



Jackson Township *Newsletter*

FALL
2024

We make things happen!

A Message from your Jackson Township Officials

JACKSON TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES



Todd J. Hawke
thawke@jacksontwp.com
330-832-7416



John E. Pizzino
jpizzino@jacksontwp.com
330-832-7416



Justin B. Hardesty
jhardesty@jacksontwp.com
330-832-7416

JACKSON TOWNSHIP FISCAL OFFICER



Kody Gonzalez
kgonzalez@jacksontwp.com
330-832-5886

Over the past five years, the Board of Trustees has initiated and overseen many renovation projects and enhancements within our parks.



From the Nash Family Jackson Amphitheater being placed in the center of North Park, to the construction of eight pickleball courts and the acquisition of forty acres and creation of Schuring Park, these projects have been transformative for our community. The Board of Trustees continue to renovate and add amenities to our park system which are essential to the well-being of the community and reflect its vibrancy.

North Park Playground: While park renovations offer numerous benefits, they also come with challenges. Balancing budget constraints with high-quality design, addressing maintenance needs, and ensuring equitable access are crucial factors in the success of park projects. Additionally, renovation projects must navigate the complexities of existing infrastructure, and for those reasons they are phased in over time. For instance, Phase III work within the North Park playground will begin soon and will consist of the removal of the old pillars to make way for an updated entrance. Along with the updated entrance, the addition of new play structures within the northern section of the playground area are planned.

North Park Tennis Courts: Another much needed update that is currently taking place is the renovation of the original six tennis courts. The renovation will consist of newly resurfaced courts with new nets and black vinyl fencing to match the four additional courts that were installed in 2019.

North Park Lighting and Parking: The North Park parking lots that service the playground, David

Ruwadi Pavilion, volleyball courts and the M.J.D. Memorial Gazebo, referred to as the “butterfly” parking lots, will undergo a resurfacing. Community Parkway street lighting recently underwent an update. The update included the removal of sixteen old sodium lights which were replaced with twenty-seven new led lights that provide both energy savings and additional safety to both pedestrians and the traveling public. The North Park Pickleball Courts will be temporarily lit for nighttime usage from September 9th through October 31st from dark until 9:00 p.m.

Baseball/Softball Field Renovations

(North, South and Fisher Parks): As our Township organized rec teams continue to grow and utilize every open piece of green space within our park system, the Board of Trustees have approved the funds to renovate three additional ball fields this fall. In 2023, the first three fields were completed and this project will continue throughout the 2025-2026 seasons, as the Township received a state grant that will allow us to complete an additional six to seven fields.

Kirk Schuring Park: Our newest park, is scheduled to come on-line in the fall of 2025 as Phase I has been completed. Phase II, which entails the asphalt paving of all the drives and parking lots within the park. Roughly 5,000 tons of asphalt will be required and was placed out to bid. This park will provide an additional seven regulation size and four youth size soccer and lacrosse fields.

continued on page 13

FULFILL A WISH TAG AND MAKE THIS A MERRY CHRISTMAS FOR VETERANS & THEIR DEPENDENTS



The Holiday season is just around the corner and the residents of Jackson Township have the chance to fulfill a Veteran's Wish or their dependents wish.

A "WISH TREE" is set up at the Jackson Township Administration Building at 5735 Wales Avenue NW, Massillon, OH 44646, 8 am to 4:30 pm weekdays. Each year the Veterans Service Commission of Stark County with the collaboration of many community partners and stakeholders, provides holiday joy to Stark County Veterans and their dependents. Any Stark County Veteran can fill out a Wish List of 3 wishes for themselves and their qualifying dependents. This includes our Veterans in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The wishes are put discreetly on Wish Tags and placed on Wish Trees throughout Stark County. The community takes and fulfills the Wish Tags and then returns the wrapped gifts to the Wish Tree Location, where the tags were pulled, or directly to the Veterans Service Commission. This year, the Veterans Winter Wonderland Christmas Party will be held on December 7, so all gifts must be returned by November the 26.

Winter Wonderland is a magical event where Veterans and their dependents can open their gifts, visit with Santa and other veterans, eat great food, listen to music and enjoy the various activities. For many of our Veterans, this is the only Christmas they have, and it is a very touching day. We also visit the Stark County nursing homes and assisted living facilities for the Veterans who are unable to physically attend, although many of them do.

Please join with us this year and our partners as we continue to provide this valuable program to Veterans.

Please help in making their wishes come true!

Edward Jones

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Jackson Township Fire Department News



Tim Berczik, Fire Chief

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

2024 has been a busy year for the Jackson Township Fire Department. With the extremely high temperatures, summer brings safety challenges with the Jackson Community Festival, the Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement week, and many Jackson Park activities including the (almost) weekly amphitheater concert series.

Now we are in deep into the fall season and have hosted a successful Safety Center open house during Fire Prevention Week. This year's Fire Prevention theme: *"Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You"* (National Fire Protection Association) emphasizes not only having smoke alarms in your home, but also maintaining them properly. There should be one mounted outside each sleeping area or within each bedroom and one on each level of your home, including the basement. They should be tested once a month by pushing the 'Test' button on each detector. Detectors should also be changed out every 10 years or if they do not respond to the monthly test.

If you are in need of smoke alarms or have questions, contact the Jackson Township Fire Prevention Bureau. They have a limited supply of battery-powered detectors and will make arrangements to help install one on each level of your home. If you need to purchase additional ones the Fire Prevention Bureau can assist with the proper installation. You can also reach out to the American Red Cross, as they also will aid with installing these devices.

Collaborating closely with both the Jackson Township Zoning and Stark County Building Department, we continue to work with developers and business owners both for plan reviews and commercial building inspections. Our focus is the safety of our residents and those that visit Jackson Township every day. We take this seriously and are very proud of the relationships established.

We couldn't be prouder of the men and women that staff our five fire stations 24-hours a day. The number of calls for service have increased since this time last year, mostly for emergency medical needs. We do see a significant increase in calls between midnight and 7am. Everywhere we speak, we tell our residents, *"Do not hesitate to call, that is why we are here!"*

Embrace the fall season, as we mentally prepare for what comes next! Contact us for any needs or concerns; this is your fire department. We will assist you and your family or direct you to the people who can. **STAY FIRE SAFE**

FIRE/EMS EXCELLENCE

EMS Star of Life Awards:

The EMS Star of Life Awards are presented by the Ohio Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, the State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services, and the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services. On September 25th (2023), Jonetta Ross was behind the wheel of a SARTA bus. Suddenly, an SUV heading in the opposite direction crossed the center line and hit her bus head-on. She was trapped, bleeding uncontrollably and was suffering from life-threatening injuries. Jackson Police Officer Kyle Trsnar was first on scene and knew his first priority was to stop the bleeding. He applied a tourniquet, which bought valuable time for firefighters to perform a highly complicated extrication. Paramedic Dawn Shaffer saw the physical trauma, but she knew Jonetta was suffering from mental trauma as well. Dawn stayed by Jonetta's side during her rescue. She was taken to the trauma center at Aultman Hospital. After surgery, her first request was to meet her guardian angel, the paramedic who showed so much care and compassion. Today Jonetta Ross is alive and well, thanks to the teamwork of Jackson Township's first responders.



Jonetta Ross with Jackson Township First Responders

Get With The Guidelines (GWTG) - Stroke Gold Plus Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite award from the American Heart Association / American Stroke



Captain Dan Pappas, Firefighter Brett Siglow and Firefighter Corey Korosa have been recognized by the Cleveland Clinic Mercy Medical Center Emergency Department for the care provided to and the pre-notification of an incoming stroke patient.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP FIREFIGHTER TRAINING: New Firefighter, skills check:



Virtual Reality SALT Triage Algorithm Training:



Boat training: Pictured: A-Shift

SEASONAL SAFETY MESSAGE

SMOKE ALARMS: Make Them WORK For You!

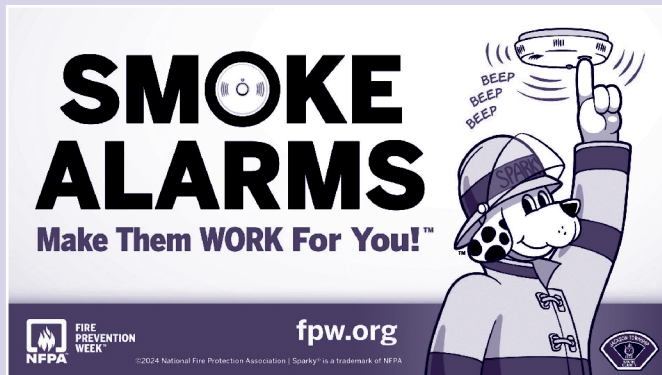
The 2024 theme for Fire Prevention Week (October 6-12): Smoke alarms: Make them work for you! This year's campaign strives to educate everyone about the importance of having working smoke alarms when it comes to protecting your home and loved ones. These small devices play a crucial role in safeguarding your family from the dangers of fire. Key calls to action: **INSTALL, TEST, and REPLACE.**

Installing smoke alarms is a vital step in fire safety. These devices are designed to detect smoke early and alert you to a potential fire before it becomes uncontrollable. Place smoke alarms on every level of your home (including the basement), inside each bedroom, and outside of the sleeping areas (like a hallway). Ensure they're installed high on walls or ceilings, as smoke rises.

Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button. A smoke alarm is only as effective as its ability to detect smoke. Regular testing is essential to ensure your alarms are functioning correctly.

Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or stop responding when tested. Older alarms may not be as reliable and can fail to provide the protection you need. Make sure to check the manufacturer date on your alarms and replace them as indicated.

By following these three simple steps - **INSTALL, TEST, and REPLACE** - you can greatly enhance your home's safety and ensure that you and your family are well-protected in case of a fire. Remember, a few minutes of maintenance can make all the difference in an emergency. Stay safe and Make Smoke Alarms Work For You!



SMOKE ALARMS
Make Them WORK For You!™

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Community Outreach and Education

“Sound the Alarm”:

The Jackson Township Fire Department partnered with the Stark County Chapter of the American Red Cross and local volunteers to install free smoke alarms. This "Sound the Alarm" event was also an opportunity to create escape plans and share fire safety information. These in-home visits are performed by a smoke alarm installer, an educator and a documenter. Together, the volunteers canvassed a Jackson Township neighborhood, knocking on doors (prior notification provided) to ensure the homes had working smoke alarms and to install them if needed. In total, 80 residents within 33 homes were made safer by the installation of 79 smoke detectors.



Youth Summer Program:



Firefighter Brandon Lucas

The Jackson Police Department sponsors a youth summer program for students entering the 6th and 7th grade. The two-week summer program is designed to help students make wise, healthy, and appropriate choices. Jackson high school counselors, area professionals, and police officers teach the curriculum. The program has guest speakers, numerous field

trips, to provide students with knowledge of not only drugs and alcohol, but also internet safety, bullying, sexting and appropriate cell phone use, public speaking, healthy eating, exercise, and giving back to our community. The Jackson Township Fire Department was invited to cool them off after the hot week.

Faith Family Early Learning Center:

Fire can be fascinating and scary to kids of all ages. They may be curious about fire or want to emulate their grownups' behaviors with matches or lighters; but as adults and firefighters know, a single match can start a devastating home fire. It is essential to teach children fire safety basics at an early age to prevent tragedies and stay safe. Meeting firefighters and learning about their role in the community, installing fire alarms, playing educational games and practicing a fire escape plan are all ways to help kids understand fire safety basics.



Firefighter Gary Fogle

So that it isn't scary or overwhelming, the Jackson Township Fire Department visits pre-school children to help them learn that firefighters are friends and to help teach fire safety basics.

Safety Village:



Sparky the fire dog

Jackson Local Schools children entering 1st Grade, learned about fire safety: what to do in the event of a fire, what's hot/what's not, and how to spot a fire hazard. The children were also able to see a fire truck and an ambulance.

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Aluminum Cans for Burned Children, Fire Truck Day:



Fire Captain Bob Cline

Kids of all ages, families and program supporters, enjoyed the 2024 Aluminum Cans for Burned Children (ACBC) Fire Truck Day, held at Portage Lakes State Park. The annual ACBC summer camp is for young burn survivors who have been treated at Akron Children’s Hospital burn center. They enjoy fun activities while the burn center staff and ACBC board members look after their safety and medical needs. Camp activities include swimming, field trips and Fire Truck Day. ACBC raises money to help burn survivors and their families by funding educational

and support programs, and paying for non-medical items or services that aren’t covered by insurance. These include special protective clothing that helps skin heal, bicycles that help children exercise burned arms or legs, transportation to outpatient treatment, and more. Aluminum can collection sites can be found at each of the Jackson Township Fire Department stations.

Another Act of Kindness:

It was amazing to receive cheers and applause for the Jackson Township Fire during our arrival and introductions at Another Act of Kindness. Jonathan and Michele shared their love and support for frontline workers who quietly and continuously help people every single day; Jonathan was hospitalized with COVID in November 2020 for 80 days, 47 of those days on a ventilator. Thank you for the terrific opportunity to connect with supporters, guests and their families.



Michele Maas, Battalion Chief Mike Peel and Jonathan Maas

Hills and Dales – Ice Cream Social:



Fries with a firefighter:



Veteran Visit:



C-Shift with Sergeant David Leffler

Happy 99th Birthday Sergeant David Leffler!

You are one of the 20 remaining within your Division of 15,000 as a mortar-man in the 94th Infantry. Your bravery and commitment inspire us all. We are forever grateful for the freedoms you have supported and provide to us through your service.

Wishing you a day filled with joy and surrounded by loved ones.

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RETIRES / PROMOTIONS



Retirements:

Captain Joe Hafer

Congratulations Captain Joe Hafer on your retirement.

Thank you for your dedicated service!

Promotions:

Congratulations to Tony Hercules on his promotion to Captain! Your dedication, leadership, and commitment to the Jackson Township community has

truly shined through. Wishing you continued success as you take on this important role. Here's to the future of the Jackson Township Fire Department under your guidance!



Fire Chief Tim Berczik with Captain Tony Hercules

Jackson Township Police Department

WINTER TRAVEL SAFETY TIPS



Police Chief Mark Brink

As winter approaches, many of us will be planning trips to visit family, enjoy the holidays, or simply take a much-needed break from the cold. While you're away, it's important

to ensure that your home and property are well-protected. Burglaries can occur at any time of the year, but vacant homes during the winter months can be particularly vulnerable. Here are some essential tips from the Jackson Township Police Department to help keep your home safe while you're traveling this winter:

1. Secure All Entry Points

Before you leave, double-check that all doors and windows are securely locked. This includes any secondary doors, such as those leading to the garage or basement. Consider installing deadbolt locks on all exterior doors for added security.

2. Use Timers for Lights

A well-lit home can deter potential burglars. Set timers on your indoor and outdoor lights to create the illusion that someone is home. Be sure to vary the times and rooms where the lights come on to avoid a predictable pattern.

3. Consider a Security System

Investing in a home security system is one of the most effective ways to protect your property while you're away. Modern security systems often come equipped with smart devices like video doorbells, motion-activated cameras, and smart plugs, which can be monitored remotely from your smartphone. These devices provide real-time alerts if anything suspicious occurs, allowing you to check in on your home from anywhere. Make sure to advertise that your home is protected

by placing security system signs in visible locations, which can further deter potential burglars.

4. Notify a Trusted Neighbor

Let a trusted neighbor know that you'll be away and ask them to keep an eye on your property. Provide them with your contact information and ask them to report any unusual activity. While it's tempting to share your travel plans on social media, be cautious about who might be seeing that information. Broadcasting that your home will be empty for an extended period can invite unwanted attention. Consider waiting until you return to share those vacation photos.

5. Hold Your Mail and Deliveries

If you're going to be gone for an extended period, place a hold on your mail and any scheduled deliveries. Piled-up mail and packages are a clear sign that no one is home. You can request a mail hold through the USPS website or visit your local post office. If only on a short trip, have a neighbor collect your mail, newspapers, or packages, so it doesn't appear that you're away.

6. Arrange for Snow Removal Services

An unplowed driveway can signal that no one is home. Arrange for a snow removal service to clear your driveway and sidewalks after a snowfall. This not only keeps up appearances but also ensures your property is accessible in case of an emergency.

7. Set Up a Vacation Check with the JTPD

For added peace of mind, consider setting up a vacation check with the Jackson Township Police Department. While you're away, officers will periodically check your property to ensure everything is secure. To arrange a vacation check, you can contact the Regional Emergency Dispatch Center at 330-832-1553 or visit <https://redcenter.us/vacation-request/> to submit your request online.



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

Thank you,
Chief Mark Brink

By taking these precautions, you can help ensure that your home remains safe and secure during your winter travels. The Jackson Township Police Department is committed to keeping our community safe, but we also rely on residents to take proactive steps in protecting their property. If you notice any suspicious activity in your neighborhood, don't hesitate to report it to the Jackson Township Police Department. We're here to help and keep our community safe.

NEW HIRES

The Jackson Township Police Department recently hired two new officers. We introduce to you Officer Alexis Kakoules and Officer Andrew Mossor.

Ofc. Alexis Kakoules

Ofc. Alexis Kakoules obtained her Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice in 2020. After graduation, she joined the Akron University Police Academy and graduated top of her class. Ofc. Kakoules was sworn in with the North Canton Police Department in 2021 as a full-time officer. While employed with North Canton, Ofc. Kakoules completed Basic Crash Investigation (Level I) and Advanced Crash Investigation (Level II). She was an active member of the Stark County Regional Crash Team. In 2022, Ofc. Kakoules was nominated for "Officer of the Year" and received a Life Saving Award in April 2024. Ofc. Kakoules was sworn in with the Jackson Township Police Department in July 2024 as a Patrol Officer.

Ofc. Kakoules recently married her husband, Nicholas. She and her husband are looking forward to starting a family in the future. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling with her husband, working out, spending time with friends and family, and participating in outdoor activities. Ofc. Kakoules looks

continued on page 7

forward to engaging with the community and building rapport with businesses and the public.

Ofc. Andrew Mossor

Ofc. Andrew Mossor received his Basic-EMT and started working for Smith Ambulance in 2020. That same year Ofc. Mossor obtained his Associates degree in the occupational study of gunsmithing. In 2021 he began doing part time gunsmithing and working on an ambulance full time.

In 2022 Ofc. Mossor attended the Ohio State Highway Patrol Basic Peace Officer Academy. Once completed with the academy Ofc. Mossor began working full time for the Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office. Ofc. Mossor was sworn in at the Jackson Township Police Department for a full time Patrol officer position in July of 2024. In his free time Ofc. Mossor enjoys camping and spending time outdoors. Ofc. Mossor is looking forward to serving the Jackson Township. Community and interacting with its residents.

Please join us on welcoming both officers to Jackson Township!



**Major Jim Monigold and
Police Officer Alexis Kakoules**



**Police Officer Andrew Mossor and
Police Chief Mark Brink**

JTPD Welcomes Two New K9 Units

The Jackson Township Police Department is pleased to introduce two new K9 units to our team. K9 Maverick and K9 Kreed will soon begin their service in our community.

K9 Maverick, a 2-year-old German Shepherd, will be partnered with Officer Myers. K9 Kreed, an 18-month-old all-black German Shepherd, will work alongside Officer Wiseman. Both dogs were specially bred and trained overseas before being partnered with our officers.

Both officers and their K9 partners will participate in a 5-week training program, focusing on narcotics detection, subject apprehension, and article (scent) tracking. After completing this training, they will undergo state certification testing.

Following their certification, K9 Maverick and K9 Kreed will engage in regular training with the PK9A (Police K-9 Association) in Canton to maintain their skills and stay current with best practices in K9 law enforcement and will live at the officers' homes.

Officers Myers and Wiseman will also be outfitted in slightly different looking uniforms than you may be used to seeing, which clearly identify them as K9 officers to the public. Both Maverick and Kreed will patrol in specially outfitted cruisers equipped with the latest gear to keep them comfortable and safe while on patrol.

If you see Maverick and Kreed out on patrol, please remember that they are working dogs and should not be handled or petted like an ordinary family pet.



**K9 Maverick with both
K9 handlers**



**K9 Kreed with both
K9 handlers**



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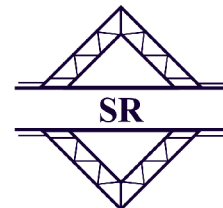


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Jackson Township Public Works Dept. - Highway Division



Rich Rohn
Public Works Director

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS IN 2024

As the summer construction season fades into fall many improvements and repairs have been accomplished to the Jackson Township transportation system and resident services. Township growth along with nature and normal wear and tear demand constant attention.

Many of the contracted services we are able to accomplish are coming to an end or have been completed. These include the yearly pavement resurfacing, curbing replacement and road striping contracts.

- **Road Resurfacing Program:** The Township was able to complete roughly 20 miles of road for \$2,284,111.00, which has been completed. Resurfacing is carefully paced and completed to assure a continuously smooth and safe roadway for all the Township roads as the asphalt ages and deteriorates from weather, traffic, and assorted damages.
- **Curbing Program:** Deteriorated curbing and catch basin repairs have been an ongoing effort with a public contract of \$289,381.20 and Highway Division labor efforts. This year 6,054 feet of curbing and many catch basins saw attention within this contract. Additionally, the Highway Division staff will complete an added 2,500 feet in-house.
- **Road Striping Program:** The contract has been awarded for \$44,006.85 this season. This continued effort is geared to maintain bright and visible traffic assistance.
- **Schuring Park:** Phase I of Schuring Park has been completed and Phase II, which consists of the paving of roughly 30,300 square yards of both parking lots and roadways has been placed out to bid. This will also include the striping of roughly 480 parking spots for this facility.
- **Nash Family Jackson Amphitheater:** LED Screen – The video wall has been installed and active throughout this concert season. This has not only allowed for live video feeds to be shown during the concerts, but a way to provide our sponsorships acknowledgment.
- **Nash Family Jackson Amphitheater:** Front of House structure – A new structure was constructed during this off-season which allows our lighting, sound and video technicians to be under roof, as well as houses one of the new cameras that is used with the new video wall.
- **Community Parkway Lighting Upgrade:** The lighting project has been completed and is working. The previous layout consisted of 16 lights and the new layout has provided a total of 27 led lights to better illuminate this area.
- **Baseball / Softball Field Renovations:** As we continue this project within our parks, we will again be addressing 3 fields this fall. North Park fields #12, #14 and #15 will be addressed as a part of this year’s project.

THE DIVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Central Maintenance • Highway • Park • Recreation Amphitheater

Permits - Highway Division

Please call the Public Works Department if you are planning any work within the Township Road Right-of-Way. We also ask that items such as invisible dog fencing, irrigations systems, etc.. are not installed in this area. In most cases, the right of way is approximately 10 foot from the edge of pavement or curbing. When these types of systems are installed, broken lines are the responsibility of the homeowner. Our staff will do what they can to avoid but, these will not be marked by OUPS. We ask that if a system is already installed and you see flags in your yard, make contact with either our office or one of our staff members on-site.

Parking within the Road Right of Way Regulations

The Highway Division is currently working on regulations that will help the Township to better restrict what is being placed within the Roadways. This includes such items as dumpsters, moving PODS, broken down vehicles, trailers and recreation vehicles. Although these regulations are still being framed, these items should NOT be placed within the road right of way at any time.

Yard Debris Drop-Off

Our highly regarded resident drop-off area in South Park on Fulton Drive has continued to be the largest in Stark County. Jackson Township loads out this material two days a week to provide room for the many backing and dumping vehicles and trailers. Kurtz Bros. provides the debris removal tracking operations.



Fall leaves are upon us as the busiest and most crowded drop-off time of the year. Residents should carefully secure their loads in transit. The highway crews routinely must retrieve these loose droppings from the roadways. Also, residents are requested to back up as close as possible to the debris pile when unloading to preserve the open area for vehicle maneuvering.

Please exercise extreme caution when driving and backing in this area.

NEW HIRES

**The Highway Division hired
Maintenance Specialist**



Anthony Davide



J.P. Neff

**Public Works
Department hired
General Laborer**



Grant Ford



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SNOW BANS Please Be Prepared

Our Highway Division asks all residents to assist us with the clearing of snow and ice as winter nears by removing all vehicles parked within streets during events of 2 inches or more. The best way to monitor if a ban is active is by checking either our website (www.jacksontownship.com) or on one of our Facebook Pages (Jackson Township Board of Trustees or Jackson Township Public Works Department).

Another way to receive these alerts is by signing up for Nixle Alerts. This can be done through the Township website or by texting your zip code to 888777 on your mobile device.

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Parks and Recreation Division



Michael Danner
Parks Superintendent

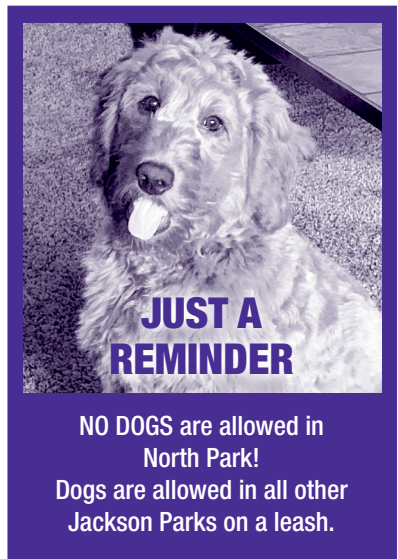
FALL/WINTER IS FAST APPROACHING!

The fall sports season is big in the parks with Football, Lacrosse, Soccer, Girls Tennis, Baseball & Softball all having fall seasons. The “S” word will be here before we know it. A note for all our walkers and runners, please utilize the tracks and stay off the roads for your safety. The park maintains the tracks for your convenience. During early morning and late night exercise, please wear high visibility clothing to protect yourself and notify drivers of your presence. By the time you read this, fall sports will be winding down.



Mick Ryan
Recreational Superintendent

People ask “what does the park’s crew do all winter?” The park currently has 7 full time employee’s that maintain our beautiful parks. All equipment used during the season will be serviced / rebuilt and winterized. Some park employee’s fill in at the highway department during the snow and ice control season. During a bad “S” storm, typically all public works employees are on the roads. As mentioned earlier, we handle all snow and ice control in the park system, which includes the parking lots, restrooms and tracks. Our last comment on the completed equipment work order is “Let It Grow”!



NO DOGS are allowed in North Park!
Dogs are allowed in all other Jackson Parks on a leash.

A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO OUR TOWNSHIP FOR ANOTHER GREAT COMMUNITY CELEBRATION IN 2024! 2025 SHOULD BE BIGGER AND BETTER!!

PICKLEBALL

Another exciting season of pickleball play continues in North Park! The Pickleball Courts are open to the public for open play. Reservations continue to be accepted for Jackson Township residents and non-residents. Keep an eye out for continued Township leagues and tournaments! Please visit our website, www.JacksonTwp.com, to reserve a court.



CAR SHOW

Another exciting Jackson Township Car Show took place in 2024! With the addition of food trucks, a DJ, awards, and events it was a great experience for all who attended and visited the Car Show. We look forward to continuing to grow and enhance the experience for all in 2025! A special **Thank You** to the 2024 sponsors: Black Horse Motors, Loby’s Grille, Sloan Product, Ohio Head & Neck Surgeons, The UPS Store of Foxboro Square, and Skipco Auto Auction.

The Jackson Township

FARMERS MARKET

Thank you to all returning and new vendors who participated in the 2024 Jackson Township Farmers Market.

It was a fun filled summer seeing the community come together and enjoy the great produce, baked goods, food, and various products being sold by the many vendors.
See you all next summer at the 2025 Farmers Market.

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE 2024 FARMERS MARKET VENDORS:

Jessica Graciani	The Cornerstone Bakery
Witmer Farms	Canton Mushroom Works
Heider’s Honey	Top Flight Pasta
Yingling Family Farms	Rooted in Nature
Camp Tuscazoar	Shelby Dawn Baking Co.
Tea, Toast & Tarot	Brittany Sweet Treats
Next Door Harvest LLC	Sift Baking Co.





Mark Evans

RETIREMENT

Congratulations Mark Evans on your well-deserved retirement!

Mark has been with the Jackson Township Park Division for 32 years, serving as a Park Crew Leader. He will surely be missed and we wish him well.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Haunted Hayride: October 19 • South Park • 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm
 Skating Rink: Opens November 9 • Amphitheater Parking Lot
 Santa’s Mailbox: December 1 - 15 • Located outside Township Hall
 Holiday in the Park: December 14 • North Park • 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm



TRICK OR TREAT



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27
3:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.

Amphitheater Division



The 2024 Nash Family Jackson Amphitheater Summer Concert Series, presented by the Pro Football Hall of Fame, was enjoyed by thousands this summer with concerts starting in May and ending in September. The new concession stand was in full use for the entire season making it easier to serve more guests in shorter amount of time. The 2024 Season Pass Holders were winners of gift cards and other great generously donated prizes at every concert during the 2024 season. Your donated tips provided thousands of dollars in much-needed donations to the booster clubs for many well- deserving JHS varsity clubs, sports and organizations.

The newly-installed LED video wall was put into use this year at concerts, events and movies. Great live video, band videos, sponsor information and event advertising are just the start of all of the great ways we can use the new video wall for years to come.

Presented through the generosity of MCTV, we had two free Movies in the Amphitheater this year and both were great hits! Our late summer movie in August was shown on the LED video wall and sponsors Fresh Mark and Aqua Tots provided free hot dogs, popcorn and water to those in attendance.

Thank you to the Nash Family, presenting sponsor the Pro Football Hall of Fame as well as our other generous sponsors for their support during a great concert season:

- Fresh Mark bringing you Sugardale
- C.R. Kurtz Heating & Cooling
- Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers
- Remax/Sam Shaheen
- Dolphin Electric and Generac
- Scheetz Companies
- Aqua-Tots Swim Schools
- Southway Fence
- iHeart Radio and Sunny 101.7
- Stark Federal Credit Union
- ARTA
- Welty Construction
- Arts in Stark
- NECA and IBEW Local 540
- Bair's Powersports
- Henderson Roofing
- Vasco Group
- Ryan Homes
- C. Massouh Printing
- Akron Auto Auction
- Superior Beverage Group
- Fitzpatrick Realty

PLANNING FOR THE 2025 SEASON WILL START SOON!

Sign up at www.jacksonamphitheater.com to receive emailed updates about the latest news regarding the 2025 Summer Concert Series season, events, season passes and more. Interested in sponsorship for the 2025 season? Please reach out to Amphitheater Coordinator Chylece Head at thead@jackson township.com.



continued from front cover

Park renovations are a vital component to our development, offering significant social, environmental, and economic benefits. Thank you to each of you for supporting the Jackson Township Parks and Recreation Divisions, as well as The Board of Trustees.

Existing infrastructure and facilities: Many of our park buildings, pavilions and restrooms have or are scheduled to see updates within them. Items such as the replacement of aging roofs, siding, doors and painting both interior and exteriors that are original to these structures.

Fisher Park: Unfortunately in recent years, infrastructure and facilities at Fisher Park have been vandalized. The Board of Trustees are committed to protecting the investment of our residents' tax dollars in our parks and have scheduled Fisher Park to be outfitted with a new security camera upgrade which will include a camera that will track movement within the park after dark and communicate directly to our Police Department.

Nash Family Jackson Amphitheater: Many upgrades have taken place in its short life. A new concession stand that houses both bathrooms and a cooler, a new front of house structure and a ten foot tall by thirty foot wide LED video wall, which allows for live views of the events within the amphitheater.

Jackson Township Zoning & Planning Department



Joni Poindexter
Zoning Inspector

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE UPDATES

The Jackson Township Board of Trustees recently updated the Jackson Township Property Maintenance Code that became effective June 13, 2024.

It is the intent of Jackson Township to work with citizens to further the best interests of the community through the fair and consistent administration of the Property Maintenance Code and the Jackson Township Zoning Resolution. The purpose of the property maintenance code is to protect the public health, safety and general welfare as it pertains to premises and buildings used for residential, commercial, and industrial purposes.

Residential updates include, but is not limited to, the following:

- The parking and storing of any motor vehicle, to include recreational vehicles (Class A, B, & C) on a lawn or dirt surface shall be prohibited. The parking or storing of any motor vehicle, recreational vehicles, camping trailers, slide-in campers, utility trailers, boats and boat trailers in a residential district are now required to be parked or **stored on a hard surface** with the exception that lake front parcels are permitted to park boats in the back yard area on a non-hard surface. A hard surface shall be considered gravel, cement or asphalt.
- No inoperative or junk motor vehicle, licensed or unlicensed, shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises (pervious or impervious) in a state of major disassembly, disrepair, or in the process of being stripped or dismantled unless it is located in completely enclosed building. Motor vehicles must display current license plates.
- Only one boat and one recreational vehicle or recreational trailer is permitted per lot or parcel to the extent such parking complies with all other regulations.
- Commercial vehicles are not permitted to be parked in a residential district with the exception of one (1) commercial vehicle in connection with the residential use of the property within any residential district shall be permitted provided said vehicle does not exceed 9,000 lbs. GVW (gross vehicle weight) and the maximum height of the vehicle body does not exceed seven (7) feet in height and is currently use by the occupant of the dwelling as transportation to and from work, such as a pick-up truck or van that is used for a business purposes.
- Barbed/razor wire or electric fences are not permitted for a residential use in a residential district, except as utilized for the containment of agricultural animals.
- All exterior property and premises and the interior of every open porch, carport, deck, and patio shall be free from any accumulation, dumping, storing, and/or burying of rubbish and/or garbage, including, but not limited to tires, combustible and non-combustible waste materials, abandoned construction materials and debris, paper, rags, cartons, boxes, excelsior, rubber, leather, tin cans, metals, mineral matter, glass, animal and vegetable wats, residue from burned materials, inoperable and broken appliances and household equipment, and other similar materials and discarded items.

Penalties and Fines for a violation of the property maintenance code.

Although it is the intent to work with any person, firm and corporation to resolve a property maintenance issue, a Civil Citation along with the following fines shall be issued to any person, firm, or corporation that refuses to comply with property maintenance legislation.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| A) \$250.00 for the first offense | C) \$750.00 for the third offense |
| B) \$500.00 for the second offense | D) \$1,000 for each subsequent offense. |

The entire property maintenance code can be found on the Jackson Township website under Township Legislation.

DRAINING YOUR POOL

The swimming season is coming to an end and it will soon be time to discharge pool water when closing your pool for the season. The discharge of chlorinated swimming pool water directly into a waterway or into a storm sewer is prohibited. Storm water systems, 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. Swimming pools must be de-chlorinated before being discharged.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS AND ZONING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

The Jackson Township Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission consists of five regular members and up to two alternate members. Regular members are appointed for a five year staggered term. Alternates are appointed for a one year term. Applications are solicited annually in the month of November. If you wish to be considered for an appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals or the Zoning Commission please refer to our website and Facebook page regarding dates in which applications will be accepted.

The Board of Zoning Appeals acts upon appeals from a decision or determination of the zoning inspector, and considers applications for variances and conditional use permits.

The Zoning Commission considers and makes a recommendation to 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).

Jackson Township Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission

The Jackson Township Board of Trustees is accepting applications for appointments to the **Board of Zoning Appeals and the Zoning Commission**. Applicants must be residents of Jackson Township and be able to devote from one to three evenings per month to hear zoning requests. Zoning knowledge is preferred.

Applications are available at the Jackson Township Administration Office, 5735 Wales Avenue N.W., Massillon, OH 44646, from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday or on our website at www.jacksontownship.com/employment-opportunities.

Send completed applications to skapper@jacksontownship.com.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS IS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024.

Jackson Township Historical Society (JTHS)



STORIES

By John Ney & Kim Demor JTHS Trustees

Some of the best ways to communicate is to tell stories. Stories tug at our heart strings and call us to action. Stories paint a picture and help us to understand. Stories take complex topics and simplify them. Stories are just fun to listen to.

This is in large part the mission of the Jackson Township Historical Society (JTHS). In essence, we are all one big family, and we all have a story to tell. We at JTHS seek to preserve those stories that shape our history and educate others by telling them. In that way, we honor those who have gone before us, and benefit by learning from their experience that helps us to shape a better future.

Our cemeteries tell stories of those who came before us and stayed in Jackson. We have people who fought in all wars including the Revolutionary War. Farmers, businessmen and ordinary men and women who called Jackson home. Some were founding families, and many were children who lost

the battle to the disease that went through the community. A future project includes documenting, cleaning, photographing, and telling the stories of those who were once loved.

The residents of Jackson Township have never backed down in supporting issues of importance to them and the community. JTHS also needs your support. We are self-funded which means we receive no money from the township, county, or state. We rely on the generosity of the community. From October 11-24, 2024, the JTHS will be competing against North Canton Heritage Society for the "Battle of the Rail" to see who can raise the most money. This is during the "Beat Hoover" week. We won the challenge in 2023 and hope to do it again this year. Please consider making a generous donation through the website <http://www.jacksontwphistory.org/> or send a check to Jackson Township Historical Society, PO Box 335171, Canton, Oh 44735. All money raised will help make repairs to the 160-year-old building and grounds. We are a non-profit 501(C) organization, and your donations are tax deductible.

Ways you can support JTHS throughout the year is to become a member and to give a donation. Many opportunities exist to volunteer and be a part of our mission. We also want stories from the past and items that tell the story of Jackson. Remember that history was a few minutes ago and items up to the current day are accepted. History and education are ongoing. If we do not save the items from today, we may not have anything to show to future generations. Please contact us at Jackson.historical@gmail.com or visit our website at www.jacksontwphistory.org. We are grateful for your support.

All programs are held at JTHS - 7756 Fulton Road, Massillon, OH 44646

EVENTS

Open House – Jackson 2000-present

November 3 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Haunted Jackson

October 19 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

McGuffey Kid's Club: Holiday Party

December 8 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Gift Wrapping

November 25 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

November 26 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

December 2 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

December 8 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

December 9 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

December 15 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

December 16 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

December 17 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

December 19 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

December 23 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

All of these events are open to the public. Admission to events and programs are \$5 for age 14 and up unless otherwise posted, members are free.

Volunteers work Mondays 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. - Noon (go to back door and ring doorbell).

GIFT WRAPPING

If you are tired of gift bags, and would like to have your gifts wrapped in paper with ribbon and bows, JTHS will wrap your gifts while you wait. Enjoy holiday music, refreshments, and good company. Everything is provided (although boxes for clothing would be helpful). This is a fundraiser so donations are appreciated. The donations help maintain the one room schoolhouse as an educational museum.

WE NEED YOUR JACKSON "STUFF"

Your kids don't want it but we do. Examples include, the program from the 3rd grade holiday concert, yearbooks from all schools, the trophy that was received for ____, the to-go menu from your favorite restaurant, copies of photos from Jackson events, stores, etc. If it pertains to Jackson or life in Jackson we want it. We are also looking for "old" toys and items pertaining to life in Jackson.

WE NEED YOU

Join us Tuesday morning (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) for some friendly volunteering opportunities.

A wonderful group of volunteers get together to work at JTHS. It varies weekly, as the needs change. Training is available

if needed. Some work that always needs to get done: cleaning, putting items away, scanning, and cataloging items into the computer (also done on Monday nights from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.).

At home you can do data entry, transcribing, social media, marketing flyers, fundraising, taking photos, write articles, and more.

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Personnel Changes in the Administration Department



RETIREMENT

Congratulations to Mary Reno on her retirement!

Mary dedicated nearly thirty-one years of service as the Administrative Assistant in the Administration Department. Mary began her career with Jackson Township in 1993 and has been an integral part of the Administration Department during that time. Mary is setting her sights on a well-deserved retirement and looks forward to spending time at the lake with her husband Don and close friends.

Thank you for your service and dedication to Jackson Township, you will be greatly missed!



Administration Office Staff

PROMOTION

Shelby Curlutu has been promoted as the new Administrative Assistant in the Administration Department. Shelby began employment with Jackson Township in 2022 serving as the Receptionist for the Administration Department. Shelby and her boyfriend Anthony reside here in Jackson Township and enjoy visiting with friends, traveling and spending time together. **Congratulations, Shelby!**



Shelby Curlutu

NEW HIRE

The Administration Department welcomes Tyler Kerchner as our new Receptionist/Secretary. Tyler has been employed with us since April 2024 and has been assisting the public and making things happen for the Jackson Township community. She enjoys playing golf, going to the gym and reading. The Administration Department is happy to have Tyler as part of our Team!



Tyler Kerchner

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A MESSAGE FROM STARK SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT Only Rain Down the Drain



DID YOU KNOW THAT THE STORM WATER ENTERING OUR STORM DRAINS IS UNTREATED BEFORE IT REACHES OUR WATERWAYS? Storm water is the flow of water after a precipitation event. As storm water travels, it crosses roads, parking lots, and other hard surfaces. These hard surfaces are known as impermeable surfaces and do not allow storm water to soak in. Storm water flows across impermeable surfaces on the way to the storm drain, picking up pollutants. Once polluted storm water enters the storm drain, it will travel through the storm sewer system and eventually reach our local waterways such as rivers, lakes, and streams. These waterways accept incoming storm water, along with all of the pollutants carried by the water. It is important for all of us to take steps to minimize storm water pollution.

Common storm water pollutants include sediment, bacteria, excess nutrients, trash, debris, auto fluids, and road salt. Be a good storm water steward by soil testing before fertilizer application and only disturb soil if absolutely necessary. Have your septic system and sewer lines inspected to minimize leaks, and pick up your pet's waste to reduce bacteria pollution. Ensure your trash is secured and lawn waste is disposed of properly. Maintain and inspect your vehicle to avoid leaking, and properly apply road salt to reduce the impacts on our storm water. Work to keep the storm drains clear of debris in your neighborhood, and reach out to our office if you would like other ideas about minimizing storm water pollution. We can all work together to protect our storm water and water quality by making sure only rain travels down the drain.

*Article written by: Adrienne Bock
Outreach Technician, Stark Soil & Water Conservation District*

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*Courtney Barson,
Economic Development
Director*



JACKSON TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT
CORPORATION

Over the years, the Jackson Township Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) has participated in the growth of our community.

For those not familiar with the Jackson Township Community Improvement Corporation (CIC), the CIC was formed by the Jackson Township Board of Trustees to advance, encourage and promote the industrial, economic and commercial development of the Township. We strive to unite residents and businesses in meeting our community's present and future needs. Because the health of the economy is of such vital concern to Jackson Township, we are continually concentrating our efforts on strengthening that economy, not only for today, but for years to come. We appreciate the continuing interest of Township residents and businesses in bringing new levels of support for our community. The CIC recently started a community outreach program where we visit businesses in the Township to learn more about them and if we have any resources we can connect them to.

If we can be of service, or you would like to schedule a visit please contact Courtney Barson at 330-832-7416.

CIC JACKSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION CIC BOARD MEMBERS:

Steven Meeks, *President*

Cindy Hartzell, *Vice-President*

Todd J. Hawke, *Township Trustee*

Michael B. Vaccaro, *Jackson Township Administrator/Law Director*

Richard L. Cosgrove, *Keller Williams Realty*

Dean Brown, *State Farm*

Ray Hexamer, *Stark Economic Development Board*

Jeff Dafler, *Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce*

Athena Ebersole, *Pin Oak Energy Partners LLC*

Courtney Barson, *Economic Development Director*

Tyler Kerchner, *Secretary/Treasurer*

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.



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 23,000 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 Shelby Curlutu at 330-832-7416 for more information or visit our website at: www.jacksonstp.com to download an application.



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