

Community Connection

United in Service to our Community:

Butler Township, City of Vandalia, Vandalia-Butler City Schools

Summer 2022

Star-Spangled Fun for All

The skies above the Vandalia Sports Complex will explode with brilliant fireworks on Sunday, July 3, as the City of Vandalia and Butler Township present the Star-Spangled Celebration!

This event combines music, food and a spectacular fireworks show to ring in the Independence Day holiday.

Music by the Tyler Cochran Trio will start at 7 p.m. Count on dancing to your favorite hits from the 60s, 70s and 80s.

Local organizations will sell hot dogs, hamburgers, pizza, pretzels and popcorn.

Plan to come early as parking lots are full well before 9 p.m.

"This event is so fun and so patriotic, you're guaranteed to leave humming the Star-Spangled Banner," said Vandalia City Manager Dan Wendt.

Thanks to Our Sponsors

The City of Vandalia and Butler Township want to thank the local businesses that pitch in to support the Star-Spangled Celebration. Primary sponsors include Smedley's Chevrolet, Airport Toyota, Beau Townshend Ford and Fifth-Third Bank. Additional support comes from Digital Cowboy Computers and the law firm, Pickrel, Schaeffer and Ebeling.



Fireworks begin at 10 p.m. sharp!

Cruise-In to Butler Township – Aug. 5

Take Pride in Your Ride

You're invited to join the area's car enthusiasts and other fun-lovers at the 8th Annual Cruise-In to Butler Township, August 5, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Commerce Center Drive and York Commons Boulevard are closed during the event, so everyone can safely admire the many makes and models of cars lining the streets. Food and beer will be available. The classic rock and country band, Blue Leaf, will perform, so bring your lawn chair and enjoy the music.

Registration is free, and the first 100 vehicle registrants will receive a free t-shirt and dash plaque.

The following awards will also be announced at the end of the show:

The People's Choice: "Best in Show" (Voted on by the public)

The Trustee's Award: "Bragging Rights" (Voted on by your township trustees)

The Fire Chief Award: "Hottest Ride" (Voted on by the fire chief)



The Police Chief Award: "Most Likely to Get a Speeding Ticket" (Voted on by the police chief)

We hope you'll join in to make this year our biggest year yet!



For more information, visit @cruiseintobutlertownship on Facebook.





Class of 2022 leaders: (L-R) Madison Geier, Senior Class Vice-President; Lilian Seldon, Senior Class Secretary; Mitchell Thomas, Student Body Vice-President; Jacob Louderback, Student Body President; Danielle Holop, Senior Class President; Katherine Bonifas, Student Body Secretary.

Congratulations, Class of 2022! District's 100th Commencement

With 229 spring graduates, the Class of 2022 celebrated Vandalia-Butler's 100th commencement of the consolidated school district.

Superintendent O'Leary reflected on the group's time at Butler High School.

"The tornado to end your freshman year, the nine-week shutdown of your sophomore year and the fight for normalcy

your junior and senior years. You did not have one 'normal' high school year, but here you are. You have achieved so much collectively and individually, despite having every excuse to fail," he said.

Through all of the trials and tribulations, the Class of 2022 proved to be resilient, earning a record high of \$11,888,797 in post-secondary scholarships.

New Sidewalks to Improve Students' Safety

New sidewalks on the north side of Stonequarry Road, between the Vandalia corporation limit and Morton Middle School, are on their way. Butler Township is finalizing agreements with property owners for the installation of the sidewalks.



The new sidewalks will start at the corner of Peters Pike, connecting the walking path in Vandalia to the east and the Morton Middle School to the west. This connection will allow students to walk safely to school and may potentially reduce the number of bus routes needed.

The project is a joint effort involving Butler Township, the City of Vandalia and the Vandalia-Butler City School District.

"All the entities have been dedicated to making it happen," said Butler Township Administrator Erika Vogel.

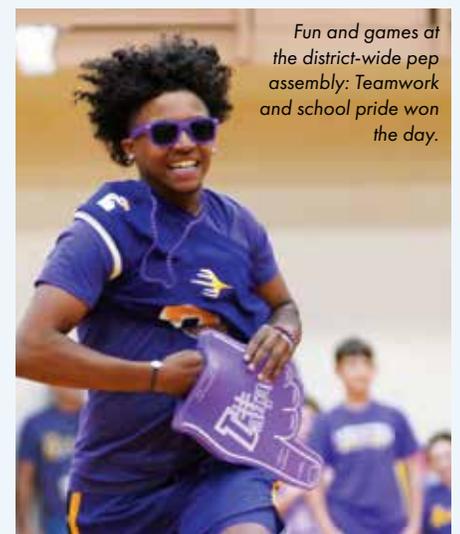
The township is hiring a contractor and plans to complete construction before the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

3,000 Aviators Gather to Close Out School Year

More than 3,000 students and VBCSD staff came together in early May for what's becoming a popular tradition: a district-wide pep assembly. This year they celebrated Vandalia-Butler's 100-year anniversary as a consolidated school district.

It was an excellent way to offer encouragement to all to finish the school year strong. Staff and students, from high schoolers to first graders, competed in friendly games such as Quick Change Relay and Noodle Ring Pass. It was a joy to see all Aviators working together and staff modeling the value of school pride.

In his remarks, Superintendent Rob O'Leary thanked everyone for being respectful, responsible and resilient.



Fun and games at the district-wide pep assembly: Teamwork and school pride won the day.



Community Wishes Chamber Director Well

One of Vandalia-Butler's most energetic supporters is moving on to a new position. Will Roberts, president and CEO of the Vandalia Butler Chamber of Commerce for the past 15 years, is going to work for the Southern Ohio Chamber Alliance, which serves chambers of commerce throughout southern Ohio.

Since coming to the Vandalia chamber in 2007, Roberts has grown the membership and the number of services offered to members. He created the Taste at the Crossroads, the Vandalia-Butler Awards and the Women in Networking group.

The chamber's board of trustees has hired Bill Clark as the organization's new president and CEO.

"There's been no one who's worked more dynamically to promote this community than Will Roberts," said Butler Township Administrator Erika Vogel. "We look forward to building on his achievements with Bill Clark at the helm."



Vandalia Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees and outgoing president: (L-R) Rob O'Leary, Stacy Whetstone, Mike Thein, John Wheeler, Joel Bopp, Will Roberts, Dan Wendt, Jacqueline Nawroth, Betty Dankworth, Erika Vogel, Mason Hutton, Amy Ross.



Big and Bold, Mural Celebrates City

With help from a talented artist and a host of community members, a colorful mural is now part of Vandalia's downtown streetscape.

Support for the \$10,000 project – located at 115 National Rd. – came through a \$4,250 grant from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District, administered by Culture Works, and funding from the Vandalia Arts Council. Vandalia Rental donated the use of a lift.

The project was inspired by residents and stakeholders who participated in developing the Vandalia Comprehensive Plan in 2020.

"Residents and stakeholders felt strongly about enhancing the city's business corridor," said Assistant City Manager

Amber Holloway. "The final report recommends that the city create a public art program on blank walls and prioritize those walls that will have the most impact on public spaces. This mural does just that."

The artwork celebrates Vandalia's designation as a Bee City, USA, showcasing bees, honeycomb and flowers. It was designed and created by Tiffany Clark of the Mural Machine.

More than 50 people came to help paint the mural on Community Paint Day, May 14.

"People of all ages and abilities came and grabbed a paintbrush to be a part of this project," Holloway said. "It was gratifying to see so many excited about this mural."

What's Coming Up?

Local events are your best bet for a safe and affordable good time in the coming months. Stay in town and enjoy these gatherings with your family, friends and neighbors:

July 3, 7 p.m. – **Star-Spangled Celebration**, Vandalia Sports Complex. Fireworks at 10 p.m.

July 21, 6-8 p.m. – **Music in the Park**, Vandalia Art Park

July 29, 7 p.m. – **Air Show Parade**, Downtown Vandalia

Aug. 2, 6-8 p.m. – **Vandalia National Night Out**, Vandalia Rec Center

Aug. 2, 6-8 p.m. – **Butler Township National Night Out**, Stonesprings of Vandalia

Aug. 5, 4-8 p.m. – **Cruise-In to Butler Township**, York Commons & Commerce Center Dr.

Aug. 18, 6-8 p.m. – **Music in the Park**, Vandalia Art Park

Sept. 9 & 10 – **Sister Cities Oktoberfest**, Vandalia Sports Complex

Sept. 15, 6-8 p.m. – **Music in the Park**, Vandalia Art Park

Oct. 1, 12-7 p.m. – **Butler Township Party in the Park**, Art Van Atta Park

Oct. 8, 12-6 p.m. – **Vandalia Fall Festival**, Vandalia Art Park



butlertownship.com
(937) 898-6735

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500 S. Dixie Dr.
Vandalia, OH 45377



2022 Street Resurfacing List



- Corporate Center Drive
- Koch Avenue
- Long Street
- Howard Lane
- Frances Lane
- Allanhurst Avenue
- Woodland Meadows Drive (S. of Mariclaire)
- Shadowood Drive
- Leaf Tree Lane (S. of Echo Valley Dr.)
- Echo Valley Drive (W. of Topton Dr.)
- Mulberry Woods Court
- Mulberry Road (Dixie to Mulberry Woods Ct.)
- Northwoods Blvd. (Dixie to Flying J)
- James E. Bonham Memorial Drive
- Lakin Court
- Crestwood Hills Drive (S. of Poplar Grove)
- O'Hara Court (West section)
- Old Springfield Road (Old Springfield Ct. - Frost Rd.)
- Frost Road
- Industrial Park Drive (S. Brown School to curve)
- Upper Trent Way (S. of Bolton Abbey Ln.)
- Deerhurst Drive (S. Brown School to Upper Trent)
- Old Derby Court
- Little York Road (I-75 to S. Brown School Rd.)
- S. Brown School Road (N. of Little York Rd.)
- Homestretch Road

City's Road Resurfacing Underway

The City of Vandalia is investing \$1 million in resurfacing 26 stretches of roadway as part of its annual resurfacing program. The overall project includes an additional \$400,000 in concrete repairs to curbs and sidewalks and handicap ramp installations at intersections that do not have them.

"A number of factors go into determining which streets are resurfaced," said Director of Public Service Rob Cron. "We prioritize those streets in the worst shape."

City officials also consider planned utility projects. "If a water or sewer project is planned in the next few years, we wait until it's completed," Cron said. "We don't want to dig up a brand-new street."

Vandalia's "Safe and Stable" levy pays for the street resurfacing program.

"In 2010, voters approved a quarter of one percent income tax to be used for police, fire and streets," Cron said. "The income tax allows us to resurface streets and repair concrete without assessing property owners."

Cron reminds residents to be patient while crews are working.

"We know many will have limited driveway access for a time," he said. "We also know everyone will love the end results."

Tell Us What You Think

The City of Vandalia is developing a parks and recreation master plan that city council will use to inform decisions for years to come. To help create the plan, residents and stakeholders are invited to complete an online survey to share their opinions.

Simply scan the QR Code here to take the survey, which takes less than 10 minutes to complete.

