



Trustee Ron Bischof

Trustee Jeff Brandon

Trustee Sally Albrecht

F. O. Mary Pawlowski

## From the Trustees

Montville Township has been actively requesting grants for many years, and we are proud to report that we have been awarded funding for many of our park projects.

We recently received American Recovery Project (ARP) grant funds due to revenue losses connected with the Covid-19 virus. We have been advised that we are allowed to use this for road repairs and the purchase of two new snowplow trucks. We also are constructing pickleball courts at White Tail Park with this grant award. We are happy to be able to address many road repairs.

This month, we applied to the Ohio Office of Budget and Management for consideration of three new Capital Budget Grants. The first one is to fund an exploratory environmental engineering report on the watershed flooding of the Rocky River along River Styx Road. This project will study the Blue Heron Park Complex parcels to determine what can be done to mitigate flooding downhill to many of our resident's homes there. Hopefully we can identify ways to mitigate that problem, and be able to request additional grants to complete watershed mitigation solutions.

The second request for this funding is to construct a nature trail in Austin Badger Nature Preserve so park lovers can explore nature off the concrete trails there. The third project we are hoping they will award is funding for an ADA compliant playground to be installed at Cobblestone Park.

Both the ARP grant and the Capital Budget Grants have no matching funds required so the projects we complete with these grant funds are done without our taxpayer dollars - completely free to our residents.

Next month, on April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm, we are happy to report that we are holding our Easter Egg Hunt at Cobblestone Park. We had to skip this event in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic so we are very excited to provide this once again for our community. See our advertisement for this on page 6.

Finally, we would like always to invite our residents to attend our trustee meetings at 7 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday nights of every month. We appreciate residents who stay connected to our township.



**Chief Matthew A. Neil awards Officer Seth Gaede the Chief's Award of Excellence and the Chief's Challenge Coin of Excellence**

On February 15, 2022, Officer Seth Gaede was presented with the Chief's Award of Excellence, and the Chief's Challenge Coin of Excellence, for going above and beyond during a call for service in December.

**CALL DETAILS:**

On December 21, 2021, Officer Gaede was dispatched to a Brynwood Drive residence for a minor property damage crash. There, a vehicle struck a mailbox and then fled the scene. Later in the day, while Officer Gaede was following up with the owner of the damaged mailbox, an older lady who lives in the area drove by. She indicated that she had struck the mailbox.

During her explanation why she did not stop to report the damage, Officer Gaede noticed that she continuously touched her chest, and was having a difficult time breathing. In an effort to calm her down and get her in a comfortable environment, Officer Gaede suggested that they return to her home where they could discuss the matter further, and he could gather information for his report.

Once back at her home, Officer Gaede continued to notice signs of a potential medical issue and decided to request that Medina Life Support Team (LST) to respond to evaluate her.

Once on scene, paramedics connected a 12 lead EKG to her, and immediately observed that she was having a heart attack. She was transported to Medina Hospital and then air-lifted to Cleveland Clinic's Main Campus for emergency surgery.

Later that day her daughter called the department to thank Officer Gaede, and told police supervisors that the woman is expected to make a full recovery. Her daughter also said that without Officer Gaede's astute observations, decision making, and efforts to keep her mom calm, they may have suffered a much different outcome.



**Culver's  
Open for business!**

## Road & Bridge Levy Taxes in Montville Township

Residents often consider their property taxes to be very high but may not realize the number of services those tax dollars provide. The following breakdown offers an explanation detailing total property taxes paid and the portions allocated for roads.

### **General Property Tax Information:**

- All townships in Ohio provide services to residents based on levies that have been approved by voters, and taxes are collected based on the approved millage. Per the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), townships in Ohio are not permitted to charge a resident an income tax like cities are allowed to do.
- Property Taxes are initially based on the actual purchase price of the property/home.
- Taxes can be adjusted annually by the state and/or county auditor based on the comparatives in the area. Since some properties have not sold for years, the values are adjusted periodically for inflation.
- A specific tax distribution for a property in Montville Township can be obtained from the Medina County Auditor's website by searching for the property and clicking on the *Tax Distribution* link. The distribution shows the actual tax paid, the mills, the allocation amount and the percentage of the voter-approved levies.

### **Example – 2022 Property Tax - Per the Medina County Auditor's website:**

- The following example is based on a property located in Montville Township in the Medina City School District valued at \$300,000. (Tax rates vary based on which of the three school districts a property is located.)
- In 2022, residential property taxes would be \$5,855 annually for a home valued at \$300,000.
- The \$5,855 in taxes would be distributed to the county, applicable school district, county career center, township, library and the county park district based on the levies approved by voters.

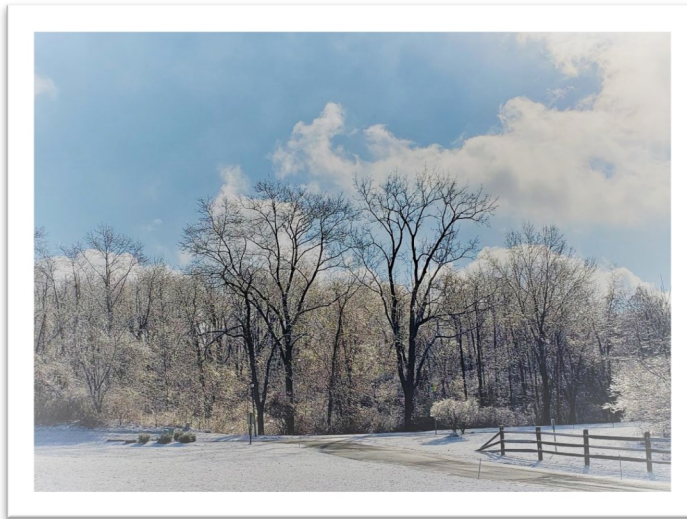
Amount	Recipient	% of Total Tax
\$ 722	Medina County	12.33%
\$ 3,781	Medina City School District	64.57%
\$ 194	Medina County JVSD	3.31%
<b>\$ 907</b>	<b>Montville Township</b>	<b>15.50%</b>
\$ 173	Medina County Library District	2.96%
\$ 78	Medina County Park District	1.34%

### **Breakdown of \$907 annual property taxes received by Montville Township in the above example:**

- \$87 collected from the 2017 Road & Bridge "Levy" can only be used for repair and maintenance of roads, ditches and culverts. Per the ORC, the levy cannot be used for township wages or equipment. Wages and equipment are funded by the Road and Bridge "Fund" that is supported by the General Fund.
- The General Fund balance of \$820 provides police, fire and ambulance services, as well as maintains the township's properties and equipment, cemeteries (one active and three non-active), three parks (Whitetail, Cobblestone and Blue Heron) and basic utilities, such as electricity for street lights.

### **Road Maintenance in 2022 and in the Past:**

- After five attempts, the 1 mill Road & Bridge Levy passed in 2017 for the first time.
- In 2022, the Road & Bridge Levy is supposed to collect \$433,700 to help fund repairs on 53.796 miles of roads.
- Road repairs are evaluated annually in conjunction with a road inspection with the Medina County Highway Engineer.
- Based on 2021 expenses, asphalt repairs cost on average \$135,000 per mile.
- In 2021, resurfacing and repairs for 2.01 miles of Poe Road cost \$281,471.48
- Heavily traveled roads, such as Poe, Guilford, Paradise and Ridgewood, are repaved first.
- Per a resolution, Medina County assumes responsibility for some roads, such as River Styx and Tower, in order to maximize the efficiency of snowplowing patterns.
- Subdivision roads, which have less traffic, are repaired as funds become available and heavily traveled roads have been repaired.
- The plan is to eventually repair every road if the Road & Bridge Levy continues to be approved.



*Mother Nature decided to join in on the Ice Sculpting the week after the Ice Festival on the Square.*

## *Comprehensive Plan Update ~*

In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), Montville Township uses a Comprehensive Plan as the road map for the Township's growth and zoning. The Comprehensive Plan uses a 5-10 year projection as to the needs for the community and the growth warranted for the services available.

During the 2014 update, there was a survey sent out to each property in an attempt to obtain key information for the update of the plan and development of Township properties. Three of the key questions were as follows:

1. What do you like most about Montville Township? A majority stated that the rural character and proximity to surrounding cities were important. Residential neighborhoods and governmental services were also high on the rating.
2. What should be the primary focus in future planning? Preservation of rural character, property taxes and traffic congestion were two top areas where residents felt more attention was needed.
3. What kind of development should Montville gear towards? Overwhelming majority asked for parks/recreation. Low density housing and small commercial services were also key components.

The Trustees were able to use this information to finalize the purchase of Blue Heron Golf Course and turn it into a 252 acre park for the township residents. Statistics on age groups was also obtained which aided in some of the activities available at all three township parks.

The committee is in session to amend this plan and will press to have the update completed by

# EMBRACE THE EARTH!

## MONTVILLE TOWNSHIP CELEBRATES OUR PRECIOUS EARTH IN APRIL



Montville Township, in collaboration with Spokes 2 Café and the Blue Heron Brewery are celebrating Earth Month during April. Every Saturday, activities are available from 11 to 2 at Spokes Café and noon to 4 at the Blue Heron Brewery. These include Rock Painting, and Park Coloring Pictures and Scavenger Hunt contests with prizes awarded on Saturday, 4/30/22 by the Montville Township Trustees. Free tree seedlings will be available on April 23 at both the Café and the Brewery. Educational activities available in Austin Badger and Aaron Smith Nature Preserves.

This event is sponsored by Montville Township's Montville Cares Community Event Planning Committee, Spokes 2 Café and the Blue Heron Brewery. For more information or to sponsor this event, please call Christine Navicky, Montville Cares Coordinator at 330-421-4143.





Montville Township  
**EASTER  
 EGG HUNT**

*Sponsored by*  
**ARMSTRONG®**  
 Keeping you **connected™**

**Cobblestone Park**  
**Sunday, April 10th**  
**1:00 pm**

- CHICKS ..... Ages 2-4**
- BUNNIES .... Ages 5-7**
- RABBITS .. Ages 8-10**
- LAMBS ... Ages 11-12**

