

# Around The Township

Serving the needs of the citizens and businesses of **Butler Township**

Fall 2018

## Police Trained in Crisis Intervention



In a recent incident, Butler Township officers responded to a home where a subject was reported as discharging his firearm in the backyard of a residential neighborhood.

Utilizing the training and skills they had learned in a 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team training program, the officers were able to talk to the man and get him to a local hospital for a mental health evaluation.

### Why is this happening now?

Growing drug and alcohol abuse and untreated mental illness have led to an increased number of altercations between mentally ill individuals and law enforcement. Officers are frequently sent to deal with a mentally ill person without the necessary knowledge, training or experience to help.

CIT training teaches police officers specific communication strategies and how to identify mental health resources. It empowers officers with de-escalation skills and includes scenario-based training to respond to crises.

### The program is offered free

Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services makes the program available to area jurisdictions without a fee.

“CIT improves officer safety and helps minimize the amount of time officers spend on mental-disturbance calls,” said Butler Township Police Chief John Porter. “And it may save money by diverting mentally ill people from jail into appropriate mental health treatment.”

At this time, 13 of 18 officers will have completed this extensive training. Butler Township also received a \$1,000 grant through the National Alliance on Mental Illness in Ohio to help offset the overtime costs associated with sending officers to the weeklong training.

## Free Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Every year, senseless deaths occur due to carbon monoxide filling a home with noxious gas. But there is a way to prevent such tragedy.

The Dayton Firefighters Federal Credit Union has generously donated 50 carbon monoxide detectors to the Butler Township Fire Department. The department is offering these carbon monoxide detectors free on a first-come, first-served basis.

If your household doesn't have a carbon monoxide detector, please contact the Fire Department at 937-890-2491.



Carbon monoxide is a killer. The Butler Township Fire Department has received 50 CO detectors to give away to residents – at no cost.

## In This Issue

Development Trend Continues.....	3
Beggar's Night Set.....	4
Managing Residential Drainage.....	5
Drug Take-Back Event Set.....	7

## New Face at Government Center



The next time you visit the Government Center, you're likely to be greeted by the newest addition to the Butler Township team, Jill Anthony. A Dayton native, she works in the Police Department's Records Section and assists in Human Resources. She also helps as a receptionist in the township's administrative offices.

Jill is a graduate of Northmont High School and Wright State University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Education. She has spent most of her professional career as an administrative assistant.

Jill is married and has two children and three adult stepchildren. She enjoys classic cars, gardening, cooking and spending time outdoors.

## Development Trend Continues



Business development in Butler Township has continued at a brisk pace over the past several years. Here's a summary of recent activity:

- A new Tire Discounters store opened Wednesday, August 29. Tire Discounters, at 7976 N. Dixie Dr., is located behind Walmart, situated between Fifth Third Bank and McDonald's in the York Commons Business District.

- Walmart and McDonald's (see "Future of McDonald's..." on page 3) have both submitted plans to update their stores.

- American Legion Post 588 has received approval for a conditional use from the Butler Township Board of Zoning Appeals to locate in the former Moritz Florist at 8220 N. Dixie Dr. The group has been diligently working to clean up a vacant property that was becoming a nuisance in the business district.

- First Light Church of Vandalia has opened a new satellite campus in Butler Township, at the Smith Middle School, located at 3625 Little York Rd.



## User-Friendly Upgrades at Government Center

Major improvements have taken place at the Government Center in the past few months. The lobby has been remodeled to make the space more user-friendly and efficient. The improvements include

- Consolidating the police and administration reception areas with an open concept to better assist the public.
- Removing a wall on the police side of the building to expand the Road Room, where the patrol officers assemble to do paperwork and carry out day-to-day activities.
- Eliminating a small storage area to make room for two new work stations in the Road Room and one additional office space in the detective's office.

"Reconfiguring the space allows us to better serve the public and make the best use of staff resources," said Township Administrator Erika Vogel. "We're already seeing the benefits of the transformation."



# Future of McDonald's is Here

McDonald's "Experience of the Future" is coming to Butler Township, according to local McDonald's owner/operator Al Herzog. He recently announced a major renovation at his restaurant at 3411 York Commons Blvd.

"Our goal is to build a better McDonald's for customers and neighbors in the York Commons community," said Herzog, a four-restaurant owner/operator who, in 2017, celebrated his 40th anniversary with the brand. "My family and I take great pride in our service to the community, and we're really looking forward to bringing the future of McDonald's here."

The renovated restaurant will include digital ordering kiosks and table service inside a modernized dining room. Outside, customers



will be able to use the McDonald's app to select Mobile Order & Pay with curbside pickup, and the drive-thru will feature digital menu boards. Delivery will also be available, thanks to McDonald's partnership with Uber Eats.

Construction on York Commons began October 5. The drive-thru and McDelivery will remain open during the project. The new restaurant is expected to be finished before Thanksgiving.



## York Center Drive Improves Access

Traffic is flowing smoothly and business is good with the road extension of York Center Drive having been completed in August. The road connects the interior of the business district to Maxton Road and allows for a secondary access into the Sam's Club parking lot.

The roadway has opened up several acres for potential commercial development within

the Township's Joint Economic Development Zone (JED-Z) District, which generates a one percent income tax.

The cost of the road construction and utility extension was \$525,000. The main funding source was Tax Increment Financing (TIF). These funds have been collected from the property taxes derived from within the business district and developer contributions.

## New Truck, New Look

The Service Department put into service a new, bright white Ford F-250 pick-up truck this summer. It replaces a truck with mechanical failure. The service department has historically purchased yellow vehicles for their fleet. However, to keep costs down and get a new truck into service quickly, officials decided white was the way to go.



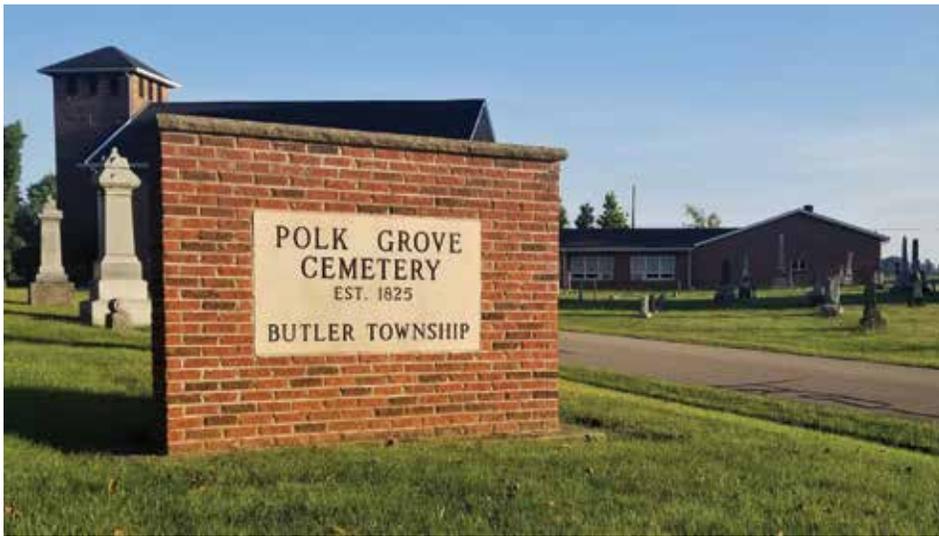
# Keeping Our Cemeteries Beautiful

Along with township roadways, the Butler Township Service Department is responsible for maintaining five cemeteries. Only one is active with burials all year long: Polk Grove Cemetery, located at the southeast corner of National Road and Frederick Pike.

“The township takes great pride in keeping the cemetery clean and attractive to honor those laid to rest and their families,” said Service Department Director Jeff Barnett.

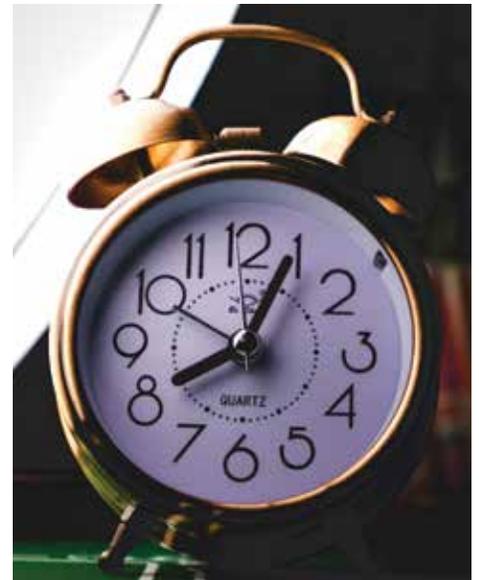
“The cemetery rules and regulations were reviewed and revised in the spring of 2018 to streamline maintenance while still keeping our cemetery beautiful.”

If you have any questions pertaining to the rules and regulations, please visit the township’s website at [www.butlertownship.com/departments-services](http://www.butlertownship.com/departments-services) or contact Service Department Director Jeff Barnett at 937-890-1218.



## Boo! Beggar's Night Set

Parents of all Butler Township ghosts, goblins, Minions and superheroes, mark your calendars: Beggars' Night is set for Wednesday, October 31 from 6-8 p.m.



## Zoning and Code Enforcement Recap

Property cleanup and improvements help to keep the township beautiful and property values stable – which is why zoning and code enforcement are always a high priority for the township.

Here's a summary for this year as of the end of August:

- 51 zoning permits had been issued
- 198 violations have been reported
- 6 nuisances abated by the township, totaling \$7,700 in assessments



## Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery

When you change your clock to “fall back” on November 4, remember to change the batteries in your smoke alarm. The time change makes it easy to remember.

# Everything You Need to Know About Residential Drainage

Most of us don't worry about stormwater management – until something goes wrong or we see the devastation caused by flooding disasters around the world. Here are some basic facts about this important public service that affects many aspects of our lives, including health, safety, properties and infrastructure.

## What is stormwater?

Impervious (nonabsorbent) surfaces, such as rooftops, driveways and roads, prevent water from being absorbed into the ground. The water that is not absorbed into the ground is called stormwater runoff. It goes untreated, picking up pollutants such as trash, fertilizer, pesticides, oils and more, which can negatively affect water quality.

## What is stormwater management?

Stormwater management is a system for controlling stormwater runoff. Stormwater management practices are incorporated into subdivision building plans to prevent impacts to downstream properties, creeks, streams, rivers and other water bodies.

## How are stormwater management and the storm-drainage system related?

During an event that creates runoff, the storm drainage system carries stormwater to a creek, stream, river or water body by way of a swale, channel, ditch or pipe. It is often collected into a stormwater management facility. Maintenance of the storm-drainage system and using best management practices are essential for proper operation and structural integrity.

## Who maintains the storm-drainage system?

Typically, Butler Township Service Department and the Montgomery County Engineer's Office maintain storm-drainage systems within the public street right-of-way. The remaining parts of storm-drainage systems, and any stormwater facilities, are privately maintained by property owners or sometimes by homeowners' associations.

## What do I do if I notice a drainage problem within the right-of-way?

If you are experiencing a drainage-related issue within the road right-of-way, contact Butler Township Service Department at 937-890-1218 or email [jbarnett@butlertownship.com](mailto:jbarnett@butlertownship.com).

## Who maintains the ditch in the front of my property?

Butler Township and the Montgomery County Engineer maintain all public roads, along with any ditches, swales and pipe culverts within the public right-of-way.

## What can I do to prevent drainage problems on my property?

Many factors may contribute to the drainage issues you might be experiencing. Remember, property owners or homeowners' associations may be responsible for maintaining the storm-drainage system. To help the drainage system work properly, you can

- Ensure that storm-drainage systems are kept free of yard waste (grass clippings, tree trimmings, leaves) or other obstructions that may block water flow.
- Remove trees, shrubs and other growth that could obstruct drainage.
- Keep garages, sheds, decks, patios and pools out of the path of the storm-drainage system.
- Ensure fences do not impede the flow of stormwater. DO NOT install fencing "at-grade," or flush, with the ground, and provide enough clearance. If possible, install fencing that allows for stormwater to flow unrestricted.

## Who should I call if I have a drainage issue?

If you have drainage concerns, contact the Butler Township Service Department at 937-890-1218 and request a site visit. Staff will assist by identifying the problem, determining who's responsible for maintenance and providing technical assistance.



# LOOK. LISTEN. LEARN.

Be aware. Fire can happen anywhere.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: OCTOBER 7-13, 2018  
firepreventionweek.org



## Home Fires Most Deadly

The latest statistics from the National Fire Protection Association show that if you report a home fire, you're more likely to die today than you were a few decades ago.

This startling statistic is behind this year's Fire Prevention Week theme: "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware - Fire can happen anywhere."

The message is simple:

- Look for places fire can start.
- Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm.
- Learn two ways out of each room.

This advice is especially important for home fire safety, since four of five US fire deaths occur at home. In fact, the fire death rate was 10 percent higher in 2016 than in 1980.

## Department Hires Experienced Officer



The Butler Township Fire Department recently hired Tyler Mangas as a captain to fill a vacant

position. A second-generation firefighter, Tyler has been providing fire/EMS service for the last 16 years.

He has worked with multiple fire departments and was most recently full-time with the Huber Heights Fire Division. His experience includes serving as training officer, EMS supervisor and fire inspector in addition to the duties of a firefighter/paramedic.

## Part-Time Staffing Fills Needs

The Fire Department has hired six part-time firefighter/emergency medical technicians (EMT) recently to maintain adequate staffing to meet the community's needs. Paramedic Teresa Prass returned to the department after being gone for two years. Firefighter/

EMT's Kailyn Simpson and Cole Quillen were also appointed, as were Shane Fiedler, Josh Stubblefield, Garret Buttelwerth, who come to the Butler Township with experience from other area departments.



*New part-time staff include (L-R) Shane Fiedler, Cole Quillen and Garret Buttelwerth. Not pictured are Kailyn Simpson, Terri Prass and Josh Stubblefield.*



## October 27: Dispose of Drugs Safely

Old or unused prescription drugs can cause major problems when taken improperly. Now it's easy to dispose of them safely.

The Butler Township Police Department encourages you to bring your unused pill-type medications to the next Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, October 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Police Department, 3510 Sudachi Dr. No liquids or syringes can be accepted.

An officer will be available to assist residents in safely disposing of outdated and or unused prescription medications.

If you can't make it on October 27, you can make use of the Prescription Drop Box, which is accessible in the lobby of the Police and Administrative offices, weekdays during normal business hours.

## Police Department Updates Equipment

Now financially stable, the Butler Township Police Department has, in the past year, been able to update and replace some outdated equipment and technology items.

**Computers** - All the department's computer systems were at least six years old in 2018. Several have been replaced and others will follow over the next two years.

**TASER devices** – We also replaced the department's aging TASER devices, all of which were over five years old, with some over 11 years old—more than twice their life expectancy. Each officer now has a Taser device issued, and they are all covered under a warranty plan that will result in no cost for any repairs during their life span.

**Stop Stick deflation devices** – All department vehicles will soon be equipped with Stop Stick tire-deflation devices, which allow officers to safely deflate the tires of a fleeing vehicle. The goal is to safely end traffic pursuits, which are dangerous for the police and the public.

**Marked patrol cars** - Although the department staff has grown to 17 full-time officers, the fleet of marked patrol cars had been reduced over the past 10 years to only seven. Adding one vehicle was possible this year because the police department's first generation of utility vehicles, which were scheduled for replacement, were in good enough condition to continue operating. The new patrol car includes a camera system that replaces a six-year-old model. Also, a new computer system with a removable tablet allows officers to use their computers at a scene and enter report information directly into the department's records management system.



## Department Wins Cancer-Prevention Grant

Two recent studies of cancer among firefighters show that firefighters face a 9 percent higher probability of a cancer diagnosis, and a 14 percent higher risk of cancer-related death than the general US population.

The Butler Township Fire Department has been awarded a grant of nearly \$12,000 from the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation to purchase of particulate hoods and gloves designed to limit firefighters' exposure to cancer-causing materials related to firefighting activities.

## Opioid Epidemic Continues

The New York Times recently reported drug overdoses killed about 72,000 Americans last year, a record number that reflects a 10 percent rise, according to new preliminary estimates from the Centers for Disease Control. The death toll is higher than the peak annual death totals from the H.I.V. virus, car crashes or gun deaths.

Drug overdoses in Montgomery County reached 1,100 in the first eight months of 2018. In that same period, overdose deaths climbed to about 170.

The Butler Township Police Department continues to partner with the Montgomery County Drug Free Coalition. Although the Coalition has made some significant progress, there is still more to do locally.

Residents can help by educating themselves and recognizing the danger signs of addiction. More information and resource guides can be found at [www.mcdrugfree.org](http://www.mcdrugfree.org).



**Government Center**

3510 Sudachi Dr.  
Dayton, Ohio 45414

**Township Trustees**

(937) 898-6735  
Joseph Flanagan – x1197  
Michael Lang – x1196  
Kenneth Betz – x1199

**Fiscal Officer**

(937) 898-6735  
Mark Adams - x1198

**Township Administrator**

(937) 898-6735  
Erika Vogel - x1113

**Police/Fire/EMS**

Emergency  
9-1-1  
Non-Emergency Dispatch  
(937) 233-2080

**Fire Department Admin.**

(937) 890-2491  
Chief Dan Alig – x1403

**Police Department Admin.**

(937) 890-2671  
Chief John Porter – x1231

**Service Department**

(937) 898-6735  
Jeff Barnett, Director - x1302

**Trash Department**

(937) 898-6735 x1119

**Zoning Department**

(937) 898-6735 x1111

**Property Maintenance**

(937) 898-6735 x1121

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit 137  
Dayton, OH



## That Time of Year: Leaf Pickup

Butler Township residents will again this fall have leaf pickup as part of the trash removal service. Here are the details:

- Leaf pickup runs October 9 through December 13.
- Leave your filled leaf bags out for pickup on your regular trash service day.
- DO NOT RAKE YOUR LEAVES TO THE STREET OR GUTTER. THEY WILL NOT BE PICKED UP FROM THERE.