufman will be missed but the foundation she has left behind will forever be in our hearts.



STAY CALM and RECYCLE



Franklin Township and SWACO are diligently working together to improve the recycling rate within the Township. The organizations are partnering together through various initiatives, including providing areas to drop off recyclable material. Township residents can utilize the SWACO Drop-Off Recycling containers located at the Township Hall at 2193 Frank Road and at Fire Station 192 at 4100 Sullivant Avenue. Remember, please drop-off only SWACO approved materials, which are paper and cardboard, plastic bottles and jugs, glass bottles and jars, metal cans and cartons.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

From the Desk of the Police Chief



Greetings residents of Franklin Township, the holiday season will be upon us in no time. Here are a few tips to remember;

- Have packages delivered to an address where someone will be or have a trusted neighbor keep an eye out and pick them up.
- Do not leave packages or personal items like purses or phones visible in your car while you shop.
- Be on the lookout for suspicious persons in the neighborhood that appear to be up to no good, it's always better to be safe and just call the police to have it checked out. Always be vigilant and God Bless

Speed Cameras: Franklin Township is currently using the speed camera technology to enforce violations in the school zones only, remember to watch for the yellow flashing lights. If you're not sure if the school zone is active you should drive at 20mph.

Recognition: On August 22, 2019 we recognized officers Jeff Francies, Norm Baldwin, Deputies McKee and Carter for attempting life saving measures on the victim of a motorcycle accident on US 62 east of Frank Rd.

New Signs to Bring Safety Awareness:



You will notice that Franklin Township has a few new signs being placed around. The first sign is the new block watch signs and the second is a speed awareness sign (Drive Like Your Kids Live Here). Both of these signs are an attempt at educating our residents/drivers on neighborhood engagement and to slow down, the life you save could be your own.

On August 21, Trustees Horn and Fleshman joined myself as we partnered with the Jordan Reiser Foundation to clean up some of the alleys in the Broadlawn area. The Township is also partnering with the Community Clean Up Crew a pilot program through Franklin County to assist with additional projects at minimal cost to the Township.



A new home for the Police Department



The Police Department now has a stand alone building to house the growing police department located just east of the Fire Department on Frank Road. Lt. Ratliff devoted a great deal of time to find the best deals possible on modular buildings, contractors to complete the renovations, furniture and other items. Overall, Lt. Ratliff saved the township thousands of dollars on the project compared to the cost of a new modular building or a new build. Special thanks to the Road Department for saving the Township thousands of dollars by preparing the land prior to the installation of the modular.

From the Desk of the Road Superintendent



LEAF COLLECTION October 28th – December 6th 2019 (Contingent on weather)

Rake all leaves out into the grassy easement area near the edge of the road (between street and sidewalk where applicable).

Keep all leaves out of the street and away from storm drains.

Do not pile leaves around mailboxes, utility poles or fire hydrants.

Do not mix tree trimmings with leaves as this will damage the equipment and clog the leaf vac.

Do not mix building material with leaves.

The Township will collect leaves in bulk piles or PAPER YARD BAGS only. Leaves will not be collected if placed in plastic bags, or trash bins.

BRUSH COLLECTION

Brush collection will continue throughout the week, please call 614-279-9411 ext. 1 to leave a message with the address of where the brush can be picked up.

SNOW REMOVAL

Successful snow removal is contingent upon many things and the Road Department needs your help.

Please help your Road Department to properly and safely clear the snow from the roadway by parking all vehicles off of the roadway prior to an upcoming snow event. We ask that everyone pay close attention to weather forecasts and changing weather conditions. If you live in a curbed area on the side of the street where there are signs posted stating "No Parking During Snow Event" we ask that you abide by these signs. Your cooperation will avoid a citation and towing. Vehicles are towed at the owner's expense.

We all take pride in how clean and safe our township roads are during a winter weather event, and your help and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

A New Salt Barn Coming Soon

The Township is working diligently to beat the winter weather by contracting to have a new salt barn built at the south end of the Township property on Frank Road. This new building will be able to store more salt and be more efficient than the existing building. Much thanks to your Road Department for their contribution in making the salt barn possible.

Tire Collection October 26, 2019



The annual tire collection day will be held on October 26, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 2193 Frank Road.



From the Desk of the Fire Chief

Greetings from your Fire Department: I hope everyone has had a fun and pleasurable summer. Now that summer is winding down and we are getting ready for the fall and winter seasons, I would like to talk briefly about the Ohio Open Burning Rules.

When I took office over four years ago I decided that the Fire Department did not need to be issuing "Burning Permits". My decision was based on the fact the township does not hold the ultimate authority on open burning. The regulations are based primarily on the Ohio EPA regulations. There are two categories of the Ohio EPA regulations that affect Franklin Township residents and the two fires we get questioned about most often. The first concern is residential waste fires; the below guidelines are the proper ways to burn rubbish:

Residential Waste Fires are permitted as:

- Plant matter such as tree trimmings, stumps, brush, weeds, leaves, grass, shrubbery and crop residues.
- Also wastes such as wood or paper products that are generated by one-, two-, or three-family residences.
- Fire must be more than 1,000 feet from neighbor's inhabited building.
- Request permission from Ohio EPA if pile greater than 10 ft. x 10 ft. x 10 ft. This may take two weeks

Information on the *PROPER* way to have an outside fire is below:

Campfires and Cookout Fires (No notifications to the EPA is required outside of city limits)

- Wood stack no larger than 2 ft. high x 3 ft. wide.
- Use clean, seasoned firewood or equivalent.
- Any open burning shall be attended the entire time and shall not last more than 3 hours.
- Fires shall not be within 50' of any structure *OFC 307.4.1*
- For more information on Opening Burning see <http://www.epa.ohio.gov>

The Fire Department does have the authority to extinguish any fires that do not follow the Ohio EPA Rules or any fire that becomes offensive or objectionable. *OFC 307.1*

Although the township does not issue the penalties, the Ohio EPA has strict penalties if they get involved with open burning complaints. The penalty could result in an "Unclassified Felony" charge and up to a \$25,000 fine.

Also remember if you need to get rid of tree branches or cut trees, the township Road Department will pick these items up at the street. Call the Township Office to schedule a free pick up at 614-279-9411!

If you have any further questions about Open Burning feel free to give me a call at 614-279-9411 or stop in to see me. Please be careful and thoughtful about fires and enjoy the fall and winter seasons.

James Welch
Fire Chief

Ohio Revised Code Section 505.07(a) permits the use of public funds for newsletters.

Monthly Block Watch Schedule



- Eastfield/Westbrook Area: **3rd Mon.**
- Ongaro Area – **online/as needed**
- Hart Road: **3rd Tues.**
- Broadlawn/Mon-E-Bak/ElPaso Drive: **last Weds.**
- Havenwood Apartments: **As Requested by Management**

Contact the Township Office if you are interested in establishing a new block watch or information on existing block watch locations and current block watch captains information.

2019 Juanita Kaufman Award Recipient

Patricia Davis with Trustees Aryeh Alex, Ralph Horn, and John Fleshman.



2019 Franklin Township Scholarship Awards:

Congratulations goes to Franklin Heights & Westland HS graduates Len Thang, Mumino Pemba and Wesley Estep each receiving a \$1000.00 scholarship towards their college education. Each has been accepted at the Ohio State University.



National Drug Take Back Day
October 26, 2019
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

This day is meant to engage participation in DEA's Take Back Day, and to educate about the disposal of any unwanted, unused or expired prescription medications in your home. Bring your unwanted medicine (prescription and over-the-counter) to 2193

2019-2020 fall & winter Franklin Township Business Meeting Schedule



- 2019 October: 3rd & 30th 2020 January: 9th, & 23rd
- 2019 November: 14th 2020 February: 6th & 20th
- 2019 December: 12th 2020 March: 5th & 19th



Franklin Township Beggar's Night

Thursday, October 31, 2019
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm



Franklin Township Directory

Township Departments

Fire Department

Fire Department Emergency.....911

Fire Chief James Welch

Asst. Fire Chief Charles (Chas) Adams

Fire Prevention: Captain Todd Broecker

Station 192.....614-278-4660

4100 Sullivant Ave., Columbus, 43228

Equipment: Engine 192, Medic 192,

Foam Truck 199,

Station 193.....614-279-9411

2193 Frank Rd, Columbus, 43223

Equipment: Engine 193, Medic 193

Road Department – 614-279-9411 x1007

Superintendent, Jim Stevens

2193 Frank Road, Columbus, 43223

Police Department

Police Department Emergency911

Non-emergency Dispatch.....614-525-3333

Chief Byron Smith - 614-279-9411 x1006

2193 Frank Road, Columbus, 43223



Elected Officials

Aryeh Alex, Trustee: 614-594-9789
Serving term 01/01/18 – 12/31/22

John Fleshman, Trustee 614-272-8595
Serving Term 01/01/18 – 12/31/22

Ralph Horn, Trustee: 614-279-6833
Serving term 01/01/16 – 12/31/19

Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer: 614-279-9411
Serving term 04/1/16 – 03/31/20

Office Staff – 614-279-9411

Mark Potts, Administrator

Robyn Watkins, Asst. Fiscal Officer

Erin Crome, Secretary