



# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



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October 2017

Dear Township Resident,

Many of you are hesitant about voting for HomeRule. However, this November 7, 2017, the Franklin Township Board of Trustees has put **LIMITED HOMERULE** (O.R.C. chapter 504) on the ballot. Limited HomeRule gives the township NO MORE control than what the County has already put in place. It **does** give the board the authority to respond quicker to many of your concerns and problems within the township versus going through Franklin County.

With a **YES VOTE** and the passage of Limited HomeRule will result in **NO ADDITIONAL COST** to the residents of Franklin Township. The passage of Limited HomeRule Will enhance the ability of Franklin Township to promote economic development in both the Westland area and throughout the township, **INCREASE the safety** of our neighborhoods and township, and respond to your concerns within the township within a timely manner.

With **LIMITED HOMERULE:**

1. **Trustees cannot** create new laws which conflict with Ohio’s general laws;
2. **Trustees cannot** create new taxes except for those already authorized;  
(all levies **must** be voted on by the residents)
3. **Trustees cannot** change or modify the structure of government;
4. **Trustees cannot** define criminal offenses or impose criminal penalties;
5. **Trustees cannot** impose fines or other than authorized under O.R.C. 504;
6. **Trustees cannot** establish or revise building standards or building codes;
7. **Trustees cannot** adopt regulations affecting the possession, use or sale of firearms;
8. **Trustees cannot** invoke an income tax on residents or businesses;
9. Does allow the trustees to create incentive programs to attract new businesses;
10. Does allow the trustees to pass local Resolutions to help clean up and revitalize our community;

Limited HomeRule will ultimately be decided on by the residents, not the elected officials.

With your help, we can make Franklin Township a better place to live for many years to come.

We will have 2 open discussion meetings to answer ANY and ALL of your questions and concerns about Limited HomeRule.

**WHERE:** Central Baptist Church – 1955 Frank Rd

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 12 at 6:30pm **and** Thursday, October 26 at 6: 30pm

We hope to see you all there!

## Franklin County Sheriff Baldwin’s Community Star

Juanita Kaufman has been a staple in Franklin township and with her 20 years of service with National Night Out she was awarded the "Franklin County Sheriff Baldwin’s Community Star".

From Sheriff Dallas Baldwin: I would like to express my gratitude to Juanita Kaufman for your enduring commitment to the community of Franklin Township. Your dedication is evident as a founding member of the Westfield Neighborhood Block Watch and taking the lead coordinating the National Night Out Celebration for the last 20 years.

It was my pleasure meeting you for the first time at the recent National Night Out event and knew right away you were very special. Your tenacity and positive outlook surrounded you and is infectious to everyone you meet. I also hope to try one of your incredibly good popcorn balls that you make by hand and give out to kids during Halloween. Your positive outlook and lifelong commitment to the residents of Franklin Township does not go unnoticed and that is why this month you have been chosen as the “Franklin County Sheriff Baldwin’s Community Star”

CONGRATULATIONS Juanita Kaufman



# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT UPDATES



## Fire Department News

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 season, I would like to talk briefly about the Ohio Open Burning Rules.

When I took office a couple of 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 way 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 any type of wood, the township Road Department will pick up your waste at the street. Call the Township Office to schedule a free pick up!

If you have any further questions about Open Burning feel free to give me a call or stop in to see me. Please be careful and thoughtful about fires and enjoy the Fall Season!

James Welch  
Fire Chief



## Police Department News

We will be participating in the **Drug Take Back** program sponsored by the DEA again this year. We will be accepting (dry) pills, needles (in sharps containers ONLY) and liquid medicines.

**WHERE: Franklin Township, 2193 Frank Rd**

**WHEN: Saturday, October 28 at 9am-2pm**

The police department has hired the 11th full time officer and will be back to 24 hours a day 7 days a week coverage by the end of 2017. There are currently officers on the street from 7am until 3am. The Franklin County Sheriff's Office is currently handling calls from 3am until 7am.

There will be a link on the township website for residents to log a complaint such as a speeding issue, drug complaints and other concerns. As always, we are trying to use your tax dollars in the most efficient way possible to give you, the resident, the best service possible.

Byron Smith  
Police Chief

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT UPDATES



## Road Department News

### Leaf Collection: October 30, 2017 thru December 4, 2017

Autumn will soon be here and we will all be dealing with leaves. Please rake leaves to the grassy area between the street and the sidewalk or to the edge of your lawn. Please do not pile them up around your Mailbox or Power Pole. Please make sure that there is no Trash Debris mixed into the Leaf Piles or any kind of Building Material. Please keep leaves out of the street and away from storm drain inlets. Leaves left in streets get blown by wind and carried by rainwater to the nearest street drains and cause street flooding. Leaves will be collected if you wish to use paper lawn bags but will not be collected if resident uses plastic bags.

### Brush Collection

We will continue to pick up Brush on Monday's. If you have a collection needed during the week please call to the office 614-279-9411 (ext. 1) and leave your address on the recording.

### Snow Removal

Please help your Road Dept. to be able to properly and safely clear the Snow from the Roadway by parking your vehicle off the roadway if you know that a Snow Event is coming. We ask for your help in this matter by paying attention to Weather Forecasts and changing conditions. If you live in a curbed area and on the side of the street where there are (No Parking if 2" Inches of Snow has accumulated) signs posted, please abide by these signs to keep from receiving a citation. The Police Dept. will be strongly enforcing towing in these areas during snow event. Vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.

### Christmas Tree Pickup

After the Christmas season is over, please place your live cut Christmas tree out on your normal trash collection day and it will be picked up by **Local Waste**. To assure that there is no damage done to the equipment, please make sure that all lights, ornaments, and tinsel are removed.



## Juanita Kaufman Award

Ed Seger is this year's recipient of the:

### *Juanita Kaufman Award*

Ed has resided in Franklin Township for more than 50 years. Ed not only lives within the Township, he was one of our Township trustees. Many days you will see Ed riding his bicycle picking up trash and debris from the Township streets.



He believes in a simple approach that everything should be recycled, re-used and living a green life-style.

*Congratulations Ed Seger*

## National Night Out

This year we had over 500 residents in attendance and our greatest year ever. Thank you again goes to Juanita Kaufman for her 20+ years of service to National Night Out and her Eastfield/Westfield Block Watch for putting together a wonderful evening of events.



A special thank you to the many donors, sponsors and volunteers who helped with so many things to making our National Night Out the success it was.

Don't forget to come out and vote on  
**November 7, 2017**



**EVERY VOTE COUNTS**  
 and your vote does make a difference!

**SWAC Meeting Dates for 2017**

SWAC is the abbreviation for the Columbus City Area Commission that covers portions of the southern end of our Township, SWAC stands for Southwest Area Commission. Its boundaries are the railroad tracks just west of 3C highway on the west, Mound Street on the north, Interstate 71 South on the east, and I-270 on the south. This area encompasses land that lays 50% in Columbus, 40% in Franklin Township, and 10% in Jackson Township.

The meetings are held at 1665 Harrisburg Pike the third Wednesday of the month starting at 7p.m., but are subject to change. For the latest information on dates and times for the meetings view their web site at:

<http://www.columbuswac.org/home.html>

**2017 Franklin Township  
 Business Meeting Schedule**

Township meetings are held bi-weekly on Thursday nights at 6:30p.m. at 2193 Frank Rd.

October 5    October 19    November 2    November 16    November 30    December 14    December 28

**Franklin Township Directory**

**Fire Department Emergency ..... 911**  
**Fire Chief James Welch..... 614-279-9411**  
 4100 Sullivant Ave., Columbus, 43228  
 Houses; Engine 192, Medic 192  
 Foam Truck 199, Total of 32 Full-time  
 Firefighting Personnel in both houses.

**Station 193 ..... 614-279-9411**  
 2193 Frank Rd, Columbus, 43223  
 Houses: Engine 193, Medic 193

**Fire/EMS Inspector/Investigator**  
 Contact Number..... **614-279-9411**

**Fire Prevention Bureau**  
 Captain Todd Broecker ..... **614-279-9411**

**Commercial Building Department**  
 Jessica Rice ..... **614-279-9411**  
 Captain Todd Broecker..... **614-279-9411**

**Road Department**  
**Supervisor, Jim Stevens**  
 Four Person crew ..... **614-279-9411**  
 2193 Frank Road, Columbus 43223

**Police Department Emergency .....911**  
**Non-emergency Dispatch ..... 614-525-3333**  
**Police Chief Smith ..... 614-279-9411**

**Headquarters**  
 2193 Frank Road, Columbus, 43223  
 Total of 6 full-time Police Officers

**Local Waste..... 614-409-9375**

**Franklin County Offices**  
 Public Health ..... **614-525-3160**  
 Trash ..... **614-525-4539**  
 Tall grass/weeds ..... **614-279-9411**  
 Environmental Control Task Force (Nail a  
 Dumper) ..... **614-871-5322**

**Zoning ..... 614-525-5627**  
 150 South Front Street, Suite 10

**Engineers ..... 614-525-3072**  
 970 E. Broad Street

**Board of Trustees:**

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

**John Fleshman, Trustee 614-272-8595**  
 Serving term 01/01/14 – 12/31/17

**Don Cook, Trustee: 614-272-2094**  
 Serving term 01/01/14 – 12/31/17

**Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer: 614-279-9411**  
 Serving term 04/1/16 – 03/31/19

**Erin Crome**  
**Secretary 614-279-9411**

**Jessica Rice 614-279-9411**

**Board of Elections: 614-525-3100**  
**Animal Control: 614-525-3400**  
**Prosecutors Office: 614-525-3520**  
**Juvenile Bureau: 614-525-3355**

[www.franklin-township.com](http://www.franklin-township.com)



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**Reflective House Number Signs**

Reflective house number signs (18" x 6") can be purchased at the Township Business Office. The signs are aluminum with a green reflective background and white reflective numbers. Signs can be mounted either horizontally or vertically and with numbers on both sides. The cost is \$10.00 per sign, \$0.25 per number.