

GREEN TOWNSHIP

Ohio

News

fall 2021

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Chairman
Triffon Callos

Dear Residents,

This past year has been one of profound uncertainty in terms of how we conduct business, socialize with loved ones and educate our children. Nearly every aspect of our lives has changed in ways we never imagined. Sadly, many of our residents have been severely affected by COVID-19 and unfortunately the pandemic continues to

delay our return to normalcy. My sincere hope is that we can get through this latest challenge just as we did in 2020, and continue to work together to keep each other safe and healthy.

On a more positive note, despite the challenges of the pandemic, Green Township has seen a remarkable number of both residential and business developments in 2021. We anticipate this trend will continue due in large part to strategic investments our Township has made to position us as a leader in the region for job growth, investments, and quality of life for our residents.

Quality of life in a community depends heavily on available parks and recreation in order to provide ample opportunity for both active and passive recreation. In 2020, at the height of the pandemic, we witnessed unprecedented use of our playgrounds, trails, and recreational areas. It was abundantly clear that our residents wanted more space to recreate safely in the outdoors. Because of this insight, we know our residents are looking forward to the Kuliga Park renovations being completed this fall. These renovations include a nearly one-mile Kuliga Park loop trail, pavilion/stage, restrooms, shelter, four pickleball courts and resurfaced tennis courts. Also coming in late 2021 is the one-third mile trail spur connecting Nathanael Greene Lodge to the Veterans Park trail, extending the loop by almost one mile.

Did you know that Green Township is now the second largest township in the State of Ohio? The 2020 census revealed Green Township's population grew by more than 3.5 percent to more than 60,000 residents, increasing our statewide ranking to second largest township in Ohio! Thanks to all of you, Green Township remains a great place to live and work.

In today's booming real estate market where demand is high and inventory is low, it's no surprise that Green Township homes are red hot, selling quickly and often above list price. We are fortunate that there are several new subdivisions

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

either under construction or in the planning stage that will provide new housing for families, empty-nesters and young professionals. The Shadow Hawk subdivision off Wilmer Road will be a new \$38 million upscale community with an average home value of over \$575,000. The Ivy Rose subdivision will be built off Boomer Road offering 40 new homes starting in the \$550,000 range. Recently, a new mixed-use community known as Trailside Village was approved and will include almost 200 new homes and nearly double the existing length of the hike/bike trail from Hutchinson to Oakdale Elementary.

For the first time ever, Green Township was named a "Top 50" community in the Cincy Magazine Summer 2021 "Best of the Burbs" issue. Many new businesses chose Green Township as their preferred location in 2021. A new 96-unit Hampton Inn & Suites is under construction and will be completed in 2022. A new Sonic and Menards were also approved to locate on Harrison Avenue and will be under construction in 2022.

Finally, as with every great community, Green Township is fortunate to have a very strong and dedicated Police and Fire Department. Your Green Township Trustees continue to invest in their people and equipment in order to maintain some of the best safety services in the region. Green Township has increased its number of full-time Fire and EMS personnel by over 22 percent in the last two years. As of 2021, the Sheriff's Department no longer patrols Green Township resulting in the need to increase our sworn officers from 39 in 2017 to 53 as of September 2021. This investment is paying off as Green Township was named the third safest large city in Ohio by insurance research firm AdvisorSmith. I commend our first responders for this achievement; your dedication and service to Green Township are appreciated.

As you can see, despite unique challenges and uncertain times, we have experienced much success. We will continue to strive to increase economic development and quality of life and ensure the safety of our community while also maintaining one of the lowest tax rates in Hamilton County.

I wish you and your family health and happiness in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Triffon Callos

Triffon Callos, Chairman
Green Township Board of Trustees

SPECIAL EVENTS RETURN 2021

We've been excited to get back to some of our free community events which had been suspended due to COVID.

Kids Fun Day was enjoyed by hundreds of children and their families on a sunny Saturday in August. A very special thank-you to our major sponsor, Cincinnati Children's.

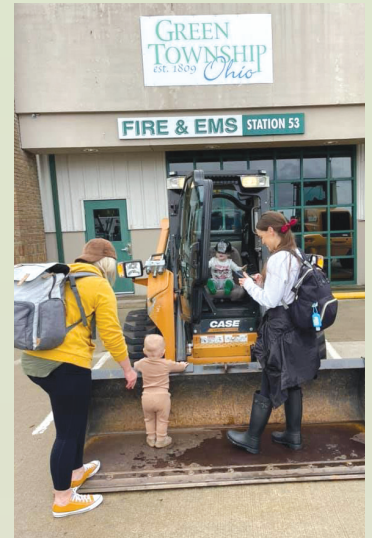


In September, a special 20th anniversary ceremony was held at Veterans' Park to commemorate the events of 9/11. This very moving

ceremony included bagpipers, vocalist, honor guard and ringing of the Veterans Tribute Bell Tower. American flags were distributed to all who attended.

In September we also hosted the Touch a Truck/Safety Service Expo where hundreds of our youth explored our firetrucks and other vehicles. They also enjoyed watching demonstrations by our police and fire personnel.

Stay tuned for more information on Winterfest scheduled for Friday, December 3. Details about the event will be posted on Green Township's Facebook page and on our website www.GreenTwp.org as we get closer to the date.



GREEN TOWNSHIP RANKED AMONG THE SAFEST IN OHIO!

Green Township was recently ranked Ohio's third safest community according to insurance research group AdvisorSmith. The impressive ranking resulted from an in-depth analysis of crime statistics, and comes as no surprise to Green Township Police Chief James Vetter.



Per Chief Vetter, when crime statistics are compared between Green Township and similarly sized communities, we always fare very well. It's especially true in the area of violent crime. "For a community as large as Green Township, violent criminal offenses are very rare," says Chief Vetter. Although there has been a significant uptick in violence across the United States in the past year,

Green Township actually saw a decrease in assaults, robberies and domestic violence, bucking the trend seen in many other communities.

The decrease can be attributed in part to:

- An increase in the number of police officers patrolling the streets, and
- The formation of a police impact unit to address crime hot spots as they arise

"The safety and well-being of our community has always been a top priority for us," says Tony Rosiello, Vice Chairman of the Trustees. "We understand it's a key factor for families and businesses who consider moving to Green Township. Being ranked the third safest community in Ohio is evidence that steps we have taken to remain safe are working."

IN MEMORY

On October 28, 2020, one of our beloved firefighters (Mike Weissmann) died suddenly at his home in Union Township. On September 29, 2021, his former crew (pictured above along with Mike's wife and son) dedicated and planted a tree in Mike's memory. The tree is located near the front corner of our Fire Station # 55 in Monfort Heights.



KULIGA PARK

NOT JUST A SPORT PARK, NOW A REGIONAL ATTRACTION FOR ALL AGES

Kuliga Park wasn't always the popular recreation spot that it is today. It had a difficult beginning! The property was once a dump site following the devastation from tornadoes that hit the area in 1974. Three years later, in 1977, it opened as a park.

Not long after that, Green Township purchased the Bridgetown Road property and built what is now known as Kuliga Park. Exceeding 37 acres, Kuliga Park has become a regional recreational complex for youth sporting events in Western Hamilton County. In 2018, the Trustees acquired an additional seven acres that became Phase I of the Kuliga loop trail. The trail also serves as a secondary means of entering and exiting during large events which improves safety for event attendees.

The newly renovated Kuliga Park officially opens in fall 2021 and represents the first renovation and expansion of the park.

When completed the park will include:

- Loop walking trail
- Pavilion/stage for outdoor events
- Spacious shelter house available for rent
- Grills, water fountains
- Four pickleball courts
- Resurfaced tennis courts
- Playgrounds
- Baseball fields
- Soccer/football fields

We urge you to come out and see the brand new Kuliga Park and all that it has to offer for both young and old. For details about shelter house rental, contact the Public Services Department at 513-574-8832.



GREEN TOWNSHIP “CLEAN-UP DAY”

Green Township “Clean-up Day” is **tentatively** scheduled for Saturday, November 20, from 8am to 5pm at Kuliga Park, 6717 Bridgetown Road. If any new COVID restrictions take place

this fall the Township will make every effort to inform residents as early as possible as to the effect on the event and of any restrictions that may apply.

POLICE AND RESIDENTS PARTNER TO ASSIST OUR COMMUNITY

The Green Township Police Department has partnered with township residents to give back to the community.

The **Green Township Police Citizens Academy Alumni Association** is a group of residents who have graduated from the Police Citizen Academy and who remain involved in community events to raise funds for the police department and help citizens in need. Most recently the alumni association provided care packages for every township police cruiser. These packages include sanitary items, dry clothes, bottled water and a healthy snack. Officers provide these packages to people who are experiencing hard times or going through a crisis.

Other academy efforts include:

- Creating a fund to reimburse officers who use their own money to buy food or supplies for a person in need
- Assisting with parking, hospitality, and security at township special events
- Providing funds and organizing the annual "Toys, Tots and Cops" Christmas event that seeks to provide a good holiday experience for township youth whose families are experiencing economic hardship



A separate partnership effort involving Green Township Police is called "Birthday with a Badge." This project is arranged by a group of residents and school officials who partner with the Police Department to assist needy students in our local schools.

These are just a few examples of the various partnerships between our Green Township Police Department and the residents that aim to assist our community. If you'd like to get involved in our police department community outreach programs please call 513-574-0007. To learn more about the Academy Alumni Association, visit www.gtpcaa.com

LET US HOST YOUR MEETING, WEDDING, OR OTHER EVENT!

The Nathanael Greene Lodge, located a half mile west of Harrison Avenue at 6394 Wesselman Road, is an award-winning facility ready to host your next event. The more than 14,000 square foot banquet and community meeting space can host a wide range of meetings, community functions and private events. Groups from 25 - 200 can be accommodated in one of three main meeting rooms. With comprehensive catering options and a knowledgeable full-time staff, planning for your next party or business meeting has never been easier.

These features make the Lodge a perfect setting for your next special event:

- Accommodations for both indoor and outdoor events
- Park-like surroundings
- Great views
- Main ballroom capacity up to 200
- Attentive and knowledgeable staff
- Full service catering available
- Convenient location – just minutes from the I-74/Harrison Ave. interchange with great access to downtown and the region

If you'd like to visit the lodge, need additional information, or wish to check availability for your next event, please call Cheryl or Tracy at 513-598-3100 or visit www.greentwp.org and search Lodge.

Here's what one recent bride had to say:

We loved working with Cheryl and the staff at Nathanael Greene Lodge for our wedding! They were so helpful and on top of everything! The building was beautiful. We were able to have our ceremony outside under the gazebo and our reception in the main ballroom. We couldn't have asked for a better location for our big day!

– Bride Samantha
The Knot review – April 2021



FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

As you may imagine, COVID had a significant impact on our Fire and EMS in 2020. We had more emergency runs than the year prior, and unfortunately had to temporarily suspend some activities.

Emergency runs in 2020

Fire-related	1693
EMS	6350
Total runs	8043
Average runs per day	22

Top 3 reasons for EMS runs

Sick person	982
Trouble breathing	688
Injured from a fall	625

The following non-emergency operations were temporarily suspended for safety reasons related to COVID. But we are happy to report all activities have now resumed:

- CPR training
- Station tours
- Car seat inspections

Recognizing excellence

We are so pleased to report that for the fifth year in a row, Green Township Fire and EMS received the Mission Lifeline EMS Gold (Plus) Award from the American Heart Association. The award recognizes the excellence demonstrated by our paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians in the management and transport of critical heart attack victims.

October is Fire Prevention Month

The goal of Fire Prevention Month is to raise your awareness of what you can do to ensure your home and family is protected in the event of a fire. In 1922, the National Fire Protection Association designated the second week of October as Fire Prevention Week in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. Fire Prevention Week and Month are celebrated with special efforts to increase fire safety awareness. These efforts have included educating families, students and residents throughout the community, and encouraging

parents and loved ones to practice fire prevention and whole home safety. For more information about fire safety and prevention in your home, go to www.nfpa.org and select Public Education.

New fire pumper

September 23 was an exciting day at Station 55 Firehouse in Monfort Heights. That's when our new E-One Fire Pumper arrived. This truck comes with state-of-the-art safety features along with a clean air emission system. The new pumper replaces our oldest truck, a 26-year-old Sutphen Fire Pumper.



Our mission, to make a difference

Our mission is to successfully deliver professional service to the community through education, prevention, and response while embracing department values. These values consist of integrity, compassion, respect, and professionalism. We aim every day to make a positive difference in the lives of our community.

If you have been a recipient of our service, please let us know how we are doing. Also let us know if there is something new you would like to see from Fire & EMS. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Scott Souders, Chief of Department, 513-574-0474

A RECAP OF NUISANCES AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE VIOLATIONS

The Public Services Department is responsible for addressing complaints about properties that are considered a nuisance or are in violation of Green Township's Property Maintenance Code.

Nuisance complaints typically concern issues like high grass and weeds, garbage, junk and debris, and yard waste. Most of these complaints are resolved by the property owner. But when that is not the case, the Township will hire a contractor to resolve the issue and the cost is assessed to the owner of the property.

Violations to the Property Maintenance Code generally refer to poor building conditions such as missing shutters, paint, roofs, doors and windows, as well as fencing, sheds and other accessory structures. Such violations are addressed by either a citation or, as a last resort, Hamilton County Housing Court. The majority of cases are taken care of by the property owners before a penalty is assessed.

Nuisance Breakdown 2021

Total complaints received	498
Complaints declared as a nuisance	113
Owner resolved to-date	421
Nuisance addressed by contractor	39

Property Maintenance Code Breakdown 2021

Complaints received	105
Addressed by owner to-date	43

You are encouraged to contact the Public Services Department at 513-574-8832 or email maint@greentwp.org if you are a resident of Green Township and are concerned about the condition of a neighboring property.

GREEN TOWNSHIP JOINT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

A Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) is a powerful tool because it generates revenue to pay for the costs of safety services in Green Township. The JEDD imposes an income tax on personnel working within the JEDD District and a business profits tax. These JEDD's are created pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 715.70 through 715.83. There are numerous legal requirements that must be satisfied in order to create a JEDD.

A JEDD is a special purpose district that is created by a contract between a municipal corporation and a Township. The JEDD's in Green Township are in cooperation with the City of Cheviot. JEDD's allow for the levying of a district wide income tax in the JEDD. JEDD's assist in paying for certain services (i.e. police, fire & EMS) by imposing an income tax for the employees and businesses within the JEDD District. Tax dollars received by the various Green Township JEDD's will be split between Green Township and the City of Cheviot. The terms of the JEDD's vary, but basically call for a 90% - 10% or 80% - 20% split between Green Township and the City of Cheviot.

Currently, there are seven JEDD's created in Green Township. The newest one is a JEDD with the Hampton Inn on Harrison Avenue once it gets up and operating.

For the year ending December 31, 2020, the six operating JEDD's

produced \$1,823,724 in revenue for Green Township. A breakdown for each JEDD follows:

2020 JEDD INCOME		
JEDD I	Good Samaritan Hospital Western Ridge	\$144,274
JEDD II	Christ Hospital/Children's Hospital Medical Office Buildings	\$112,002
JEDD III	Mercy Hospital West (Hospital Bldg)	\$1,685,945
JEDD IV	Harrison Greene (Plaza)	\$16,092
JEDD V	United Dairy Farmers (UDF)	\$6,070
JEDD VI	McAlister's	\$3,631

The purpose of these JEDD's is to facilitate economic development, create or preserve jobs and employment opportunities, and to improve the economic welfare of the residents of Green Township. Each JEDD has its own Board of Directors. Residential property may not be included within a JEDD district.

If you have any questions about the JEDD you can call Green Township Administrator, Frank Birkenhauer, at #574-4848.

Thomas J. Straus, Fiscal Officer

LEARNING – AND FUN – NEVER STOP FOR OUR SENIORS

Green Township Senior Center reopened for activities in early March. We're so glad to be back in-person, enjoying time with friends for classes and other scheduled activities.

Although transportation restrictions have kept us from day trips this year, that hasn't stopped our seniors from having fun. Our outdoor concerts begun last fall were so popular, they've continued in 2021. We especially enjoyed being entertained by Squeeze Play, the largest accordion band in the region, along with food provided by a local sponsor.

Our popular computer classes resumed in early October. Classes will meet every Wednesday in October and November at 1:30 pm.

We're all looking forward to the upcoming Halloween Dance on Saturday, October 30 which includes entertainment by the Golden Eagles. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Make plans to join the fun from 7-10:30 pm. Tickets will be available at the door for \$8.

The Senior Center also offers a wide range of educational programs.

The Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP) is providing "one on one" appointments across the state to assist people in making educated and unbiased choices for their 2022 health and prescription benefits. OSHIIP has scheduled appointments in Green Township on Wednesday, October 27 starting at 10 am at the Green Township Senior Center.

This fall we are working with the University of Cincinnati Medical Center to bring their popular "Stepping On" falls prevention program to the Senior Center. This small-group workshop is for people who are: 1) at risk of falling, 2) have a fear of falling, or 3) have fallen one or more times. The workshop is held for two hours a week for seven weeks. Guest speakers include physical therapists, optometrists, pharmacists and community law enforcement personnel. They will teach us helpful balance and strength exercises, and explain the role that vision, medication, and footwear play in falls. Participants will learn strategies for avoiding or eliminating fall hazards to better navigate inside and outside the home.

Call Allison at the Green Township Senior Center, 513-385-3780, to inquire about joining our ongoing classes or to find out about upcoming events, classes and special programs.



PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

REPAIRING AND MAINTAINING OUR STREETS

The 520 residential streets that make up Green Township amount to 115 miles of roadway. In 2021 our Public Services Department targeted 3.119 lane miles for repair at a cost of \$1.7 million. This included:

Airmont Court	Leona Drive
Beechmeadow Lane	Mimosa Drive
Goda Avenue	Pickway Drive
Kirkridge Drive	Ralph Avenue
Leders Lane	Simca Lane
Leon Court	Western Hills Avenue

In addition, the following streets were repaved using funds from a Community Development Block Grant. Total cost for repaving the .824 lane miles was \$150,000.

Gables Court	Sumter Avenue
Le Mar Drive	Western Hills Lane
Parkview Avenue	Willowood Avenue
Pasadena Avenue	

The reconstruction of Harrison Avenue, from Lee Court to Wesselman Road, is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2021. This major construction project includes the



installation of a center turn lane, wider lanes throughout the project, and improved sidewalk access for the corridor.

"Paying attention to the condition of our 115 miles of roadway, and making the necessary investment in repairs, goes a long way toward maintaining our property values," says Trustee Dave Linnenberg. "We are grateful to our Public Services personnel for their dedication to safety, and to our residents for their patience as we all navigate these important road construction projects and invest in our future."

A MESSAGE FROM HEALTH COMMISSIONER GREG KESTERMAN

Just a few short months ago, we saw declining COVID cases and the resulting decrease in hospitalizations and deaths

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is doing exactly what viruses do – mutate while trying to figure out ways around some of the protective barriers we've put in place to prevent its spread. Viruses, by nature, evolve as they spread more efficiently and effectively to find the "hosts" they need to survive. Those "hosts" are us – humans that provide a place for these viruses to live and replicate.

The good news is that we have a way out of this pandemic – vaccination. There are now three vaccines, all of which have been approved for emergency use while one – Pfizer BioNTech -- has been fully approved by the FDA. In order to gain FDA approval manufacturers must show that their products have been meticulously tested to be safe and effective. That is the case for each of the vaccines available in the US – Pfizer, Moderna and J&J.

Let's talk quickly about the myths being perpetuated about the COVID vaccines:

Can the COVID vaccine make me sick with COVID?

No -- None of the authorized COVID-19 vaccines in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

Were there enough clinical trials to ensure vaccine safety?

The authorized COVID-19 vaccines enrolled tens of thousands of participants. They were followed for two months after receiving the second dose, which is common with vaccine trials.

These are just a couple of the vaccine misconceptions we in public health hear daily. Your best source for information is a trusted medical practitioner such as your physician, or other trusted health professional.

If you need vaccination or would like more information on the vaccines, you can begin on our website – www.hcph.org or review the Ohio Department of Health (<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>) as a great resource as well.



If you haven't already done so, please consider taking a vaccine. This is the surest way to a return to our pre-pandemic way of life.

Stay healthy!

Greg Kesterman

Hamilton County Health Commissioner



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www.greentwp.org

Trustees' Meetings are held at the Administrative Complex, 6303 Harrison Avenue on the 2nd and the 4th Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Your attendance is always welcome.



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PLEASE RECYCLE GREEN TOWNSHIP

Rumpke has informed us that more than half of Green Township residents regularly recycle. If you contract with Rumpke for trash services, curbside recycling is available at no additional cost!

Here's what you can do to become a routine recycler:

Contact Rumpke at 1-800-828-8171 or Cincinnati.market@rumpke.com to request a free recycling container be delivered to your home. Choose from an 18 gallon bin or 65 gallon cart.

