

Chatham Township News

Chatham Township, Medina County, Ohio, USA

***Please LIKE us on Facebook to receive updates on Community Events!**

Chatham Memorial Hall / Community Center

The VFW members made a difficult decision to close Chatham VFW Post #6892 due to the age of its members and declining membership. We express our sincere gratitude to all our Veterans, who served our nation and continued to serve our community by making the VFW the center of community activities for the past 71 years. We extend our gratitude to The Chatham Women's Auxiliary who supported all VFW events. The closing of the Post brought an end to their organization.

The Township acquired the VFW property in December of 2016. The hall has been renamed **Chatham Memorial Hall**. The Township Trustees are leasing the facility to The Chatham Volunteer Firemans Association, whom will continue to rent out the Hall for parties & events. They will conduct and manage the Pancake & Sausage Sugarbush event, using the proceeds to maintain the buildings, grounds, and ball fields as well as donating money and the use of the facility to the same organizations as the VFW had done in the past. There will be no cost to the township as long as the Sugarbush continues. With this acquisition, concerns have been raised with regards to the Community Center and its operation. Over the years, the Community Center has been beneficial in providing meeting rooms, rental space, records storage, monthly movie nights, Soup and Salad night, Candidates Night, Trunk or Treat, and the Santa Shop as well as pavilion use. It is also a Red Cross approved safety shelter. The cost to maintain this building has been kept to a minimum thanks to a small group of individuals who diligently work to clean and organize these functions at no cost to the township. Both properties will have significant building improvements needed in the future. Both properties add value to the township: the Community Center provides meeting room advantages as well as use of the gym and kitchen while the VFW property has a large banquet hall and a kitchen as well. Both have pavilions available. Both sides have about 8 acres of land associated with the buildings. Input from the community is requested as there are differing opinions for the value of these buildings. As residents, how do you perceive the future of Chatham Township? What would you like to see continue? What would you like to be done differently? Which building do you believe provides more value? Are you interested in participating in any of the community functions such as the Trunk or Treat, movie night, Soup and Salad night, and the Sugarbush? Chatham Township has been built upon a community working together and your input as to what you, as a resident and community member would like to see happen, will help decide our future. Please forward your questions and comments to: Chatham Township, PO Box 99, Spencer, OH 44275 or email to chathamtwpii@frontier.com.

View Township expenses at www.ohiocheckbook.com

Township Bicentennial – Truck Show

Mark your calendar and plan on attending our Chatham Township Bicentennial **Truck Show & Country Concert - Saturday Sept. 23rd, from 2-8PM on the Chatham Memorial Hall grounds**. The event is free to the public & will feature performances by the Sunlighters and Charis Thorsell. All are welcome to bring their truck for free public display. There is a \$5 entry fee for those who wish to have their truck judged for a chance at a trophy plaque & cash prize! Reusch Diesel will have a dyno opportunity for those wishing to find out their horsepower!

Please mark your calendar for the **Chatham Township Bicentennial Celebration in 2018 on July 13-14-15**. Our Bicentennial Committee has been very busy hosting fundraising and awareness events in the past months. They participated in the both the Chippewa and Lodi parades and received 3 Trophies! The Committee meets on the 1st Monday of every month at 7PM in the Community Center gym. All are welcome to attend! We need volunteers for upcoming events. Committee Co-Chairs: Sarah Bistline 330-667-2257 and Steve Arters 330-635-0958.

Upcoming Bicentennial Events: Watch for Postings on our Township Facebook page and Website

Chatham Chili Challenge and Beard Contest - Saturday Jan.27th, Chatham Memorial Hall

Valentines Sock Hop and Cake Walk – Saturday February 10th, Chatham Memorial Hall

Firemans Association Pancake & Sausage Sugarbush - Every weekend in March

Apple Butter Festival – Farm Show – Flea Market

Saturday & Sunday October 14-15th, 10AM – 5, Memorial Hall: See how Apple Butter is made at the Apple Butter Festival! Enjoy bean soup, chili, homemade doughnuts, and biscuits with apple butter. Visit the **Craft Show** inside the Hall. A **Flea Market** will be held across the street at the Community Center. All Historical Society museums will be open during the festival including the "old" town hall. The Historical Society is hosting a **Farm Show** on the grounds of the Community Center. See vintage farm equipment and demonstrations! ALL are welcome to bring their tractor, implement, truck etc. for public display.

For additional information: Farm Show 330-815-7413, Flea Market 330-667-2620, Apple Butter Festival 330-590-0119

Candidates Night

Thursday October 19th, 7PM is "Candidates Night" at the Community Center. Please join us on this informative evening which is a great opportunity to learn about the issues we will be voting on as well as the experience, character, and vision of candidates running for office. The November Ballot will include Township and Municipal races, also State issues 1 & 2. This is not a debate. Each candidate will have ample time to speak and answer questions from the audience. This event is held in the gymnasium which offers handicap/wheelchair accessibility and plenty of seating. A microphone/speaker system is available ensuring all will be able to hear. *Please note: We have 5 candidates running for Trustee and 2 running for Fiscal Officer this year.*

Halloween

Saturday October 28th, 6-7:30PM is Trick or Treat. After you roam the neighborhood, please join us in the Chatham Township Community Center parking lot for "**Trunk or Treat**". Decorate your car and put on your favorite costume to spook all the Trick or Treaters as you pass out candy! PRIZES will be awarded for the best dressed and neatest "Trunk". Inside the Community Center we will host a Halloween Party where we'll have refreshments and activities!

Election Day

Tuesday, November 7th is Election Day! Vote between the hours of 6:30AM and 7:30PM at the Chatham Township polls which are located at the Chatham Memorial Hall on State Route 83. Voter registration/update deadline is Oct. 10th. Absentee voting begins on Oct. 11th. For information contact the Medina County Board of Elections at 330-722-9278

Volunteer Fire Department

In accordance with ORC section 153.67 we have posted a public legal notice for a "Request for Qualifications" from Architects & Engineers that are interested in providing their services for a new fire station. As we begin this process, trustees wish to ensure our residents that if and when we ask our residents to vote on a levy for the construction of a new station, it will not cost our taxpayers any more than they are currently paying for our existing Fire & EMS levies. There will be no tax levy increase, just an increase in the number of years the levy would be in effect. Watch for future postings, there will be much more information to follow.

Congratulations to Fire Dept. members: **Tyler Arters** who wrote successful grant applications to cover the \$9000 cost of a new battery powered "JAWS" extrication tool. **Lisa Mokos** who passed her EMT certification. **Tim Mennell** who was promoted to Lieutenant and Training Officer.

Roads & Maintenance

This month, we addressed some problems on Coon Club Road that involved reapplying chip seal to a large portion of the road. Next year, we are planning to chip seal Richman Road from Old Mill Road to Shaw Road, and reapply chip seal to the small portion of Richman south of Shaw Road. Our goal is to resurface a small section of our roads every year. We would like to do more, however the cost to apply a single coat of chip seal to 1 mile of roadway is about \$25,000.

We have applied for an Ohio Public Works grant which would cover 75% of the cost to replace a box culvert on Richman Road between Spencer Lake Road & Route 162.

We welcome Joey Aungst, who was hired as our Roads Maintenance Assistant this past May. He is a lifelong resident of Chatham and a 2017 Cloverleaf Schools Medina County Career Center graduate.

We are still looking for someone to help mow and weed eat township property from April thru October. Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age. Starting pay is \$10 an hour, flexible hours on an as needed basis. Please contact or send letter of interest to our Fiscal Officer.

Zoning - Comprehensive Plan for Development Update Committee

We started to update our current plan last year, and we will continue the process by creating a final draft with those revisions. The draft will then go thru an approval process that includes a public hearing. Once approved it becomes an official document that provides guidelines and vision in conjunction with our Zoning Resolution. Please consider volunteering to participate on the committee and if you are interested, please contact Russ Arters at 330-618-5359. Our next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 28th at 7pm at the Community Center.

Community Center Events & Rental Info

ZUMBA Dance-Exercise class: Weekly Mon-Tues-Thurs 7-8PM. Sat 9-10AM. Contact Carolyn Shaw at 330-667-2183.

Canaanland Opry: Enjoy Bluegrass & Gospel music at this improv style event held on the 1st Saturday of each month. For information contact Danny Smith at 330-347-8976

Family Movie Night: Enjoy family friendly movies the third Saturday of every month. On September 16th, we'll be featuring Smurfs "The Lost Village" which will be shown outdoors, weather permitting. Watch for future postings on Facebook & website.

Christmas Santa Shop: Saturday December 3rd, 9AM – 1. Children may shop for special Christmas gifts at \$5 or less! Mr. & Mrs. Santa will be present from 10AM – 12. Parents may take photos. Enjoy working model Railroad displays!

Crafters & homemade crafts needed. Call Janet Newcomer at 330-667-2620. *(Also on this day, The Chatham Community Church holds "Make it & Take it" from 9AM-Noon, where children can assemble wood projects for gifts. For information call Dan 330-590-0119)*

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony: Saturday December 2nd, 7PM. Join us afterwards for cookies & refreshments at an open House in the Historical Society's museum featuring vintage Christmas tree decorations.

Joyce Siman Pavilion: Available for use free of charge. In lieu of a fee, donations to breast cancer & cancer research would be appreciated. Please contact Janet Newcomer at 330-667-2620 to reserve.

Thrift Room: We have house wares, toys, furniture etc. Thrift room is open during most Community Center events. Our volunteers will accept monetary "free will donations" for these goods. Proceeds are used to purchase food, refreshments, maintenance items etc. used at the Community Center. Do you have leftover items from your garage or yard sale? We accept most useable items, no clothes please. Please contact Janet 330-667-2620 or Carolyn 330-667-2183 for drop off or pick up arrangements.

Rental rates: Meeting Rooms: \$35 for use up to 3 hours, an additional \$10/hr thereafter. Gymnasium: Sporting Events \$15 1st hr, \$10/hr each additional. Non- Sporting Events \$125 for use up to 4 hrs, an additional \$25/hr thereafter. Contact Janet Newcomer at 330-667-2620.

Christmas-Holiday Lighting Decorating Contest

Get in the spirit of Christmas and create the BEST outdoor lighting display! Judging will take place in the 3 following categories: (1) Best overall Appearance (2) Best use of Light (3) Best use of Characters. Please call Sarah 330-667-2257 or Arlene 330-667-2273 with your name & address to enter your display in the contest. Winners will be announced Dec. 18th

Please note: If you wish to receive the electronic version of the "Chatham Township News", please send your e-mail address to our fiscal officer at chathamtwpii@frontier.com. Include your name and mailing address so we are able to accurately remove you from our mailing list.

If you are aware of anyone within Chatham Township not receiving this Newsletter or if your address on the mailing label is incorrect, please email our fiscal officer at chathamtwpii@frontier.com or call 330-815-7413. Rick Dumperth-editor

Chatham Township Contact Information

Township Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChathamTownshipMedinaOhio

Township Website: www.chathamtownshipohio.org

Township Email address: chathamtwpii@frontier.com

Township Trustees: Sue Jurkowski 330-635-5647, Russ Arters 330-618-5359, and Rick Dumperth 330-815-7413

Township Fiscal Officer: Sarah Poling: 330-667-6020

Township Maintenance Garage: 330-667-2924

Township Zoning Inspector: Chuck Porter: 330-421-3260

Township Community Center: Scheduling; Janet Newcomer 330-667-2620.

Township Cemetery Sexton: Sue Jurkowski 330-635-5647

Township Volunteer Fire Department: 330-667-2372 **Fire Chief:** William Disbrow 330-461-0459

Chatham Memorial Hall rental: Frank Keeling 330-410-6237