



# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



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April 2017

This February after a long process the township tore down 3 blighted home in the mon-e-bak area. The homes included 3519 Plainview Dr. 3698 Plainview Dr. and 3255 Dover Rd. The road crew did a great job getting the homes down quickly. Mother nature is not cooperating with us so we can finish with the fill dirt and seeding the lots but as soon as the weather breaks we will be back at it. The crew with Elite Excavating has been a huge help to us while we were in the area. They are currently working on the sanitary sewage in mon-e-bak and were able to help us tremendously.

With the help of the Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation the township is in the process of taking ownership of 1248 Tedco Dr., 462 Hart Rd., 1439 Little Ave., 462 Prospect and 1820 Eastfield Dr. N. After the township has ownership of the properties they will be demolished or sold as is. More information to come concerns those parcels in the near future. Our plan is to continue to work diligently on the blighted homes in the township.



Juanita Kaufman is an amazing 95-year-old woman. She is absolutely one of the best community activists one could ask for! She has lived in Franklin Township her whole adult life. Franklin Township appreciates Juanita so much, they made the first Tuesday of every August “Juanita Kaufman Day”, to coincide with National Night Out, since 2008. She has vigorously advocated for our Township, from the several Block Watches she has helped form, to the popcorn balls she hand makes and gives out every Halloween.

Juanita has headed up Franklin Township’s National Night Out for the past 20 years. This year she could really use your help. National Night Out is a time where the community gets a chance to meet, and have fun with our wonderful Police Officers and Fire Fighters. There are games, food, face painting, and music! It’s a wonderful event, fun for the whole family! If you would like to contribute in any way, please contact the Franklin Township Office at: 614-279-9411.



Because of Juanita’s passion, efforts, sweat, and tears, there is now an award named after her. This award is for those who have given much time, effort, and love to the community. If you feel you know someone like this, please nominate them by either coming into the Franklin Township Office to pick up a form, or by going to our website at [www.Franklin-Township.com](http://www.Franklin-Township.com). Click on the “community information”, and you will see her beautiful picture. You can click on the link to nominate the candidate you feel worthy of such a prestigious award. Nominations are due to the township office no later than June 30, 2017.

We look forward to your help, and your company at National Night Out, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at 6:00pm. It will be held at the Central Baptist Church 1955 Frank Road.

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT UPDATES

## Police Department News

In Feb 2015 due to the decline of state monies and the police levy bringing in an average of 10% less each year the board of trustees voted to lay off 4 full time police officers. This left staffing of (6) full time officers including the chief. It was determined that with a staffing level that low it was only possible to staff (1) shift safely. The Franklin County sheriff's office handled **ONLY high priority** calls when our officers were off. All other calls for service were referred to the township when an officer was available.

In Feb 2016 after negotiating an agreement with the FOP, we were able to hire (6) part time officers. These officers worked approximately 1 to 2 (8) hour shifts per week. This enabled us to begin working (2) shifts; 8am to 4pm and 4pm to midnight. The length of this agreement will expire July 1, 2018 with the understanding that we would put on a levy and return to a minimum of (11) full time officers.

The township will be placing a 5 year temporary police levy on the ballot this May 2, 2017. An open informational meeting will be held at Central Baptist Church on Thurs April 13 at 6PM. The church is located at 1955 Frank Rd, Columbus OH 43223. Township and police administration will be on hand to answer any questions that you may have. For questions or comments please call Chief Byron Smith at 614-279-9411.

The police department is currently working with and assisting several block watches in the township. The current block watches are the Ongaro area, mon-e-bak area, Broadlawn area, and Eastfield Dr. area.

We are always looking to assist and set up additional block watches, for information please contact Chief Smith at 614-279-9411.



## Road Department News

**Road Safety:** We are coming into the warm weather months when there will be projects going on along the roadway, please take it upon yourself to give the road workers enough clear distance and abide by the warning signs to make our "work zones" a safe place to work.

**License Taxes:** A portion of your license taxes goes to Franklin Township, which is used for roadwork. Please make sure that your license agency has your license plates entered into taxing district #2568. Otherwise, your license taxes go to another entity.

**House Bill 50 – Grass cutting:** As we move into grass cutting season it is important to remind residents that you are required to maintain your properties to 8" or less in height. Failure to maintain your property forces the Township to get involved. Not only does it drag down the property values and attracts mosquitoes, mice, and other animals, it ends up being costly to the owner with the costs associated with the clean-up that become liens on the property tax duplicate.

## STORM WATER RUNOFF AND POLLUTION MANAGEMENT

With the Warm Weather and Summer months upon us we all need to make sure that we are doing our part to prevent Storm Water Runoff Pollution from entering our Waterways. A rule to always remember is that all of our Storm Drains eventually end up in a local Waterway (Creek or River). These pollutants harm the Wildlife and also pose a threat to our Drinking Water. We all contribute to water pollution and we can reduce this pollution by practicing good stewardship at home. There are many ways that Residents of Franklin Township can do their part to reduce these harmful pollutants, here are a few examples:

- 1 – If you have a household sewage treatment system (Septic System or Aerator) make sure this it is functioning properly.
- 2 – If you fertilize your lawn, read the Labels and do your research to ensure proper application and timing. Sweep up any Fertilizer from Sidewalks, Driveways and other hard surfaces so that it doesn't wash into a Storm Drain.
- 3 – Keep lawn and yard waste (raked leaves, yard clippings, etc.) out of the street and backyard streams. Remember, Storm Drains discharge directly into our Streams and Creeks.
- 4 – Pick up Pet Waste and dispose of it properly.
- 5 – Wash your car in an area where the wash and rinse drains to a grassy area and not into the street, or wash it at a commercial car wash.
- 6 – Install practices that infiltrate rain water into the ground such as Rain Barrels and cisterns that store water that can be reused. Directions for building Rain Barrels can be picked up at our Township Office.



## Fire Department News

I would love to say “Welcome to Spring”, but it’s Ohio and we all know that when you don’t get Winter in Winter, you get Winter in Spring. Let’s all hope that Spring arrives sooner than later!

With a change in the clocks, please remember to replace your smoke detector batteries. They should be changed twice a year; when we “fall back” and “spring forward” for daylight savings time.



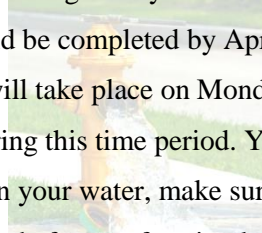
Over the past two years, your fire department has given out and installed over 300 smoke detectors to the residents of Franklin Township. However, we want to make sure that *EVERY* residence in Franklin Township has working smoke detectors. Franklin Fire has officially partnered with the Red Cross of Ohio to start a “Smoke Detector Initiative” throughout the Township. The Initiative officially kicks off on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and is a “no cost” to our residents. Your firefighters will be joined by the Red Cross in going door-to-door throughout areas of the Township to install smoke detectors. We will be visiting the Ongaro and North Hague Ave neighborhoods on April 1<sup>st</sup>. After that, our firefighters will go out once a month to a different neighborhood to install smoke detectors. Our goal is to knock on every door of the Township and make sure a working smoke detector is available. If you would like a smoke detector, and we haven’t knocked on your door yet, please call Captain Todd Broecker at (614) 279-9411 ext. 2309 to schedule a time for the firefighters to install a smoke detector in your home. We have seen a decrease in fire related deaths and injuries over the past few years, and we hope to continue that trend.

Once again, we want to thank you for your support of the hardworking members of Franklin Township Fire Department. Without you, we wouldn’t be here, and we do not take that responsibility lightly. I hope that you will continue to support your safety services; a strong fire and police department helps keep a safe and strong Franklin Township. Stay safe and have a great Spring.

~ Assistant Chief Chas Adams



We will be flushing fire hydrants starting on April 10th and should be completed by April 20th. Hydrant flushing will take place on Mondays through Thursdays during this time period. You may notice a discoloration in your water, make sure you have clear water before performing laundry.



Franklin Township Professional Fire Fighters Local 1441 and Healthy Kids Running Series have partnered to bring the Healthy Kids Running Series to the Westside of Columbus. Our goal is to provide kids with a positive, educational and fun experience in the world of running.

The Healthy Kids Running Series is a 6 weeks running program for children pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Participants will compete in foot races of age appropriate distances ranging from 50 yards to 1 mile in length. The race series begins on April 23, 2016. All races will take place at Westgate Park, 455 S Westgate Avenue. Races will all be run on consecutive Sunday evenings, with the exception of Mother’s Day, starting promptly at 5:00 pm. The fastest boy and girl in each distance at the end of the series will receive a trophy. All participants receive a T shirt and swag bag courtesy of our local sponsors.

For more information and to register your runners go to <http://www.healthykidsrunningseries.org> and select Columbus OH in the locations or look us up on Facebook at Healthy Kids Running Series-Columbus, OH.



## 2017 Franklin Township Business Meeting Schedule

Township meetings are held bi-weekly on Thursday nights at 6:30p.m. at 2193 Frank Rd. Our next meetings are April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19, June 2 and June 16, 2017.

## 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>

## THE SWACO 2017 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates and Times:

### April 22 - 8 am to 2 pm

Ashland Chemical Inc.  
5200 Blazer Parkway  
Dublin, OH 43017

### May 13 - 8 am to 2 pm

Ohio History Center  
800 East 17th Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43211

### September 9 - 8 am to 2 pm

Westerville Service Dept.  
350 Park Meadow Road  
Westerville, OH 43081

### September 30 - 8 am to 2 pm

Grove City Service  
Department  
3262 Ventura Boulevard  
Grove City, OH 43123

### HHW Facility Information

645 E. 8th Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio 43201  
(The corner of E. 8th and Essex  
Avenue)  
Phone: 614-294-1300



# 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

Melissa Schopp.....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:

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

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

**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 – 03/31/19

**Melissa Schopp,** 614-279-9411  
**Administrative Assistant**

**Board of Elections:** 614-525-3100

**Animal Control:** 614-525-3400

**Prosecutors Office:** 614-525-3520

**Juvenile Bureau:** 614-525-3355

### 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.