



Jackson Township Newsletter

FALL
2017

We make things happen!

An Message from your Jackson Township Officials

FACTS ON THE TAM O'SHANTER RE-ZONE

Editor's Note: The Jackson Township Board of Trustees has received questions regarding the Tam O' Shanter property and the recent zoning decision by the Board. The following is an explanation of the facts that existed at the time of the Boards decision. The information contained herein should not be construed as an endorsement either for or against the Tam O' Shanter rezone.

Planning and zoning in Jackson Township has many causes and effects on the Townships growth, development, economic impacts and standards of life. The zoning process must take all of those into consideration and make a decision based on the entire Township while keeping individuals rights in mind. Recently the Tam O' Shanter golf course property rezone has been in the news. We believe the Township residents need to hear the facts, reasoning and basis of the rezone by the Board of Trustees and what the residents have to gain or lose with it.



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WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF TAM O'SHANTER REZONE IS APPROVED?

- 80% of the Tam O' Shanter property (approximately 205 acres) would become permanent parks and greenspace at NO COST to Jackson residents.
- 20% of the Tam O' Shanter property (approximately 62 acres on Fulton Road) would become B1/B3, allowing such things as medical and professional offices, retail shopping and banking facilities.
- Stark Parks already has a contract in place to purchase 205 acres, preserving for our community a beautiful and permanent park with rolling open greenspace, nature, and walking, hiking and bike trails.
- 20 acres of the Tam O' Shanter property would be donated to Jackson Township Parks for use as recreational fields, including soccer and lacrosse, for our very active community.
- Money would be generated to pay for road improvements at the Fulton and Everhard intersection, and four additional surrounding intersections. This will improve traffic flow and congestion, even if there is additional traffic.

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF TAM O'SHANTER REZONE IS DENIED?

- Our community would lose 205 acres of permanent greenspace and parks.
- Up to 400 houses could be built, with no additional approval needed from our community.
- This would place heavy burdens on our schools, police and fire departments, and road services, costing taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- Our community would see increased traffic as a result of the new housing, with no tools to improve these roads. ODOT has stated they WILL NOT provide money or road improvements in this area.

Jackson Township Fire Department News



Tracy R. Hogue, Fire Chief

When you read my “Chief’s article” I am sure your thoughts will be the same as mine were while writing for the Jackson Township Fall newsletter, “Where did the year 2017 go”? Although I do not have an answer, I can give you some tips to keep you and your family safe for the remainder of this year.

THANKSGIVING: Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve. In 2014, nearly four times as many home cooking fires occur on Thanksgiving as on a typical day. U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,730 home cooking fires on Thanksgiving. Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths. Cooking equipment was involved in almost half (48%) of all reported home fires and with heating equipment for the second leading cause of home fire deaths.

CHRISTMAS: Carefully decorating your home can help make your holidays safer. Between 2009-2014, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 210 home fires each year that started with Christmas trees. U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 860 home structure fires per year that began with decorations, excluding Christmas trees. Christmas trees are combustible items that become increasingly flammable as they

continue to dry out in your home. Nearly 40 percent of home fires that begin with Christmas trees occur in January. Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur they are much more likely to be serious.

Decorations are a part of many celebrations and holiday observances. Unfortunately, fire safety is sometimes overlooked when putting up your holiday decorations. Decoration fires peak in December.

Did you know that candles are the heat source in 38% of the holiday fires? When your decorations are placed too close to a heat source, such as candles, this can be a potential fire hazard. December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. It is very important to never put candles on a Christmas tree. When used improperly, a candle can cause significant loss of life, injury and loss of property.

National estimates of reported home structure fires derived from the U.S. Fire Administration’s National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and NFPA’s annual fire department experience survey show that in 2009-2013, decorations, excluding Christmas trees, were the item first ignited in an estimated average of 860 reported home structure fires per year, resulting in an annual average of one civilian fire death, 41 civilian fire injuries, and \$13.4 million in direct property damage.

If you would like more fire safety information or schedule any of our public education events call the Jackson Fire Prevention Bureau at 330-834-3951. On behalf of your fire department, we wish you a happy and fire safe holiday season.



Fire Chief Tracy R. Hogue

FIREFIGHTER REUNION DINNER 2017



The Jackson Township Fire Department (JTFD) responded to their first fire call on October 13, 1953, which was a swamp fire on Huckleberry Road. The first building fire was on December 10, 1953 on Everhard Road “west of Wise”.

At that time, the department consisted of 22 volunteer members and one fire apparatus. The rapid growth of

the township, along with the demands and service needed, forced the organization to evolve in the 72 full-time/20 part-time member department that it is today, providing both fire and emergency medic services to the residents within the community.

Each year, current and past members come together for dinner at the Lake Cable Club House. In mid-August, many stories from the past are retold to the young members from those that helped create and shape the department. Thus, providing a valuable history lesson to all that attend. Chief Tracy Hogue provided a ‘State of the Department’ address to the group. The latest and greatest pieces of equipment were shown; advances in technology, such as the improvements to the self-contained breathing apparatus used by the department were also shown, along with the latest utility truck (Truck-1).

All had a great time and the current members are extremely thankful for the heritage provided by those that came before. The hope is that they are proud



of how the department has evolved. The mission has always remained the same, “Doing what we do, in order to protect others”.

RETIREMENT

Congratulations to Fire Fighter ERIC GUNN!

Fire Fighter Gunn retired August 31, 2017 after almost 32 years of service to the Jackson Fire Department. Eric was appointed on October 28, 1985 to open Fire Station 4 as a full-time station.



*We will miss you Eric,
Enjoy your Retirement!*

RECREATIONAL FIRE GUIDELINE REMINDER

One of the primary missions of the Jackson Township Fire Department (JTFD) is to prevent unwanted or out-of-control fire situations. Having said that, the JTFD enforces the rules established by the Ohio EPA regulations regarding recreational fires; these include campfires, barbecues, and outdoor cookout fires.

These recreational fires must be:

- No larger than two (2) feet high by three (3) feet across.
- At least twenty (20) feet from any structure.
- Extinguished in less than three (3) hours.
A garden hose or portable fire extinguisher needs to be present at all times.
- Burning clean, seasoned firewood.



The burning of leaves, garbage or other waste products is strictly prohibited anywhere in Jackson Township.

Residents who choose to use a propane grill for their outdoor activities should follow these simple safety tips:



- Check the supply hose from the LP tank to the grill for leaks.
- Clean excessive grease from the cooking surface.
- Move the grill a safe distance away from your home when in use.
- Remember to shut off the LP tank valve when not in use.

If you have any questions regarding recreational fires or propane grill safety, or have fire safety concerns, please feel free to contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 330-834-3951.

Deputy Chief Tim Berczik

FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES FEDERAL GRANT

Each year the Jackson Township Fire Department applies for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) in an attempt to lessen the burden on taxpayers for purchasing needed safety equipment.

The AFG program helps fire departments obtain the equipment they need to do their jobs effectively, including protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources that help protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and other related hazards.



On July 14, 2017, the fire department was notified by FEMA that we had been awarded the AFG grant in the amount of \$339,246. The funding made available by the AFG program will allow us to purchase much-needed Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), which is a key component of firefighter personal protective equipment when entering hazardous environments. The grant funds were very timely as our current air packs, which were purchased in 2002, are worn and set to expire at the end of 2017 in accordance with National Fire Protection Association standards.

Thanks to this federal grant program award, we will be able to provide our firefighters with safe, state of the art air packs for more efficient emergency operations, and lower maintenance costs.

Deputy Chief Mike Crable

THANK YOU TO THE JACKSON ROTARY FOUNDATION

Approximately one year ago, the Jackson Township Rotary Foundation approached the Fire Department asking if there was a significant safety project that they could assist us with completing. Fire Chief Tracy Hogue immediately revealed the concern he felt as our EMS responses to violent scenes has been on the increase. Chief Hogue expressed that the department was looking for a funding source needed to purchase ballistic vests in order to further protect the crew members.

The Jackson Township Rotary Foundation graciously took on this project. Through fundraisers and Rotary grants, they were able to secure the monies needed in order to fund these vests.

(Left to right) Deputy Chief Tim Berczik, Chief Tracy Hogue, Greg Brokaw, Past President Jackson Rotary.



THANK YOU TO THE JACKSON ROTARY & PAST PRESIDENT GREG BROKAW FOR HEADING THE FUNDRAISER.

Jackson Township Police Department



Police Chief Mark Brink

HOLIDAY SHOPPING SAFETY

As we all know, the holidays are quickly approaching, and we wanted to put out these safety reminders. Your police department feels that if the safety tips listed below are followed, you will be less likely to be a target of holiday shopping related crimes.

SAFETY SHOPPING TIPS:

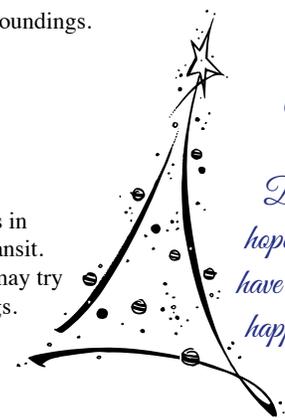
- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Make sure that if you carry both a purse and a wallet that you keep them in separate locations on your person.
- Always carry your Ohio Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- If you pay for items with cash, make sure that you have cash stored in different areas. This will prevent persons from identifying how much cash you actually have.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other rapid transit.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- Make sure that you put purchases in the trunk or attempt to cover them, so persons walking past your vehicle cannot see them.

Chief Mark Brink



If we can be of any assistance, please contact the Jackson Township Police Department at www.itpd.com or phone (330) 834-3960

Thank you, Chief Mark Brink



The Jackson Township Police Department hopes that you have a safe and happy holiday season!

TIPS FOR KEEPING YOU SAFE WHILE DRIVING IN THE SNOW

- **Accelerate and decelerate slowly.** Applying the gas slowly to accelerate is the best method for regaining traction and avoiding skids. Don't try to get moving in a hurry, and take time to slow down for a stoplight. Remember, it takes longer to slow down on icy roads.
- **Drive slowly.** Everything takes longer on snow-covered roads. Accelerating, stopping, and turning, nothing happens as quickly as on dry pavement. Give yourself time to maneuver by driving slowly.
- **The normal dry pavement following distance of three to four seconds should be increased to eight to ten seconds.** This increased margin of safety will provide the longer distance needed if you have to stop.
- **Know your brakes.** Whether you have antilock brakes or not, the best way to stop is threshold breaking. Keep the heel of your foot on the floor and use the ball of your foot to apply firm, steady pressure on the brake pedal.
- **Don't stop if you can avoid it.** There's a big difference in the amount of force it takes to start moving from a full stop versus how much it takes to get moving while still rolling. If you can slow down enough to keep rolling until a traffic light changes, do it.
- **Don't power up hills.** Applying extra gas on snow-covered roads just starts your wheels spinning. Try to get a little momentum going before you reach the hill and let that carry you to the top. As you reach the crest of the hill, reduce your speed and proceed downhill as slowly as possible.
- **Don't stop going up a hill.** There is nothing worse than trying to get moving up a hill on an icy road. Get some momentum going on a flat roadway before you take on the hill.
- **Stay home.** If you really do not have to go out, don't. Even if you can drive well in the snow, not everyone else can. Don't tempt fate, if you don't have somewhere you have to be, watch the snow from indoors.

HOLIDAY SEASON REMINDERS

When you are going to travel for the holidays make sure that you have friends and family periodically check your home if possible. In addition, you can contact our dispatch center online at <https://redcenter.us/> or call **330-832-1553** and your residence will be put on a vacation checklist.

If you choose to go online, select forms on top right hand side of screen. Then select vacation/extra patrol request and fill out the form. Officers of the Jackson Township Police Department will conduct periodic checks of your residence while you are gone. If they encounter any issue, they will contact the persons listed on your form.



In addition, make sure that you are putting interior and exterior lights on timers to give the appearance that someone is home. Having someone get your mail and newspaper gives the appearance that the residence is occupied. These tips are often enough to deter criminals.

During the holiday season, many of us use mail order to have packages delivered. As a result, we encounter crimes involving persons removing packages from resident's front porches. If possible, try to determine the date and time that a package will be delivered and have someone there to sign for it. This may prevent packages from being taken from your residence prior to you taking possession of them.

As always, we encourage residents to be observant of their neighborhoods and call the police if they observe any type of suspicious activity. Officers will respond to the area to investigate what those persons are doing in your neighborhoods.

Lt. Jim Monigold

FIREARM SAFETY

I have been the Department's range master and firearms instructor for over seven years. Going into the program, my goal was to prepare our officers with more than a basic proficiency test mandated by the Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy. As a member of the Canton Regional SWAT Team, Senior Operator, I have been able to incorporate the advanced technical training I have received, and share the tactics and proper mechanics necessary to become not only a proficient shot but also tactically sound. Listed are several areas Jackson Township Police Officers regularly train to become proficient:

1. Firearm safety
2. Pistol, rifle, shotgun manipulation
3. Pistol, rifle, shotgun diagnostics
4. Moving tactically
5. Response to an ambush
6. Counter ambush
7. Precision shooting
8. Shooting under stress (physical fitness)
9. Building searches and barricaded subjects
10. Basic first aid using tourniquets and gauze for wound packing

The above listed concepts are taught to our officers through lecture, demonstration, and participation. The classes are held in all-weather climates. There are no make-ups or schedule changes due to rain, heat, or cold. In order to serve our community effectively, our police department needs to be prepared for any obstacle that poses a threat to the community. Our officers need to make split second decisions for the protection of the community and for their own survival. The only way to achieve this is by training, building good habits and confidence.

Detective Josh A. Escola



Sergeant Sean Wackerly

OFFICER RETIREMENT

The Jackson Township Police Department would like to congratulate Sgt. Sean Wackerly on his retirement after 23 years of service. Sgt. Wackerly served the Township as a patrolman, detective and lastly as Sergeant. He also proudly served his country in the United States Navy. Sean was known for keeping calm in very stressful situations and for having a great

sense of humor. We wish Sean the best in his retirement and commend him for serving the residents of Jackson Township with great professionalism for the past 23 years.

Police Department PROMOTIONS

Congratulations
from Chief Mark Brink!

On September 8, 2017, Officer Jason Coppock was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Prior to joining our department Sergeant Coppock worked at the Summit County jail for 4 years. He was on the Corrections Emergency Response Team and was a Crime Scene

Technician.

Sergeant Coppock is a trained Crash Reconstructionist and a Field Training Officer and has been with our department for the past 7 years. Jason resides in the Township with his wife and 2 children.



**Sergeant Jason Coppock with
Police Chief Mark Brink.**

HIRING OF NEW FULL-TIME OFFICER

Part-time Officer Ryan C. Mack was sworn in as a full-time officer on September 12, 2017. Officer Mack has worked as a part-time officer since November 2016.

**Officer Ryan Mack with
Police Chief Mark Brink**



HIRING OF NEW PART-TIME OFFICER

We would like to introduce Matthew J. Rouse, a new part-time officer with the Jackson Township Police Department. Welcome Officer Rouse to the Jackson Township community and the Police Department.

**Officer Rouse with Police
Chief Mark Brink**



Jackson Township Fiscal Officer News



Randy Gonzalez,
Fiscal Officer

THE LINK BETWEEN THE PARKS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Jackson Township remains the center of Stark County’s retail, restaurant and hotel business community. Back in the 1980’s and early 1990’s the tax base of the Township was 50% commercial and

50% residential. The last major retail/commercial development was “The Strip” which was built over 25 years ago. Thereafter, the fastest growing part of our community over the past couple decades has been new home construction. Over the years, many farms have been purchased and developed into quality housing.

Today after the housing boom, the tax base has slid to nearly 70% residential and 30% commercial, resulting in nearly 70% of levies being paid by residents.

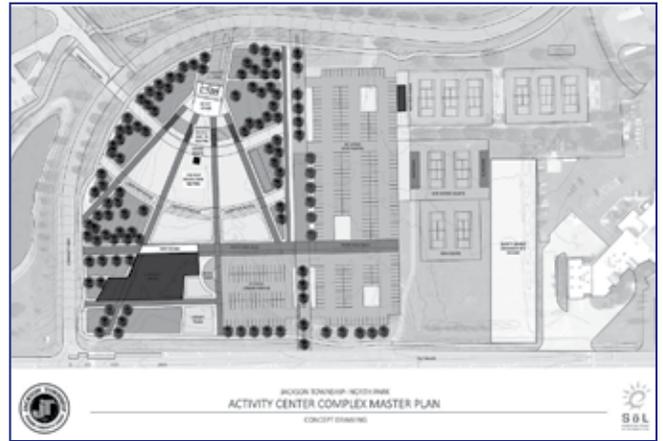
With this in mind, the Township tries to plan for smart growth and stay focused on the “big picture”. Our community has top-notch safety forces, well-maintained roads and one of the best park systems in Ohio. These services all take a lot of money to fund and the elected officials and department heads are always looking for ways to keep services up and the cost down for residents.

With the rise of internet shopping and the Amazon phenomenon, Jackson Township stores are still top in sales for many of the chains in the country. The restaurants speak for themselves; just try getting into one around 6:00 p.m. In fact, a developer spent over a million dollars just making lots for Outback and Bone Fish restaurants, which are top performers in their franchises. New hotels have also been built while millions have been spent renovating others. Put all this together and it has major impacts on our economic base.

Now back to the big picture---the Township is made up of many

moving parts. When we host 3-day and 4-day sports’ tournaments in our parks, not only is it great for our parents who don’t have to travel, the tournaments bring in hundreds of families who fill our hotels, eat at our restaurants and shop at our stores. This significantly helps our businesses succeed and prosper. Our parks go beyond providing us exercise, sports and other activities; they help our businesses, which in turn strengthens our tax base.

Representative Kirk Schuring worked hard for us and attained a million dollar State grant for the construction of an amphitheater in the North Park. Once the grant was awarded, the Township sought feedback for the planning process from Jackson Local Schools, Stark County District Library, the YMCA and Stark Parks. After a joint public meeting, the Township hired an architect and began the process of redesigning a portion of North Park to include many activities for all ages.



The amphitheater will become the center of the parks non-sporting activities. It can be the host of such things as a Veteran Memorial area, library children reads, movies in the park, school plays, band and choir performances, concerts, speech and lecturer series, kick off spot for runs/marathons, kids puppet and magic shows, community fundraisers, graduation parties, weddings, private events and gatherings and other great ideas. It will be the home of the annual Jackson Community Celebration that includes the Lions Club, Rotary, Kiwanis and Township. Also included in the plans will be Arts-in-Stark, a connection/tunnel under Fulton Road connecting South Park to North Park and Jackson High School, and a restroom building. There will be a place for permanent corn hole boards, horseshoes, bocce ball courts and additional tennis/pickle ball courts.

Our citizens show great pride in their parks. I frequently hear comments from them of how impressed visitors are and the wonderful comments they make when visiting. Our parks provide so much more than just sports...they strengthen our community, the tax base, and help keep our property values up. These are key components in making Jackson Township a great place to live, raise a family, work, and play.

Randy Gonzalez,
Jackson Township Fiscal Officer

Jackson Township Public Works Department Jackson Township Highway Division



Ralph E. Boger
Public Works Director

CONSTRUCTION SEASON PROGRESS FOR 2017

Resurfacing of aging Jackson Township jurisdiction roadways is the biggest Highway Division expenditure each year. Roadways developed in the late 1990's and early 2000's are now coming into consideration for first time resurfacing. The township resurfacing contract was publicly bid for 20.38 miles of resurfacing at a value of \$1,403,485.

Curbing replacement contract was completed on 4,925 feet of deteriorated curbing on all the streets scheduled for resurfacing this year, joined by curbs due on future street resurfacing at a contracted value of \$176,161.

The major 40 miles of township roadways were restriped by contract for \$47,577. The centerline and edge line striping of the roadways are completed with highway paint surface embedded with glass beads for reflect ability. Stop bars and arrows have been applied by the township with thermoplastic, which is more expensive, but has a much longer surface life than paint.

Everyday highway division scheduling has seen catch basin repair and rebuilding accompanied by adjacent new curbing. Aging galvanized pipe replacement with plastic material is in process in advance of resurfacing and to repair "sink holes" above deteriorating piping.

Additional highway maintenance includes mowing along public right-of-ways, sweeping of all streets, traffic control signage upkeep, and occasional tree removal and trimming for better and safer roadway visibility.

This year the Township experienced dangerous flooding on our roadways due to heavy rains. Leaves blocking culvert pipes in ditches and covering catch basins caused the majority of this. Due to the Township having approximately 6,600 catch basins and 98 miles of open ditch to care for, homeowners are asked to help keep these ditches and catch basins open for proper drainage. With leaves continually falling, these should be checked daily. The Highway Division will clean them off, but unfortunately, we have many other duties and are unable to efficiently monitor them.

SNOW AND ICE SEASON

The Highway Division has prepared all the trucks and equipment for the challenging winter snow and ice season. The drivers have refreshed their safety and truck operation practices while performing a driving review of their assigned snow routes, looking for new or changed obstacles. They carefully stake the curves and difficult to see locations to prevent unwanted yard scuffs and other damage.

- Clearing your drive apron snow downstream will save you work.
- Do not plow driveway snow into the street.
- Mailboxes must be strong enough to withstand flying snow.
- Report any frontage damages caused by our operations to the Township
- Do not tailgate snowplow trucks since they stop and backup during their clearing and salting routines.

EQUIPMENT UPDATE

The Highway Division, in the planning effort to reduce downtime and expensive repairs, has received two new dump trucks equipped with the latest winter plow and salt spreading equipment. These will replace the two oldest trucks.

In addition, a new flatbed truck equipped for curbing repair and a new general maintenance van have been put into service.

FALL TOWNSHIP DROP OFF

The drop-off area in South Park will remain open for fall leaves and yard debris from dawn to dusk through November. Remember, only disposal of biodegradable material is permitted. Remote cameras monitor the drop-off site for violators. Exercise extreme caution driving through the drop-off area as it becomes very congested during this time of year. Special courtesy and awareness is needed as the large loader is in operation pushing debris back to allow for more dumping.

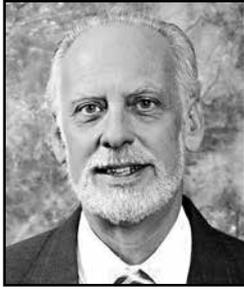


**THE WINTER SEASON
DROP-OFF HOURS BEGIN
DECEMBER 1 THROUGH
MARCH 31,
9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
DAILY.**

SNOW PARKING BAN

The snow parking ban will be in effect for all Jackson Township roadways anytime snow has become or is expected to be 2" deep or more. Notice will be posted and announced through local media outlets, the Township's website and Facebook page when the snow-parking ban is in effect. Vehicles left in the streets will be towed. Jackson Township sincerely requests your cooperation in vehicle movement to allow proper plowing and salting. If parking for your several vehicles is a problem, now is the time to solve the problem.





*David R. Ruwadi
Park Maintenance
& Grounds Foreman*

Parks and Recreation Division

THE BENEFITS OF PARKS AND RECREATION ARE ENDLESS

Strengthens Community Image and Sense of Place

Jackson Township Parks and Recreation Division provides a place for residents and visitors to gather for Township-wide festivals, as well as public and private events.

The park picnic shelters are reserved about 300 times a year. Our parks host weddings, company picnics, family reunions, non-profit fundraisers, and a wide range of other special events. Jackson Parks host a variety of Township events that bring our community together.

Supports Economic Development

The Jackson Parks draw tourism dollars for the community, as they generate overnight stays, as well as patronage for restaurants, retail stores, gas stations, etc. Jackson Parks host soccer, baseball, softball, and tennis tournaments at our facilities. Festivals and

special events also draw visitors from around the region that patronize Jackson businesses.

Economic Value

Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. It is proven that private property values increase the closer such land is to parks. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks increases property tax revenues and improves local economies.

Promotes Health and Wellness

According to the Surgeon General, "Engaging in regular physical activity is one of the most important things that people of all ages can do to improve their health." National obesity statistics are sobering, with more than two-thirds of adults and nearly one in three children considered overweight or obese.

Parks and Recreation provides sports programs, and recreation activities to get people moving and improving their health and fitness. Hundreds of walkers and runners use our walking tracks daily. It also provides facilities for citizens to be active on their own, such as South Park's trails.

Research shows that exposure to nature can reduce stress and promote relaxation. People who live closer to parks report better mental health.

Protects Environmental Resources

Jackson Township Parks and Recreation has preserved acres of land for parks and nature areas. Preservation of green space plays a vital role in protecting the environment. Green space improves air and water quality and provides habitat for wildlife. Mature park trees filter out pollutants before they reach local streams. The Park Levy is the only dedicated funding source to protect and preserve green space.

Social Importance

Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for residents and are a major factor in the perception of quality of life in a given community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of how livable communities are.

Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.

**THANK
YOU FOR
A GREAT
COMMUNITY
CELEBRATION!**

The continued support of the residents and local businesses of Jackson Township contributed to a very successful 2017 Community Celebration. This year's attendance was over 55,000 for the four-day event. Over 978 participated in the 5K Nightglow Run and the car show had sixty-two participants with unique vehicles.

A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers, the Jackson Township Trustees, Fiscal Officer, Township employees, Kiwanis, Lions, and Rotary of Jackson Township, and the many generous sponsors who supported the event.

THANK YOU to our residents and friends who attended and supported this year's Jackson Township Community Celebration.

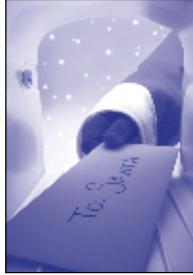
SAVE THE DATE: Next year's Jackson Township Community Celebration is scheduled for June 27, 28, 29, 30, 2018.



Upcoming Park Programs

SANTA'S MAILBOX ON DISPLAY IN JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson Township is making preparations for the "Santa's Mailbox" program this holiday season. Santa's Mailbox will be located in front of the entrance to the Jackson Township Administration Building, 5735 Wales Avenue NW, at the corner of Mudbrook Street and Wales Avenue.



Children can drop off their letters to Santa in the mailbox addressed to the North Pole between December 1 and December 15. All letters received by December 15 will receive a response from Santa himself. **It is very important that children remember to include their names and addresses on their letters.** Letters must be dropped off personally. Letters sent through the mail will not receive a response.

HOLIDAY IN THE PARK

The Annual Holiday in the Park and Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held in North Park on Saturday, December 9, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Enjoy refreshments, caroling, and the community tree lighting. The Jackson Parks and Recreation Division will have a great display of lights for the event. Children will enjoy a surprise visit from the guest of honor himself...Santa Claus! North Park is located on Fulton Drive across from Jackson High School.

This **FREE** holiday event is sponsored by Jackson Township Parks and Recreation Division, Jackson Girl Scouts Service Unit, and Crosspoint United Methodist Church.

For additional information regarding "Holiday in the Park", please call the Jackson Township Parks at (330) 832-2845, or visit the parks web page at www.jacksontownship.com

PARK PAVILION RENTALS

Beginning January 2, 2018, you can turn in your pavilion application forms or submit them electronically through our website to reserve any of the four Jackson Township park pavilions. **Reservations will not be taken over the phone and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.**

REMINDER:
You must pick up your permit approximately one week prior to your reservation.

For pavilion availability, check our website at www.jacksontownship.com or you can contact the Jackson Township Parks at 330-832-2845. For Jackson Township residents, business owners, and non-profit organizations, there is no charge to use the pavilions. The charge is \$10 per hour for non-residents and for-profit organizations and companies.

Make your plans for reunions and graduation parties now because the pavilions are heavily used during the summer months and get booked fast.

JBA (JACKSON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION) MAKES DONATION TO THE PARKS



(LEFT TO RIGHT)
Patrick Snyder, President of JBA,
and David R. Ruwadi, Jackson Park
Maintenance & Grounds Foreman

Patrick Snyder, President of the Jackson Baseball Association, presented a check for \$3,500 to the Parks & Recreation Division at the Trustees meeting on August 22, 2017. These types of donations help offset the field maintenance costs associated with the up keep of the fields in the parks. Patrick told the Board about the completed projects at Fisher Park, and several field upgrades they had accomplished. Patrick also discussed their plans for the 2018 season and combining forces with the Jackson Diamond Club.

Thank You JBA!

For additional information on any park programs, please contact the Jackson Township Parks & Recreation Division at 330-832-2845 or email druwadi@jacksontownship.com.

Jackson Township Zoning & Planning Department News



*Joni Poindexter
Zoning Inspector*

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS AND ZONING COMMISSION APPLICATIONS

Applications to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission boards are solicited annually in the month of October, and appointments or reappointments are made only after applicants have been interviewed by the Board of Trustees. All applicants must be a resident of Jackson Township.

The Zoning Commission (ZC) considers and makes a recommendation to the Jackson

Township Board of Trustees in connection with any request to rezone property (map amendment), or any request to change the zoning resolution (text amendment). Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month as needed.

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) acts upon appeals from a decision or determination of the zoning inspector, considers applications for variances and the granting of conditional use permits. Meetings are normally held on the second and/or fourth Thursday of the month as needed.

The Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals are comprised of five regular members that are appointed for a staggering five-year term and two alternates that are appointed for a one-year term. The alternates are required to attend all meetings; however, they will only participate and vote at a hearing in the absence of a regular member. All members are required to view the property in question that is coming before the board prior to the hearing.

PROPER DISCHARGE OF SWIMMING POOL WATER

When swimming season is over, pool owners need to be careful of how and where they discharge swimming pool water when they lower the level of their pool. The discharging of chlorinated swimming pool water directly into a waterway or into a storm sewer is prohibited. Always drain your pool water in an approved manner.

continued on page 11

Parks and Recreation Division *continued...*

NEW SWING SET IN THE NORTH PARK

Next time you bring the kids to the North Park you will notice a new swing set that has been installed. The new swing set replaces one that was removed because of structural and safety issues. Bring the kids to try out the new swing set that includes two Expression Swings, two toddler swings, two belt seats, and two Zero-G Swing chairs.

NEW NORTH PARK PLAYGROUND SIGN

Mike Danner, Park Fleet & Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, installs the new playground sign that replaces the one that was first installed in 2002.



PROPER DISCHARGE OF SWIMMING POOL WATER *CONTINUED...*

The storm sewer system (which includes ditches and pipes) was designed to handle runoff from rain and snow only. The water is not treated before it is discharged into area creeks and rivers. If the water contains chlorine, it can be very toxic to fish and other aquatic plants and animals. Therefore, swimming pool water must be de-chlorinated before being discharged. The simplest method is to stop adding chlorine to your uncovered pool and wait. Sunlight will naturally dissipate the chlorine within a few days. It can also be reduced by adding a chemical called sodium thiosulfate, which is available at pool stores (always follow the directions). Monitor the chlorine level with a swimming pool chlorine test kit. When there is no longer any detectable chlorine in your swimming pool it is safe to discharge the water. When discharging the water, allow it to flow over a grassy area at a slow rate to allow for some filtration of the water.

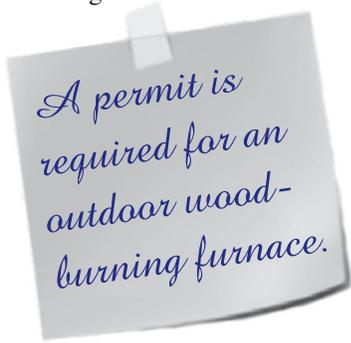
OUTDOOR WOOD BURNING FURNACES

With winter creeping upon us, people are looking for alternative ways to save energy when heating their home such as an outdoor wood-burning furnace. An outdoor wood burning furnace is defined as any equipment, device or apparatus which is installed, affixed or situated outdoors for the primary purpose of combustion of fuel to produce heat or energy used as a component of a heating system providing heat to a principal residential structure or any other site structure on the residential premises.

An outdoor wood burning furnace is permitted within the

R-R Rural Residential District on lots that are five (5) acres or greater and must comply with the following requirements.

- Must be located in the rear yard only.
- Must be setback 200 ft. from all property lines.
- No outdoor wood-burning furnace shall be utilized as a waste incinerator.
- Fuels are limited to seasoned hardwood, corncobs or wood chips.
- Must comply with Stark County Building Department regulations (building, mechanical, electrical, heating) and Ohio EPA Air Pollution Control Division regulations.
- Fire Department approval of furnace location.
- Minimum stack height shall be 20 ft. from the ground at unit base.



New Businesses Coming Soon in the Township

BURGER KING - 4423 Hills & Dales
RAISING CAINES - 5455 Dressler
PETTITI'S GARDEN CENTER - 5656 Dressler

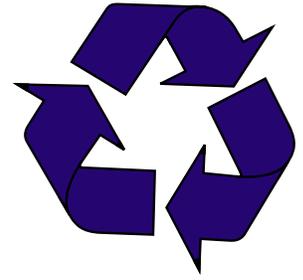
Jackson Township Recycling Station



Steve DeJane
Recycling Station Manager

WHY IS RECYCLING SO IMPORTANT?

There are plenty of facts out there on why recycling is important. The world population is growing, not shrinking, and currently each human being adds significant waste to the planet over his or her lifetime. In New York alone, people produce enough trash in one day to fill the entire Empire State building.



WHAT EXACTLY IS RECYCLING?

Recycling involves turning used materials that are labeled as recyclable over to your local waste facility. A recyclable product is turned back into a raw form that can be used to create a new and different product. Not only are natural resources limited, but recycling efforts can significantly reduce additional waste that will not only harm the planet today, but future generations as well. The natural resources on our planet earth are limited so we must make the most to conserve, recycle and reuse whenever possible.

WHAT CAN I RECYCLE?

What you can recycle depends on your area, not all materials may be recyclable. Check with the Jackson Recycling Station to find out what you can and cannot recycle.

WAYS TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF TRASH YOU CREATE

Another way to help the planet is to simply cut down on the amount of non-recyclable materials you throw out. What is a good way to do this?

- One of the most effective ways to help is to bring your own reusable bag to purchase groceries. If you forget, insist on paper, and pack as many goods in one bag as possible, without double bagging.
- Try to reduce the amount of packaging you purchase by buying products in bulk.
- Have any paper statements that are normally mailed to you – such as bills, financial statements, newsletters, etc. e-mailed to you instead.
- Buy products that are packaged in cardboard or paperboard instead of Styrofoam.
- Try to avoid disposable items such as paper plates, cups, and utensils.
- When wrapping presents, opt for reusable gift bags instead of wrapping paper – or maybe even reuse wrapping paper.

Thanks for making this year so successful and for using your Jackson Recycling Station.

HOURS:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday:
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Wednesday and Sunday.

Steve DeJane
Jackson Recycling Station Manager
330-833-7365
Email: recycle@sssnet.com

Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

CARDIO-PULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR) CLASSES



***Want to make a difference?
Want to get involved?***

Did you know that the Jackson Township Fire Department conducts both CPR & First Aid Classes? Both of these courses are in accordance with the American Heart Association Standards. The cost is \$35.00 per person for each class. Whether you are a business looking to train your entire staff or a resident looking to learn the newest life saving standards.

Contact the Jackson Township Fire Department at 330-834-3950 to register.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Jackson Township local government to provide for and promote the general health, safety, and welfare of Township residents and businesses by:

- delivering service in a professional, impartial, and cost-effective manner;
- planning for the long-range development and improvement of the township; and
- being responsive to the individual needs of the township residents and businesses with an awareness of the community's collective needs.



The Jackson Township Fire, Police, Public Works, and Zoning Departments have joined the Jackson Township Board of Trustees with Facebook pages. These pages have very useful information about all departments.



**Find us on:
facebook®**

***SO "LIKE" US AND SEE
WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE
TOWNSHIP.***

THE JACKSON TOWNSHIP FARMERS MARKET



Even though this year's market started out slow, it picked up and there were a steady stream of customers shopping during the eighth year of the Jackson Township Farmers Market. We had vendors selling large varieties of homegrown fruits and vegetables, delicious homemade baked goods, dog treats, local honey, maple syrup, bee products, natural body products, and beautiful flowers.

If you are a vendor and are interested in attending the market next season, contact Mary Reno at 330-832-7416.

Jackson Township appreciates our residents' support of our Farmers Market.



Please take a few minutes to fill out the customer survey on our website www.jacksontp.com.

We look forward to your input on the Jackson Township Farmers Market to help us improve next year.

We hope to see all of you next summer.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING POLICY

If you are looking for a great way to market your business, you should consider advertising in the Jackson Township Newsletter. The Township newsletter is published three to four times a year with a circulation of approximately 22,000 Jackson Township homes and businesses.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card size:	\$ 150.00
One fourth (1/4) page:	\$ 250.00
One half (1/2) page:	\$ 500.00
Full page:	\$1,000.00

The Jackson Township Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any advertisement for publication. Only retail ads will be accepted.

Please contact Mary Reno at 330-832-7416 for more information or visit our website at: www.jacksontp.com to download an application

FACTS ON THE TAM O'SHANTER RE-ZONE CONTINUED

The golf course consists of 287 acres of which 62 acres were approved for rezoning to commercial along Fulton Rd. including the corner at Everhard (See map). The remaining 205 acres would be purchased by Stark Parks for passive parks that include bike, walking and hiking trails and acres of open greenspace. Another 20 acres would be donated to Jackson Township Parks that would become the center for a centralized Soccer/Lacrosse Complex. The complex would give Jackson better opportunities to host tournaments, saving our soccer and lacrosse families traveling expenses, while bringing in traveling families from other communities to patronize our hotels, restaurants and shopping businesses.

So what was the problem? Well many think stopping the rezoning would have resulted in saving Tam O' Shanter as a golf course. It would not and it was not an option the Trustees had before them. On the record for three meetings in front of regional planning, the Zoning Board and the Township Trustees, the owners of Tam O' Shanter have repeatedly stated that they want to retire and leave the golf course business. They have also stated they have had no offers by anyone to purchase the land to run it as a golf course.

This left the Township with one of two decisions:

1. Deny the Tam O'Shanter rezone request leaving the Tam O'Shanter property zoned as is, residential. The property could then be sold and up to 400 homes could be developed on the golf course property with no zone change. Resulting in more burdens on our schools, little potential income to fix traffic issues and more imbalances to our tax base.
2. Approve the 62 acres zone change along Fulton Rd. with modifications. As part of the hearing, on the record the owners of Tam O' Shanter had agreed to give an easement strip to the adjoining apartment complex. This would protect the existing tree line barrier between the apartments and the rezoned property. The Trustees also modified a few acres facing Everhard and East along a portion of the apartments to B-1 which is non-retail business, i.e. office space. Leaving the 205 acres for Stark Parks and the 20 acres for Jackson Parks.

Another major issue addressed with the rezone was the potential of adding more traffic congestion to an already congested area. With this in mind, the Township officials began to put together a traffic plan to improve traffic flow for the area. Many joint meetings were held with both the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Stark County Engineer. Utilizing a professional engineering traffic study, the Township could make 5 major intersection improvements in the Fulton, Everhard and Frank roads corridor. The improvements would cost over \$1.3 million and a financial plan was put together utilizing the new taxes from the rezoned 62 acres to pay for the improvements. The traffic study showed that even after the commercial development the enhancements would improve traffic flow to better serve the area than what currently exists.

This issue is very important to the future of our community. Many hours have gone into studying and planning what is the best possible outcome for all our residents. The commercial development, growth, traffic, financial effects, greenspace, parks, social issues, and impacts on our future were all taken into consideration as part of the rezone decision.

Bottom line was:

- No to rezone could result in building 400 more homes, no new commercial development, no new park space and greenspace and no intersection improvements at Fulton and Everhard intersection.
- Yes to rezone could result in approximately 20% of Tam O'Shanter commercial, 80% parkland and greenspace and additional funding for intersection improvements around the Fulton and Everhard intersections.

We hope you find this information helpful and always welcome your input and feedback.

FALL TIPS ON STORMWATER

As we enter the fall season, there are stormwater issues unique to autumn. Most of this entails leaf litter and yard waste. Proper disposal is important to keep debris out of the storm drains and waterways. Yard waste will not only block the flow of water, but will also cause harmful nutrient accumulation in receiving waters.



Those wanting to drain swimming pools are required to reduce chlorine in the pool water to undetectable levels (less than 0.1 mg/L) before draining it into any storm drainage system. Simply stop adding chlorine to your uncovered pool and the sunlight will help naturally dissipate the chlorine within 10 days. During that time, use a swimming pool test kit to measure chlorine.

Here are a few things you can do to prepare for winter:

- Remove leaves from gutters and downspouts.
- Winterize rain barrels.
- De-chlorinate swimming pools prior to draining.
- Prepare rain gardens by trimming native plants.
- Ensure sump pump outlets are not blocked.
- Pick up any debris in your front and back yard areas near drains.
- Do not block grassed swales in your backyard with fill, landscaping, sheds, fencing, etc.

***“JOIN THE TEAM! WE’RE ALL
DOWNSTREAM”***

RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR GROUP BY TAKING THE POLAR BEAR PLUNGE AT LAKE CABLE

FEBRUARY 10, 2018

- **Easiest fundraiser in town!**
- **No meetings. No planning, organizing or advertising.**
- **No money to collect (all online donations).**
- **No set-up or clean-up.**

The Jackson Local Schools Foundation will do all of that for you, and then mail your group a check for 50% of what your jumpers raise. The other half stays with the Foundation to benefit Jackson students.

*All Stark County non-profits are invited to
“go jump in the lake” for their group.*



**Get freezin' for a good reason at
<https://jacksonpolarbearplunge.org>.**

*****ECRWSS**

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www.jacksontwp.com

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John E. Pizzino jpizzino@jacksontwp.com
Jamie Walters jwalters@jacksontwp.com

FISCAL OFFICER:

330-832-5886

Randy Gonzalez rgonzalez@jacksontwp.com

TOWNSHIP HALL: 5735 WALES AVE. N.W.

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Zoning & Planning: 330-832-8023 • jpoindexter@jacksontwp.com

FIRE DEPARTMENT: 7383 FULTON DRIVE N.W.

330-834-3950 • thogue@jacksontwp.com

POLICE DEPARTMENT: 7383 FULTON DRIVE N.W.

330-834-3960 • mbrink@jacksontwp.com

Fire, Police or Medical Emergency 911

CANTON REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Jackson Office 5735 Wales Rd. N.W. 330-833-4400
Canton Office 222 Market Ave. N.W. 330-456-7253
www.cantonchamber.org

PAUL & CAROL DAVID YMCA, JACKSON TWP.

7389 Caritas Circle N.W. 330-830-6275

JACKSON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 35171, Canton, OH 44735-5171 330-830-8622

JACKSON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORP.

5735 Wales Ave. N.W. 330-832-7416

JACKSON TOWNSHIP RECYCLING STATION

5717 Wales Ave. N.W. 330-833-7365

JACKSON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

(Branch of the Stark County District Library) 330-833-1010

7186 Fulton Dr. N.W. jackson@starklibrary.org

JACKSON LOCAL SCHOOLS

7602 Fulton Dr. N.W. 330-830-8000

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Disclaimer: Advertisements published in the Jackson Township Newsletter in no way constitute an endorsement of a product or service by the Jackson Township Board of Trustees. For information about advertising opportunities, please contact Mary Reno at 330-832-7416.

911 HOUSE NUMBERING

Seconds count in emergencies. To aid safety personnel in finding your home, residents are encouraged to purchase a 911 House Numbering Sign made of blue metal background and large white reflective numbers.



A \$15 fee is required with proceeds benefiting the Jackson Township Safety Forces Associations. On-line registration forms are available under the Fire Department's program section at jacksontwp.com, or send this form to: Jackson Firefighter's Association, 8500 Traphagen N.W., Massillon, OH 44646

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

House Number: _____

House Number Placement: Vertical Horizontal