

Montville Matters

Issue #21 Spring 2026

TOWNSHIP CONTACTS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Rob Weigle • 440-840-4290
r.weigle@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov

Jim Marsic • 440-286-1009
jmarsic@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov

Tricia Combs • 440-667-1516
pcombs@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov

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

FISCAL OFFICER:

Karen Hawkins • 440-821-4040
khawkins@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov

ZONING:

Inspector: Mike Benesh • 440-968-3784
Mbenesh@montvillegtp.geauga.oh.gov

Secretary: Heidi Abrams • 440-968-3784
habrams@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov
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: Bryan Briskey

HALL RENTALS:

Rob Weigle • 440-840-4290

ZONING COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Jim Brace (2022-2026)
Rachel Formica (2023-2027)
John Holbert (2026-2030)
Ed Lawson (2026-2028)
Ashley Veon (2025-2029)
Zoning Commission Meetings are held the
4th Thursday each month at 7:30 p.m.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Rudy Breunig (2026-2030)
LuAnn Burger (2022-2026)
Matthew Hawkins (2023-2027)
Letty Kruty (2024-2028)
Ron Kruty (2025-2029)
Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting are held
the 4th Wednesday as needed at 7:00 p.m.

What's Happening in Your Township

Spring Greetings to Our Community

As the days grow longer and the weather begins to warm, we look forward to another season of community activities and progress here in the Township. Spring is a great time to reconnect with neighbors, refresh our surroundings, and take part in the events that make our community special.

Our Annual Community Clean-Up Day is Saturday, May 9th from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm for Montville residents (bring IDs) at the Community Center at 9755 Madison Rd. We accept appliances (freon must be removed from refrigerators/freezers as well as doors), electronics, scrap metal and items too large for weekly trash collection. In addition, we will accept up to 6 rimless passenger tires. We do NOT accept concrete/rocks/yard ornaments, liquids, fluorescent bulbs, batteries, yard waste or propane tanks. The annual clean-up day costs are offset thanks to the Tire Grant and Go Green Grant from Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District.



Senior Trash Pick-Up Days will be May 7th and May 8th. In order to be placed on the trash pick-up list, you must first register with the Geauga County Department on Aging by May 1st, be 60 years of age or older and live in Montville Township. For more information and registration form please see the Events tab of the montvillegeauga.com website or register with the Department on Aging by calling 440-279-2130.

We are once again looking forward to Community Day scheduled for Saturday, September 12th from 3:00-7:00 pm. We are in our fourth year and this annual event continues to grow each year offering a chance for residents, families, and local organizations to come together for an afternoon of activities, vendors, and community engagement. Vinyl Arcade will be performing this year. More details will be shared as the event approaches – watch the website for ongoing updates.

Another important development currently underway is a planned addition to the Montville Township Fire Department utilizing two grants secured specifically for the purpose of the addition. This project is intended to support the department's ability to serve residents by accommodating equipment, personnel, and operational needs. Updates will continue to be provided as the project moves forward.

At the state level, there have also been discussions regarding proposals that could significantly change or potentially abolish property taxes in the State of Ohio. Property taxes currently provide the primary source of funding for many township services across the state, including road maintenance, fire and EMS services, parks, and other local operations. While these proposals are still being discussed at the state level, any changes to this funding structure could have a substantial impact on how townships across Ohio operate and provide services to residents.

As always, we appreciate the continued involvement and support of our residents. We encourage everyone to stay connected through Township updates and participate in the events and opportunities that help keep our community strong. Wishing you all a safe, enjoyable, and productive spring season.

- Tricia

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.

Ohio Revised Code 1503.18 Ohio DNR Forestry prohibits outdoor open burning and prescribed fires in the months of March, April, May, October, and November This ban includes burning of yard waste, trash, and debris, even in a proper burn barrel.

Even outside the time and date restrictions, any person conducting a burn must obtain landowner permission, remain with the fire while it is burning, and take all reasonable precautions to prevent the fire from escaping.

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.

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/>

Cheers to our 2026 Berkshire Seniors!

Cameron Beam
Jacob Beasley
Emma Blough
Christian Demchak-Castro
Delaney Gumm
Bradley Lawson
Hayley Matzek
Devin McCracken
Kendra Rodriguez-McMullen
Quinlan Sirl
Michael Skedel
Luke Stute
William Verbic
Luke Zagar



**Congratulations,
and best of luck
on your future
endeavors!**

News From the Fire Department



Retirement

The Montville Fire Department would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Lieutenant Jeff Cvelbar on his retirement from the Montville Fire Department, Jeff has served this community for 23 years.

He has held many roles including assisting with our Cadet program which helped train young people on careers within the Fire Service.

New Members

Welcome aboard to Ben Rhodes as a probationary Firefighter/EMT, Ben is currently in school for Firefighter 1 and 2, he is also waiting on taking National Registry



Resident Request:

Please make sure any low hanging branches in driveways are cut back to reduce risk of damage to emergency vehicles when on response to your residence.

Help Us Help You

The Montville Fire Department has address signs available for purchase; these signs are \$15.00 apiece and include numbers. By having your address posted at the road, this will help the fire department when trying to locate your residence in the event we need to respond for an emergency

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 We currently staff with 2 personnel Monday-Friday 8a-6p. Pay rate is \$16.50 for Firefighter/EMT and \$17.50 for Firefighter/ ADV or Medic.

Please visit the Fire Department section of the website for an application.

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 Wrobley at 440-968-3318

Runs To Date

2025 Calls to date - 403
2026 Calls YTD - 110

From the Firefighter Association

Pancake Breakfast

Memorial Day Pancake breakfast: Monday, May 25 at the Community Center; serving from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. and after the cemetery program until 11:30 a.m. Persons in military uniform are free. Adults \$10.00 and children \$5.00.

The AMVETS will be having the Memorial Day program at the cemetery at 10:00 a.m.

Cemetery News

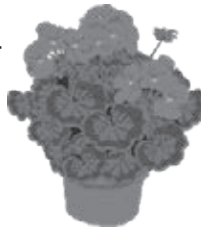
This year our cemetery grass will be cut by a landscaper, not the township employees. Please keep in mind the safety of the workers by placing your items in front of the headstone and NOT using GLASS containers or statues. The cemetery grounds will be prepared for our Memorial Day celebration with clean-up happening soon by the Sexton. Please remove any items you wish to keep.

Items deemed to be out-of-season/tattered/damaged will be removed by the Sexton. We strive to maintain a beautiful setting for all to visit. Montville Township has one cemetery within its boundaries, grave sites are available for purchase.

Please, contact Karen Hawkins at 440-821-4040 or Khawkins@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov

Memorial Day

Our local AmVets place flowers and flags at each gravesite belonging to their comrades each year the Friday before Memorial Day. They do this to pay tribute to our fallen heroes. The volunteers will gather about 6:00p.m. on Friday, May 22 at the Cemetery. Consider volunteering an hour of your time and meet the area veterans who carry out this tradition. Many hands make for light work.



Road Updates

North Kile residents will soon see road construction and improvement projects beginning. Montville and Hambden Township Road Department personnel will join together to complete the required crossover pipes and culvert pipe replacements ahead of the actual paving resurfacing later this year.

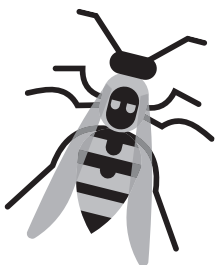
Burrows Road residents east of State Rt 528 should be aware that Montville Township currently has no new additional information regarding the improvement plan on that road as of the time of this newsletter print. Thompson Township will be the lead on this project with the County Engineer Office continuing to build the details and bid package scheduled to be put out at the end of May.

2026 crack sealing and roadside mowing will once again be taking place on several township roads while we look into a possible chip & seal coating on Joann Drive if funding is available this year. Please drive all areas with on-going construction, repairs and maintenance with caution.

Thanks, Jim Marsic

Quick Tip: Stop Wasps Before They Start

Wasp colonies do not survive the winter. Cold weather kills the entire colony, including the old queen. The only wasp that survives is a newly mated queen, which spends the winter hidden in places like tree bark, wood piles, underground spaces, or even garages. In early spring, these queens emerge and begin searching for a place to build a new nest and start a colony.



Now is the best time to set out wasp traps. Catching a queen before she nests can prevent an entire colony from forming near your home. Traps placed later in the season may catch a few wasps, but by then the queen is already in the nest continuing to grow the colony. Early trapping can make a big difference in reducing wasps around your property this year.

Dave Schade | D's B's LLC

From Fiscal Officer *Karen Hawkins*

I hope everyone has been able to shake off the cold of winter and enjoy the warmer days of spring. This winter seemed longer and harder than most lately. Preparation of the 2027 budget is first and foremost on my mind.

With all the talk about "Abolishing Property Tax", I have been crunching numbers to know what funds the Township will have to operate on.

The task has been daunting!

Townships have very limited funding options. Property taxes are the backbone of our budget.

In 2025:

The fire department operated on 97% tax dollars from property taxes, the other 3% was donations and grants from the State.

The general fund operated on 80% tax dollars from property taxes, the other 20% was from funds collected from legislation passed by the State, licensing fees, hall rentals and donations.

The road department operated on 53% tax dollars from property taxes; other funds were collected from gasoline sales and license plate fees.

The trustees and I have been working on many grants for 2026 and have been able to secure:

- NOPEC Energy Grant (\$3,250)
- NOPEC Sponsorship Grant (\$1,000)
- Tire Grant (\$2,358)
- GO-Green Grant (\$2,340)
- MORE Grant (\$1000)
- FIRE Grant (\$1,000)

These are used to hold the annual clean-up day, Community Day and to purchase safety equipment for the road and fire department.

We have applied for a State matching grant for road repairs to Kile Rd. and the dirt section of Burrows.

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

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

Montville Resident

Claridon Community Helps

Registration of "*Now That's What I'm Talking About!*" Summer Lunch, Claridon Community Helps program, for children is open. This program is for all children. We only collect contact information, a child's name, age and if there is a food allergy. For more information visit Claridon-CommunityHelps.org/information or 440-321-5596



Meet your newest Trustee, Rob Weigle

I moved to Montville Township in 2004. I am a graduate of Riverside High School and earned an associate degree in science from Kent State University. I have worked for Geauga County since 2001, primarily with the Engineer's Department, where I have helped maintain and plow county roads and bridges. I began serving on Montville Township's Board of Zoning Commission in 2018 and later was elected as a township trustee.



In my free time, I enjoy hunting, fishing, and working on projects in my shop. I also value spending time with my family, whether it's going out to dinner or taking camping trips together. I look forward to meeting and working with the residents of Montville Township.

Hybrid Land Use & Community Services Survey

The Township is conducting a hybrid survey to gather resident feedback on current zoning and potential future uses of land within the community. The survey also asks for opinions and interest in various Township services and amenities. We request that all residents complete the survey and return by mail or in person, helping us to better identify community priorities and guide future planning decisions.

Responses are appreciated by May 31, 2026.

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