

BLENDON TOWNSHIP LATE SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Hoover Reservoir, photograph taken by Bryan Rhoads

A Message from the Trustees

These are exciting times in Blendon Township. The pandemic restrictions are disappearing, and life is beginning to look normal. Our Senior Center is open again, and our Trustee meetings are back to in-person instead of Zoom meetings.

Although the world slowed down over the last 18 months, your Trustees were busy working with the challenges created by COVID-19. One of our priorities was to obtain COVID-19 funding and distribute it to those citizens severely impacted by the pandemic. We were able to fund grant requests of over a quarter of a million dollars to our residents in need. Once we receive final clearance from the federal government, we will be able to reopen the grant program for Blendon Township.

Additionally, we are proud to announce our largest building project in Township history. Over the past year, we have been planning a new Township building that centralizes and houses the Police Department, Administrative Offices, the Senior Center and introduces a new Community Center for our residents. For years, we have been struggling with retrofitted, older buildings that have reached the end of their useful life. The new Township building will be an opportunity to revitalize our current operations and give our residents the best care and service that they deserve. Our goal is to start construction next year and complete the project without increasing property taxes.

The ability to undertake large projects is a direct result of the JEDZ program we created, with voter approval, nine years ago. The result of our forward-thinking has generated millions of dollars for the Township. Sound fiscal management has allowed the Township to increase the road program, expand our sidewalk program, foster economic development, and create a reserve to begin construction on the new building.

As we move past the pandemic, we will continue to offer fun and exciting programs for our residents! Please be sure to see our "Important Dates to Remember" section of this newsletter.

*Stew Flaherty, Jan Heichel, Jim Welch
and Fiscal Officer Shawn Smith*

We Want Your Ideas!

Sometimes the smallest things we can do for our neighborhoods can have the most significant impact.

We have always welcomed and encouraged our residents to share their visions for Blendon Township. We believe community involvement is vital. Our active participation with residents in our Community Plan provided us with numerous suggestions, such as having Blendon's own Community Center.

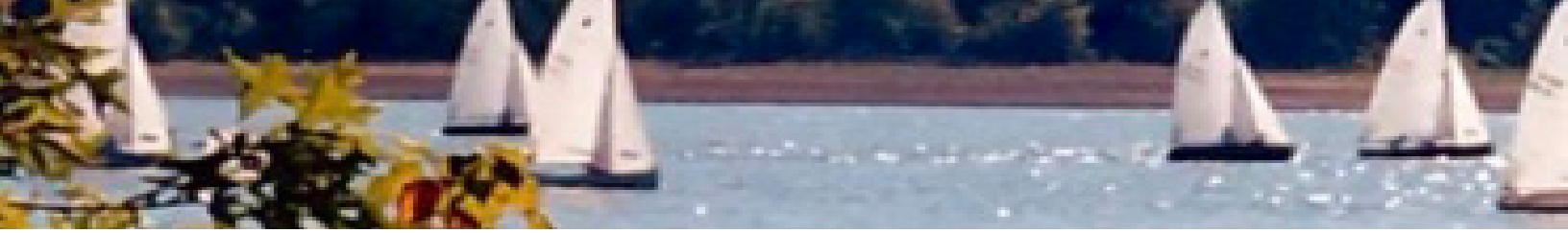
Another past suggestion from our residents was the request to have concerts in the Gazebo in Ridgewood Park. Several citizens contacted us with this idea as they watched the gazebo being built. Great minds think alike! Please continue to share your thoughts with us! We are just an email or telephone call away. Your continued input helps make this a great community!

Calendar Contest 2022



Ridgewood Park Nature Trails, photograph taken by Luis Gutierrez

A picture is worth a thousand words; help us tell the story of Blendon Township by submitting your photographs for our 2022 Annual Calendar Contest! If your photograph(s) are chosen for our calendar, you could win prizes! We will also feature some of your images in our newsletters and on our website. You can submit your photos now via email to jheichel@blendontwp.org. The submission deadline for next year's calendar is September 30, 2021.





FREE SMOKE DETECTOR INSPECTION AND INSTALLATION

in partnership with the American Red Cross

YOU CALL WE'LL INSTALL!

Nothing is more important than the safety of you and your family. That's why the Westerville Division of Fire has partnered with the American Red Cross to offer free smoke detector installations for Westerville and Blendon Township families.

If you need a smoke detector, call us today. There is no charge, and a WFD team member will install a brand new detector in your home.

Remember: Smoke detectors older than 10 years old are outdated. Replace or call today!

(614) 901-6600
www.westerville.org/fire



Station #1
400 W. Main Street

Station #2
727 S. Schrock Road

Station #3
353 N. Spring Road

Emergency
9-1-1
Non-emergency
(614) 901-6600



Vintage Baseball Game

The Ohio Village Muffins will play Blendon residents for a rematch in Ridgewood Park as part of our Heritage Day celebration. Team players for Blendon are needed! The Ohio Village Muffins of the Ohio History Connection will provide period-appropriate clothing and explain the rules of 1860 baseball. Please consider taking part in this fun game and invite your friends to join too! Blendon lost our last game with them. Would you please not let that happen this year? To sign up, contact our service director JGiamarco@blendontwp.org or call (614) 882-2673.

Blendon's Text Alert Service

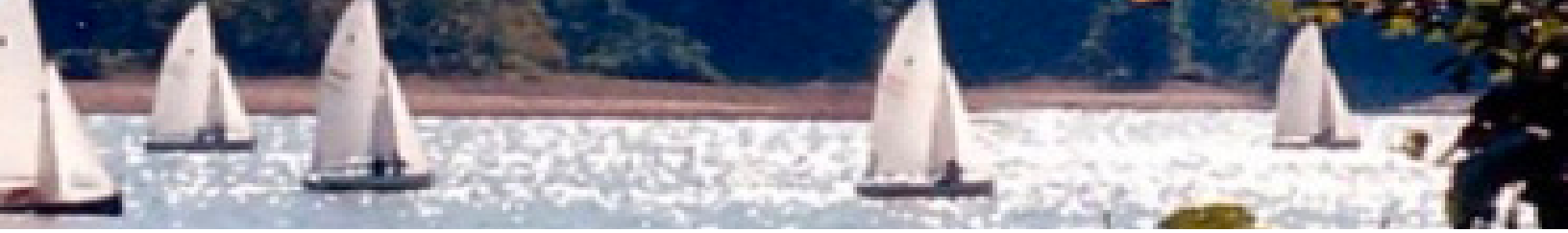
Would you like to be kept up to date with urgent Blendon Township news? Our Text Alert Service sends pressing text notifications to our residents. To sign up for our FREE TEXT ALERTS, text zbc64674 to 313131. Your registration information will never be sold or shared.

Follow Us!



Back to School Safety

Summer break for school children is ending, and soon the bells will be ringing to mark a new school year. Remember to safely share the roads with school busses, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Whether children walk, ride their bicycles, or ride a bus to school, we all must take proper safety precautions.



— 17th Annual —
BLENDON SENIOR CENTER
Car Show

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14TH ★ 10am-1:30pm
 Blendon Township Complex
 6330 S Hempstead Road, Westerville, OH 43081
Cash Prizes, Free Food, Music & Fun!

CASH PRIZES will be awarded to the best car in each category along with a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place trophy!	▶ 1940's & older	Registration: 10am-11:30pm Judging: 12:00pm \$10 per car entry For more information, please contact Charel Bowman at 614-882-1260 or cbowman@blendontwp.org
	▶ 1950's	
	▶ 1960's	
	▶ 1970's	
	▶ 1980's & newer	

Excellent Fire Protection Rating Awarded to the Blendon/Westerville Fire Department

The Blendon/Westerville Fire Department has received a Class 1 Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) rating following an evaluation and assessment of the department. ISO rates fire departments/districts on a 10-point scale, with Class 1 being the best rating and Class 10 being the worst. The announcement upgrades their rating from a Class 2, which has held steady since 2015.

ISO is a standardized, national rating system that evaluates and assigns a number on its scale regarding the condition of the communities' Fire Protection systems. Blendon/WFD is in the top 1% of departments in the nation to have earned a Class 1 designation; only 411 out of more than 48,000 fire departments hold it. In Ohio, Westerville is only one of six departments or districts to achieve the Class 1 rating.

"A better insurance rating is money saved for the residents and businesses in Westerville and Blendon Township," said Fire Chief Brian Miller. "The industry will consider this information when quoting home and business insurance rates. We are incredibly proud to have this offer to the community that we serve." The rating becomes effective September 1st, 2021.

2021 Road Resurfacing, Crack Seal, and Slurry Seal Project

Here's a look at street work planned in Blendon Township in 2021:

- Montevideo Road
- Caracas Drive
- Panama Drive
- Clybourne Road
- Lee Road
- Hollandia Court & Drive
- Carnation Drive
- Executive Parkway

During the paving operation, sections of each road will be closed or have restricted traffic and no street parking. Thank you in advance for your cooperation while we make these improvements.



Blendon/Westerville Fire Engine 112. Photograph by Bill Bixby

Important Dates to Remember

Board of Trustee Meetings

6330 Hempstead Road, 6:30 p.m. (Wednesday's unless otherwise noted)

August 4th and 18th

September 1st, 15th, and 29th

October 13th and 27th

Little Ladies Soft Serve Free Ice Cream (see article in this publication)

Saturday, August 7th 1:00-4:00 p.m., Carnation Dr. Sunbury Woods Subdivision

Sunday, August 8th 1:00-4:00 p.m., Ridgewood Park, 5484 Buenos Aires Blvd. Huber Ridge Subdivision

Senior Center's Outdoor Yard Sale

Friday, September 3rd, rain date is September 4th
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lunch will be available for purchase

Contact Charel or Amy for more information and space rental options (614) 882-1260

Coffee with the Cops

Wednesday, October 6th

Location and Time TBD

www.blendontwp.org

Senior's Craftober Fair has been cancelled

Saturday, October 9th

Community Clean-Up Days

Blendon Complex, 6330 Hempstead Road

Free Dumpster Use, Tire & Electronic Disposal

Visit www.blendontwp.org for acceptable & unacceptable materials/items for dumpster disposals.

Friday, October 1st 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 2nd 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 3rd 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Also: Saturday, October 2nd, Document Shredding 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Beggar's Night

Thursday, October 28th
6:00-8:00 p.m.



Women's Self Defense Training

Saturday, November 6th

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Blendon Senior Center, 6330 Hempstead Road

For more information or to register, visit: www.blendontwp.org

Free Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 4th

6330 Hempstead Rd, Blendon Senior Center

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Reservations are required by November 29th
(614) 882-1260 (Donations are welcome)

Heritage Day Events

Saturday, August 14th

17th Annual Car Show

 (see flier in this publication)

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Registration: 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Judging: Begins at noon

Blendon Complex, 6330 Hempstead Road

Old Time Baseball Game

3:00 p.m.

Ridgewood Park, 5484 Buenos Aires Blvd.

(see article in this publication) Players needed! 18 and over. Call (614) 882-2673 to sign up.

Family Fun

5:00-8:00 p.m.

Ridgewood Park

Bounce Houses, Face Painting, Volleyball, and Soccer

Final Summer Concert

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Ridgewood Park

Enjoy FREE hot dogs, chips, drinks, cotton candy, snow cones, face painting, bounce houses, and more!

Blendon Township's Heritage Day

Saturday, August 14th, 2021



17th Annual Car Show

Blendon Senior Center, 6330 S Hempstead Road

Registration: 10am-11:30am

Judging: 12:30pm

Entry Cost: \$10

Categories: 1940s & older, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s & newer.

Cash prizes will be awarded!



Old Time Baseball

Ridgewood Park, 5484 Buenos Aires Blvd

Begins at 3 pm

Come watch as the Ohio Village Muffins take on Blendon Township. Players 18 and over are needed! Call (614) 882-2673 to sign up.



Family Fun

Ridgewood Park

5 pm to 8 pm

There will be bounce houses, facepainting, and sports equipment for the kids to play with.



Summer Concert

Ridgewood Park

6 pm to 8 pm

Enjoy a rocking performance by **These Guys Live** and FREE hot dogs, pizza, chips, drinks, cotton candy, snow cones, face painting, and bounce houses!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Trustee, Stew Flaherty
Aqua Water
Bryan Rhoads

Trustee, Jan Heichel
Rife Autobody

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jim Welch, Chairman
Jim.Welch@blendontwp.org
(614) 306-8080

Jan Heichel, Vice Chairman
JHeichel@blendontwp.org
(614) 214-6786

Stew Flaherty, Trustee
SFlaherty@blendontwp.org
(614) 882-1270

Fiscal Officer, Shawn Smith
SSmith@blendontwp.org
(614) 882-1270

Administrator:
Bryan Rhoads
Bryan.Rhoads@blendontwp.org
(614) 839-2013

Blendon Township Office
(614) 882-1270 (admin)
(614) 423-6836 (zoning)

Cemetery Office:
(614) 882-2215

Road/Service Department:
John Giamarco, Service Director
JGiamarco@blendontwp.org

Senior Center:
Charel Bowman, Director
CBowman@blendontwp.org
(614) 882-1260

Blendon Twp. Code Enforcement:
Branch Wayt, Property Maintenance Inspector
BWayt@blendontwp.org

Police Department:
John Belford, Police Chief
JBelford@blendontwp.org
Emergency 911
Dispatcher (614) 889-9494
Office (614) 882-8500

Fire Department:
Brian Miller, Fire Chief
Brian.Miller@westerville.org
Emergency 911
Office (614) 901-6600

Other Important Phone Numbers:

Columbia Gas Company
(800) 344-4077 customer service/
emergency (including gas odor emergency)

Rumpke Waste Removal
(800) 828-8171 customer service
Email for service concerns can be sent to:
Refuse@blendontwp.org

Franklin County Building Permits
(614) 525-3166

Central OH Environmental Crimes Task Force
(614) 871-5322 or www.itsacrime.org for reporting illegal dumping of paint, oil, or other solid waste into a stream, storm drain or any other body of water.

Report Emergency Spills:

Ohio EPA 24-Hour Hot line (800) 282- 9378
Report any other water pollution to Franklin Soil & Water Conservation District
(614) 486-9613

American Electric Power
(800) 277-2177

Aqua Ohio Water Company
(877) 987-2782 or (614) 882-6586

Del-Co Water Company
Emergency/Customer Service:
(740) 548-7746
(800) 521-6779

SWACO
Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Center: 645 E. 8th Ave. Columbus, OH
(614) 871-5100 www.swaco.org

Franklin County Public Health:
For public health inquiries (614) 525-3160
For reporting failing Sewage Systems polluting the ground surface or draining into waterways, (614) 525-4787 or <http://myfcph.org/npdes>

