

Montville Matters

Issue #15 Spring 2023

TOWNSHIP CONTACTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Randy Peterson • 440-968-3460
rpeterson@montvillegeauga.com

Jim Marsic • 440-286-1009
jmarsic@montvillegeauga.com

Tricia Combs • 440-968-0163
tcombs@montvillegeauga.com

Trustee meetings are held the 1st and 3rd
Tuesday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.

FISCAL OFFICER:

Karen Hawkins • 440-821-4040
khawins@montvillegeauga.com

ZONING:

Inspector: Mike Benesh • 440-968-3784
mbenesh@montvillegeauga.com

Secretary: Heidi Abrams • 440-968-3784
habrams@montvillegeauga.com

Zoning Inspector Hours are every
Tuesday from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

ROAD DEPARTMENT:

440-226-2203

CEMETERY SEXTON:

Karen Hawkins • 440-821-4040

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

NON-Emergency 440-968-3318

Fire Chief: Ron Jonovich
rgjonovich@aol.com

Asst. Chief: Brian Briskey

HALL RENTALS:

Randy Peterson • 440-968-3460

ZONING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

John Holbert (2021-2025)

Jim Brace (2022-2026)

Robert Weigle (2019-2023)

Tim Bell (2020-2024)

Rachel Formica (2023-2027)

Zoning Commission Meetings are held the
4th Thursday each month at 7:30 p.m.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Rudy Breunig (2021-2025)

LuAnn Burger (2022-2026)

Letty Kruty (2019-2023)

Ron Kruty (2020-2024)

Matthew Hawkins (2023-2027)

Zoning Board of Appeals Meetings are held
the 4th Wednesday as needed at 7:00 p.m.

What's Happening in Your Township

Happy Spring Montville! I am looking forward to spending some time outdoors and starting my vegetable garden that is ever-expanding. Each year I tell myself I don't need as much and each year I end up planting MORE. Fortunately for friends, family and co-workers, I share the spoils and I was able to do some canning last year which filled my home with childhood memories and the scents of chili sauce and bread and butter pickles. I will ride out the remainder of the variable northeast Ohio winter weather to get to the warmer, greener days that are soon-ahead.

Once again, we have been busy with updates to the community center and fire department with various projects completed or in-progress which include ice guards installed on the road garage, removal of the block building on the property, pavilion roof replacement, installation of a new PA system in the main hall, new paint and flooring in the main hall, new flooring in the fire department and new benches for the playground and volleyball court.

You will be able to check out these updates in-person as we look forward to Montville Community Day on Saturday, September 9th. Come mingle with your fellow community members and enjoy a sweet treat, a performance by Big North Band as well as other concessions. The event will be from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Additional details are still in-progress. If you want to join our committee for planning this and future events in Montville, watch the website's events page for upcoming meetings or reach out to Tricia at tcombs@montvillegeauga.com to provide your contact information to receive notifications. If you are a local business that would like to sponsor this or future events, please reach out to Tricia at the email above.

Please watch the website <https://montvillegeauga.com> for additional details about Montville Community Day! We look forward to this long overdue event to bring our community together!

The Montville Township Board of Trustees would like to recognize resident Kristy Holbert on her life-saving assistance to a student choking at lunch by performing the Heimlich maneuver. Kristy received well-deserved recognition and praise from the Chardon Local School District for her emergency responsiveness during the incident. Congratulations, Kristy!

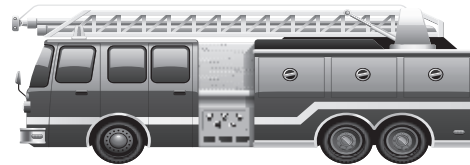
Lastly, Dominion Energy would like to remind communities about safe digging. Ohio law requires that anyone digging must contact Ohio811 by dialing 811 or (800)362-2764 at least two working days prior to any digging, ditching, drilling, leveling or plowing activity. Representatives of Dominion Energy will then come to the location and identify and mark nearby underground natural gas pipelines, FREE of charge. Keep this in mind when planning new building projects like additions and decks.



Kristy Holbert

-Tricia

News From the Fire Department



Easter Egg Hunt

Montville Fire Department will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 8 at the Montville Community Center pavilion and ball field. The Easter Bunny will arrive at 10:30 with the Easter Egg Hunt beginning at 10:45. The hunt is for children preschool – 10 years. The event will be held rain, snow or shine so dress for the weather. Please bring your own baskets to gather the eggs. Financial donations will be accepted to help cover the costs.

Pancake Breakfast

Montville Firefighters' Association will host a pancake breakfast on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, 2023 at Montville Community Center. Meals will be available from 8:30 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. and again after the cemetery program until 11:30 A.M. Cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 5-12 years with military / veterans in uniform free.



2022 Zoning Recap

From the Desk of Zoning Inspector Mike Benesh and Zoning Secretary Heidi Abrams:

- We issued 18 permits in Montville Township including 1 new construction permit.
- The Board of Zoning Appeals oversaw 3 hearings for area variances.
- The Zoning Commission have been working on reviewing the current zoning resolutions for updates.
- We have been working with home owners on uninhabitable and/or unsafe structures.

Just a reminder:

Permits are needed for additions, out buildings, decks, pools, ponds and business signs.

► Welcome Aboard

Montville Fire would like to welcome aboard the following: Zach Clay, Christopher Clay, Sabrina Welch and Ryan Hudec.

Zach Clay, Chris Clay, and Sabrina Welch are Montville's newest Cadets, they are the sons and daughter of Jackie and Matt Welch, who both serve on the Department

Ryan Hudec is also one of Montville's newest Cadets, he is the son of Bryan Briskey who is the assistant Chief of the Department.

► Congratulations

Congratulations to the following personnel:

Ellen Wroblecky on passing her Paramedic certification

Delayne Difranco on passing the 36 Hour Volunteer Firefighter certification

Congratulations to Bruce Johnson on being promoted to the Rank of Captain

Congratulations to Josh Grigus on being promoted to the Rank of Lieutenant

► Grants

The Montville Fire Department has received a grant from Firehouse Subs for \$27,140.00. This grant will allow us to purchase 2 Combi-tool battery operated extrication equipment. Each squad will be equipped with this new equipment. These units will allow us to start extrication sooner until more equipment arrives.

► Open burn policies

This is a reminder that the Montville Fire Department requires a Burn permit. These permits are valid for 30 days. Permits can be obtained at the Fire Station. Depending on the situation an on-site inspection may be needed before a permit will be issued. The permit will be valid for yard waste only. Shingles, roofing material, or any non organic material will not be allowed. If burning, any source of extinguishment is required close by IE: Fire Extinguisher or garden hose.

Burn permits are available on the Montville Twp website, you can print the form at home and bring it to the Fire station for processing. The website is www.montvillegeauga.com

Burn Permits are not valid for Commercial Property.

Commercial property needs to get a burn permit from the Lake County Health Department. Their website is <https://www.lcghd.org/air-pollution-control/>

► Employment opportunities

The Montville Volunteer fire department is always accepting applications for firefighter and Cadet positions.

We are currently hiring part time fire fighter/EMT to staff the station. The staffing hours are Monday-Friday 8a-6p for 2 personnel. Pay rate is \$13.79 for Firefighter/EMT and \$15.91 for Firefighter/ ADV or Medic.

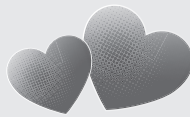
Interested applications please visit our website at: <https://montvillegeauga.com> and under Departments, see Fire Department.

► Earn while you learn

Montville Fire Department has a unique opportunity for students ages 14-18 to learn about the Fire service. The cadet program meets on the first Tuesday of every month. With the cadet program, the cadets can respond with the Fire Department on emergency calls. The cadet program also gives a yearly stipend depending on how many calls the cadet responds to. Any questions please contact Ellen Wroblecky or Jeff Cvelbar at 440-968-3318.

► Runs to date - 73

Thank you!



- **Loveland Enterprises** for fixing the breakers in the Community Center at no charge.
- **Kovach Brothers Garage** for donating the time to mount tires for the Road Department.
- **Ryan Hofstetter** for donating time and knowledge to test the plumbing lines, well pump and pressure tank at the Community Center.
- **Ohio Department of Commerce** for the Cemetery Grant of \$1,000. This helped with the repair to the vault building.



Pictured left-to-right: Richard Plesko, Karen Hawkins, Mike Benesh

Board of Zoning Appeals Is Seeking an Alternate

This group consists of 5 Trustee appointed volunteers who serve five year terms. They hear variance appeals regarding Montville Township zoning regulations. The Board of Zoning Appeals meets monthly, as needed. This is an appointed position and your service is needed when a regular board member is absent; therefore, a 5 member panel is hearing and deciding an appeal.

Interested residents should submit a letter with your name, mailing address, preferred telephone number and email address and any additional information to: Montville Trustees, PO Box 116, Montville, OH 44064 or electronically to khawkins@montvillegeauga.com



From Fiscal Officer *Karen Hawkins*

Again, we survived the Northeast Ohio winter and as many of you, I look forward to warmer weather, planting gardens and enjoying the sounds of the spring peepers.

The beginning of 2023 was a busy one, as always! Many documents to submit to various State departments, reports for the Social Security, Workers Compensation, the list goes on and on. I can say all are complete and 2023 is moving on.

Ms. Combs and I attended the Ohio Township Association annual meeting in Columbus the last week of January.

We each attended many classes related to the operations of the Township and our positions. The information provided by the presenters will help us to serve our community. A few topics that you may want to look at are:

- **Gas Tax** - This is becoming an issue because of electric cars and work from home. The Gas Tax is very essential to our Township to repair roads. A public awareness campaign launched January 1st. If you are interested, a short 2-minute video and survey can be found at OH-ROADFUNDING.com.

- **Broadband** – our internet speed is also a hot topic. We are all using more devices and demand more from the service we pay for if it is for streaming live TV, playing games or working from

home. The State is working to increase availability across the state. They have a website at broadbandmap.fcc.gov to see the services provided to your home. If you need internet access your local library can help.

I have been applying for grants to help with the cost of the annual Clean-up day. Currently, I have applied for two (2) grants from the Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste District.

Both have been approved!

- **Tire Grant** \$2,358 (this may sound like a lot; however, each car tire cost around \$5 and a tractor or truck tire can be \$50 each).

- **Go-Green Grant** \$3,500 (this is allowing us to collect electronics again this year).



Karen

Announcement of Renewed NOPEC's Electric Certificate

I am pleased to announce the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) today renewed NOPEC's electric certificate for another 2-year period. This most-welcome news will allow us to begin the process of re-enrolling customers in our 208 electric member communities later this Spring for a June utility meter read start. Resuming our electric aggregation on that timeline allows us to provide competitively-priced options to benefit your residents and small businesses by having NOPEC as a choice to projected higher Standard Service Offer (SSO) prices starting in June.

As we contended from the start of this process, NOPEC has consistently met or exceeded all certification criteria required of governmental aggregators in the Ohio Revised Code over our 22-year history – and this application was no different.

NOPEC's action in August to transition our electric customers back to the utility default service was in accordance with Ohio law and PUCO rules and was done to benefit our customers who will end up paying substantially less for their electric supply through May of this year. We are pleased that unfounded

allegations from for-profit suppliers that stood to gain the most from a delay or denial of NOPEC's electric certification were found to be unsubstantiated by the PUCO.

We are extremely grateful to the nearly 115 interested parties, including 90 NOPEC member communities, 11 state legislators, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, the Ohio Manufacturers Association, the NAACP Cleveland branch, our supplier, NextEra, and a number of other pro-consumer education and business organizations that filed comments with the PUCO in support of NOPEC's continued certification as an electric governmental aggregator in Ohio. This outpouring of support undoubtedly helped in this effort.

We look forward to continuing our electric aggregation program. We are confident that with the proactive addition of a highly experienced outside energy consultant to NOPEC's team, we have implemented additional measures to ensure delivery of competitive electric rates for the benefit of our residential and small business customers

in your community.

We'll be reaching out soon with additional details on the timing and process for the upcoming electric AND natural gas enrollment mailings happening this Spring. Given the publicity surrounding our electric aggregation as well as the continued volatility in the energy markets, many of you have asked us to facilitate consumer education forums for your residents and we listened. We are developing a schedule for regional public meetings where

NOPEC staff will be available to answer questions you and your residents may have about their energy supply choices.

Thank you for your patience as we worked our way through this recertification process and for your continued support of NOPEC. We look forward to continuing to live our mission by serving our communities and customers and delivering to your community the many benefits of NOPEC membership.

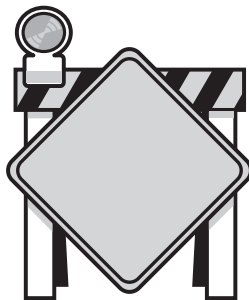
Sincerely,
Chuck Keiper, Executive Director



Road Department News

Hello to all of Montville. After an interesting Winter where we had almost no snow, Mother Nature decided to remind us of what we missed and dumped several new inches of snow on us March 18th. I was getting used to 50s and 60s but like everyone, always had a feeling of "we are not done" in the back of my mind.

Anyway, it is going to be a busy Summer and Fall this year on the roads. If all goes as planned, we will have work completed on Leggett Rd from Rt 528 East to Murphy Road. Morgan Road may be getting resurfaced, Hautala Road will be getting repaired and resurfaced in late Summer



and there may be some additional work being completed on Hart Road B section from Clay Street to Plank Road.

Please be cautious when driving these area with workers. A special thanks to our part time road workers Mike Benesh and Rick Pleško for keeping some of the Township roads open and safe while our County Engineer's Department has done another exceptional year of plowing for us. Look for our new township trailer out in the area doing the Senior Trash pick-ups. Hopefully it will make the guys job easier.

Thanks to everyone and stay safe this Summer so we can see everyone at the Community Day in September!

- Jim

Montville Friends

Montville Friends is a group of men and women who get together to socialize. They meet most Thursdays in the Social Room of the Community Center from 10am to 2pm. If anyone would like to join, contact Karen Hawkins at 440-821-4040 by call or text. You don't have to be a senior or a resident of Montville to join the group. There is no charge to join in the activities which may include card playing, crafts and socializing. Pack your own lunch or snacks. The Social Room is handicap accessible.

They meet year round, but if the schools are closed due to weather, the center will also be closed.

Cemetery News

As Spring appears, the cemetery grounds will be prepared for our Memorial Day celebration. Grounds clean-up will begin soon, please remove any items you wish to keep. Any items left behind, will be removed by the grounds keeper or Sexton if they are deemed to be out-of-season/tattered/damaged. We strive to maintain a beautiful setting for all to visit.

As you decorate your love ones resting grounds, place your items in front of the headstone and keep the safety of our workers in mind by NOT

using GLASS containers or statues.



Consider getting out into the fresh air this year and working at the cemetery! We are looking for help mowing and weed whipping, hours are flexible. Pick up an application by the back door of the community center or from the website.

Montville Township has one cemetery within its boundaries, grave sites are available for purchase. Please, contact Karen Hawkins at 440-821-4040.

From Supt. John Stoddard's Newsletter:

Our school community invested in the development of a Graduate Profile which resolves around skills that will lead our students to success upon graduation. These skills, referred to as the 5 C's are Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, Critical Thinking and Civic Responsibility. This includes career-focused opportunities that include:

- Diesel Program
- Medical Assistant Program
- Auburn Career Center Hands-On Programs
- Learning Through Internships
- Badger Lab Work Opportunities
- Agribusiness Initiative Development on the horizon
- Technology Pathways on the horizon



In addition, 9th and 10th grade students participated in career exposure-related field trips in February to various local businesses which was facilitated by the Geauga Growth Partnership (GGP).

Soft Billing for Emergency Services

Over the years, costs are rising on everything from real estate and transportation to groceries over recent years. These rising costs apply to emergency services provided by every fire department in supplies and equipment. Currently, Montville residents nor their insurance providers are billed for emergency services provided. The Board of Trustees are currently reviewing an option called soft billing. Soft billing would mean that insurance companies will now receive bills for services provided to Montville Township residents. Soft billing does not result in any direct cost to you, as residents. If an insurance company does not reimburse for services, a bill is not

sent to you as the resident. If soft billing is implemented, you would only be contacted to request your insurance information if not previously provided by the hospital. Montville Township is currently the only township in Geauga County not utilizing soft billing. All non-residents and their insurance are currently and will continue to be billed for emergency services provided by our township. Implementation of soft billing is under consideration to bring much needed funds to our township for services rendered by your insurance providers. We anticipate the incoming funds that would result from soft billing can prevent needs to request additional tax dollars in upcoming levies.

Summer Lunch Program

"Now That's What I'm Talking About!" Summer Lunch program begins its fifth year in 2023 feeding children in Geauga County throughout the summer.

This lunch program is free for all children, there is NOT an income eligibility requirement. Children can receive lunch all summer or just a portion of the summer. Maybe you have children or grandchildren for the summer that do not live in the county, they are eligible to receive lunch also.

Registration begins the first of May and is open all summer. Visit ClaridonCommunityHelps.org to register or phone 440-321-5596

Volunteers, adults and/or students, are also needed this summer. If you would like to volunteer for a day, a week or all summer, please call Judi Maloney at 440-321-5596.

Part-time grounds keeper to mow and string-trim Montville Township building and Cemetery.



Must be an independent self-motivated worker, hold a valid driver's license, be 18 years old+, with good driving record, able to complete manual labor/lifting/bending/walking on uneven surfaces, operate zero turn mower and string-trimer. Other duties may be assigned, consisting of helping with burials etc.

- Must pass pre-employment and random drug/alcohol screens
- Job begins April 1, 2023 into October.
- Pay is \$15/hour, 10-hours/week (hours are flexible)
- Equal Opportunity Employer.

Interested parties, please apply to Montville Township Trustees, PO Box 116, Montville, OH 44064. Application and more details can be found at montvillegeauga.com under the Cemetery tab.

Montville Township Trustees
9755 Madison Road
P.O. Bos 116
Montville, OH 44064

PRSRT STD
US Postage
PAID
Montville, Ohio
44065
Permit #5

Montville Resident

Montville Township Senior Trash Pick-Up and Clean Up Day

The Montville Township Trustees and Montville Road Department are joining forces with Geauga County Department on Aging for the 2023 Montville Township Senior Trash Pick-Up Day May 4th and 5th, 2023. In order to be placed on the Trash Pick-up list, you must first register with the Geauga County Department on Aging by April 28th, or earlier, be 60 years of age or older and live in Montville Township.

The Department on Aging can no longer go into seniors homes to pick-up unwanted items. The Montville Township Road Crew and the Department on Aging will pick-up refuse from Montville senior's garages, out buildings, and drives.



- Please note the following guidelines:
- To prevent possible bed bug transferal (or other pest), all mattresses, couches and upholstered furniture **MUST** be wrapped in plastic and taped securely or they will not be taken.
 - The following items will **NOT** be accepted: Construction/Remodeling debris, liquids, paint or other hazardous materials, rocks, yard waste, or household garbage. Reduce wood or pipe to 6' or less. Consolidate all small materials in strong boxes or containers. We will accept unbroken car batteries, lawn mowers, and tires off the rim – 4 per load.
 - Please, only 10 household items per home, and items should be from the reg-

istered senior's household only. Items should be left out the evening before trash pick-up. **DO NOT** leave items by the curbside. For more information about Pick-Up and to register with the Department on Aging, please call, 440-279-2130 weekdays 8:30am-4:30pm.

Remember, only registered seniors can be placed on the pick-up list! Don't wait, call now! Those signing up for pick-up, please have a list of items to be removed. Montville Township Clean-up Day is scheduled for May 6, 2023 from 8:00 am to noon.

Residents must bring their IDs. We accept appliances (freon must be removed from refrigerators/freezers as well as the doors), furniture, scrap metals and items too large for weekly trash collection. We will accept up to 6 rimless tires. We do **NOT** accept concrete/rocks/yard ornaments, liquids, fluorescent bulbs or propane tanks.