



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



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July 2016

Abandoned houses and cars oh my!



Some of those eye sores that have plagued our township for too long are now going to become extinct. With the with help of Central Ohio Community Improvement Corporation (COCIC) we are excited to say we have begun the process of tearing down 5 abandoned homes in the township. Abandoned cars must meet 3 criteria to be removed from private property by the township. Three model years; or older, apparently inoperable, and extensively damaged. Keep in mind that it is a process and that homes and cars just won't start disappearing, but we are embarking on this process with dedication and the township residents in mind.



Saturday, October 22, 2016

On Saturday, April 30th we had our first Township Clean up day. Thanks to you it was a success!!! Despite the early afternoon rain we collected over 200 tires, and several pounds of expired prescription medication. With the help of Goodwill we collected over three giant bins of e-waste that will be recycled. Boy Scouts were on hand to help with traffic, tires, e-waste and recycled materials. They were a huge help! If you missed our spring clean up you are in luck we are having a fall clean up day on October 22, 2016. Check our website for more information coming late summer.

What is Home Rule??

Self-government in local affairs by the citizens of a local political unit. Government of a place (such as a country or territory) by the people who live there instead of by another country.

- Limited Home Rule does **not** give Trustees the ability to enact taxes other than those authorized by general law.
- Limited Home Rule does **not** give Trustees the ability to revise building codes, and other standard codes except as provided in the O.R.C.
- Limited Home Rule does **not** give Trustees the ability to conflict state laws.
- Limited Home Rule does **not** give Trustees the ability to create criminal offenses
- Limited Home Rule does **not** give Trustees the ability to impose civil fines otherwise instructed by the O.R.C.
- Limited Home Rule does **not** give Trustees the ability to conflict state laws.
- Limited Home Rule gives Trustees increased ability to address quality of life issues that affect Township residents.
- Limited Home Rule allows our Trustees to create incentive programs to attract new businesses.
- Limited Home Rule will allow Trustees to pass local Resolutions to help cleanup and revitalize our community.
- Limited Home Rule will ultimately be decided on by the residents, not the elected officials.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to research home rule and what it can do for our township. This issue will be on the ballot in the fall. The trustees believe home rule will grow economic development in the township and will give them the tools necessary to help Frank Township flourish and thrive well into the future.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Police Department News

Plainview Dr.

Officer recently stepped up patrol on Plainview Drive, below are the details of that extra patrol.

Arrests: 2
Traffic stops: 14
Pedestrians stopped: 6
Vehicles impounded: 7
Tickets written: 15
Warning issued: 11

We hope to be able to continue to offer more patrol to areas of known drug houses and problem areas.

False Alarm Notices

False alarm notices have been going out to residents and businesses.

False Alarms per permit year:

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| 1 – 3 | No Charge |
| 4 | \$50.00 |
| 5 | \$100.00 |
| 6 and above | \$150.00 |

Junk Cars

We are enforcing laws on junk and abandoned cars. Please call our office to report junk cars around the township. Please have the vehicle's location, make, model, color and license plate number when you call in.

Blockwatch

We are still in need of blockwatch captains in your area of the township. We can't see everything and we really need your help. We have started a few new blockwatch areas but need more! Please contact Chief Smith or Melissa Schopp at 614-279-9411 for more information.



Fire Department News



On behalf of your fire department, I would like to thank you for your time for reading this article. I would like to update you on the situations we are facing and give you an outlook on our department. Currently, we are operating in the manner as we all are used to having throughout the years. We have two fire engines and two medic units and two fire stations. One of the stations is located at 4100 Sullivant Avenue and the other at 2193 Frank Road. Both stations house an engine and medic. The fire department currently is staffed with thirty-nine firefighters.

A few years back the State of Ohio has cut, or reallocated, all of the local government funding to cities and townships in Ohio. The local government funding from the state was basically generated by taxing the inventory on businesses within our township. Franklin Township was the hardest hit township within Franklin County, losing over 20% of our budget, due to our business districts versus residential districts. The fire department is losing over a million dollars annually from our budget on a downward sliding scale. To date, we are half way through the scale of the decreasing amounts and the funding will be totally gone by 2021.

The fire department has, and will continue working with the board of trustees to find alternative income sources. So far, the fire department has obtained a federal grant to maintain eight of our firefighters through a two year period. This grant period ends in November of 2017 and we will no longer be capable of maintaining their salaries. When it comes to planning our departments' time line, this end date is basically tomorrow in my world.

Over the last three years we have attempted to place permanent tax levies on the ballot to secure more funding. We understand that the voters do not want to be obligated to a permanent situation when it comes to funding the fire department. Our response is to place a term levy on the ballot for this November in order to give the voters a decision when it is time to renew funding. For the township, this allows us to evaluate the amount of income every five years. I believe in moving forward, term levies add additional checks and balances to government operations and places our quality of service in your hands.

We are working diligently to provide the best service for the dollars we receive from you. The trustees and I are open to total transparency in our operations. Also, we are striving to become more oriented with our citizens. We would like to be present at any township community events or even block parties. If any resident would like to see the department in any way, either it be at the stations, equipment, or financially, feel free to call my office to arrange an appointment. This department is open to you, this is your township.

Chief James Welch
4100 Sullivant Ave
Columbus, Ohio 43228
614-279-1537



Road Department

Nuisance Grass, Weeds, Trash: Franklin Township Road Dept. will be enforcing the House Bill 50 Requirements again this Summer for High Grass & Weeds. These standards mirror requirements set forth in the Franklin County Public Health Regulation # 102 regarding Property Health and Sanitation, and Ohio Revised Code # 505.87 regarding the Township's authority to remove vegetation, garbage, refuse, and other debris and to assess liens on properties where action by the Township is required. As part of these new regulations, timelines for compliance has been reduced to Ten (10) days after the notice has been given. New regulations require grass to be maintained to a height not to exceed eight (8) inches. The old standard was twelve (12) inches and a Total of 21 Days after Notice has been given. Additionally, the trash regulations have not been changed in that removal from the premises by Local Waste to an authorized landfill must occur every seven (7) days. The Trustees thank you in advance for adhering to these standards. As always, if you see problem addresses not complying with these regulations, we would appreciate hearing from you to bring them to our attention. Your calls to our business office at (614) 279-9411 while selecting the Secretary option will remain confidential.

Township Brush Collection: The Township Road Dept. will continue to pick up Brush throughout the year. Please make sure that you put the brush in the Right-of-Way and not in the road way. If you have a large pile of Brush that needs picked up please call 614-279-9411, option # 1 and leave a message for the Road Dept. so we can schedule that pickup.



Juanita Kaufman Award

Do you know a resident that has a passion for volunteering? Someone who is, reliable, committed and goes above and beyond to help. Nominate them for the Juanita Kaufman Award.



Nominations are now being accepted.

Forms can be picked up at 2193 Frank Rd or printed from our website. Nominations are due by the close of business on July 12, 2015.



The spring running series was a blast, we had 60 kids participate from pre k to 8th grade we were able to provide kids with a positive, educational and fun experience in the world of running. Franklin Township Professional Fire Fighters Local 1441 and Healthy Kids Running Series have partnered again to bring the Healthy Kids Running Series to the Westside of Columbus.

Where: Westgate Park 455 S. Westgate Ave. Columbus, OH 43204

When: Fall 2016 dates are Sundays: September 18th, 25th and October 2nd, 9th & 16th. 5:00p.m.

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.



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

National Night Out is an annual community building campaign that promotes police community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

We are in need of volunteers!! Please contact Juanita Kaufman at 614-279-0002 to volunteer.

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at Central Baptist Church 1955 Frank Rd.

SWAC Meeting Dates for 2016

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.

Southwest Area Commission meetings held at New Horizon United Methodist Church; 1665 Harrisburg Pike Columbus, Ohio 43223. Meeting dates July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December no meeting.

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

THE SWACO 2016 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Dates and Times:

City of Westerville
September 10, 2016
Westerville Service Dept.
350 Park Meadow Rd.
Westerville, OH 43081
8am - 2pm

City of Grove City
October 1, 2016
Grove City Service Dept.
3262 Ventura Blvd.
Grove City, OH 43123
8am - 2pm



2016 Franklin Township Business Meeting Schedule

All meetings are at 6:30 p.m. at 2193 Frank Rd.

July 14 July 28 August 11 August 25 September 8 September 22
October 6 October 20 November 10 November 22 December 8 December 23

Franklin Township Directory

Fire Department Emergency911

Fire Chief James Welch.....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 193279-9411

2193 Frank Rd, Columbus, 43223
Houses: Engine 193, Medic 193

Fire/EMS Inspector/Investigator

Contact Number..... 279-9411

Fire Prevention Bureau

Captain Todd Broecker279-9411

Road Department

Supervisor, Jim Stevens

Four Person crew279-9411

2193 Frank Road, Columbus 43223

Road garage houses 3 dump trucks, jet-vacuum,
brush chipper, leaf vacuum, asphalt roller

Police Department Emergency 911

Non-emergency Dispatch 525-3333

Police Chief Smith 279-9411

Headquarters

2193 Frank Road, Columbus, 43223

Total of 6 full-time Police Officers

Local Waste..... 409-9375

Franklin County Offices

Public Health 525-3160

Trash..... 525-4539

Tall grass/weeds 279-9411

Environmental Control Task Force (Nail a

Dumper)..... 871-5322

Zoning..... 525-5627

150 South Front Street, Suite 10

Engineers 525-3072

970 E. Broad Street

Board of Trustees:

Don Cook, Trustee: 272-2094

Serving term 01/01/14 – 12/31/17

John Fleshman, Trustee 272-8595

Serving Term 01/01/14 – 12/31/17

Ralph Horn, Trustee: 279-6833

Serving term 01/01/16 – 12/31/19

Lisa Morris, Fiscal Officer: 279-9411

Serving term 04/1/16 – 03/31/19

Melissa Schopp, 279-9411

Business Office Administrative Assistant

Board of Elections: 525-3100

Animal Control: 525-3400

Prosecutors Office: 525-3520

Juvenile Bureau: 525-3355

www.franklin-township.com

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.