

Montville Matters

Issue #22 Fall 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
tcombs@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
khawins@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov

ZONING:

Inspector: Mike Benesh • 440-968-3784
mbenesh@montvilletwp.geauga.oh.gov

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

Zoning Inspector Hours are every
Tuesday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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)
Ashley Veon (2025-2029)
Ed Lawson (2026-2028)
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

Dear Neighbors,

As another season brings us together, I am reminded of what makes our community so special: neighbors helping neighbors, volunteers giving their time, local organizations stepping forward to support one another, and families coming together to celebrate the place we call home.

This year marked the 4th Annual Montville Community Day, and what a wonderful day it was. From the smiles of the children enjoying activities and games to the conversations shared among friends and neighbors, Community Day once again showcased the strong sense of connection that defines Montville Township. The event continues to grow each year, and none of its success would be possible without the many individuals, businesses, and organizations that generously contributed their time, talents, and resources.

I would like to extend sincere appreciation to our valued Community Partners: Chardon

Home Depot, Geauga County Sheriff's Office (GCSO), University Hospitals (UH), Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance, and Trinity Veterinary Hospital.

I am also grateful for the support of our generous Community Day Sponsors: NOPEC for awarding the \$1,000 Community Event Sponsorship, Permco for covering the costs of the in-



flatable obstacle course, and Countryside for their generous donation of \$1,000.

A special thank you goes to the members of the Social Committee,

whose planning, organization, and hands-on assistance helped make the day a success: Dave Schade of D's B's LLC, LuAnn Burger who also coordinated the rock painting activity, Heidi Abrams, Karen Hawkins and Cris Antonick.

Community Day is truly a team effort, and many others stepped forward

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**See our Community Day
photos on pages 4 and 5!**

Survey Results

We would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete and return the Montville Township Resident Survey that is now closed.

We mailed out 818 surveys and received 220 which is a 26.8% re-

sponse rate.

A summary of the results will be posted on the News section of the website, but here are a few of the highlights:

- The majority of respondents have resided in Montville for over 20 years

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to help prepare for and support the event. We would like to recognize and thank: Mike Benesh, Michael Benesh, Hannah Benesh, Joan Jerke, Ed Lawson, Bradley Lawson, Erin Weigle, Genna Weigle and Dennis Burger as well as Montville Firefighters Association members Paul Burger, Julie Stone, Bryan Briskey and Ron Jonovich.

Also extending my appreciation to the following members of the Montville Fire Department for assisting throughout the day: Xander Sedmak, Ben Rhodes and Bruce Johnson.

And a very special thank you to Hallie Benesh Photography for capturing the memories of Community Day and helping preserve the moments that brought our community together.

Events like Community Day are a reflection of the volunteer spirit that exists throughout Montville. Whether you assisted behind the scenes, sponsored an activity, participated as a community partner, volunteered your time, or simply attended and enjoyed the festivities, you helped make the event meaningful. I greatly enjoy coordinating the event and take great pride in the continued development. Your support continues to strengthen our township and build the sense of community we all value.

In other news, the Board of Trustees have accepted a proposal from Larsen Architects to shepherd the fire department addition project.

I hope you had a chance to see the rendering at Community Day and if not, please feel free to stop at the Fire Department to check it out. We anticipate construction to begin in the Spring and the project completed before Winter commences.

Until next time, we wish you and your family a wonderful season ahead. Thank you for being part of what makes Montville such a welcoming and caring place to call home. Stay safe, stay connected, and we look forward to seeing you at future community events.

Warm regards, Tricia

News From the Fire Department



Donations

The Montville Fire Department has received some tangible donations this year

1. Gary Sinise Foundation This grant totaling \$75,000 was used to purchase a New Lifepak15 Defibrillator/Monitor and a new Lucas 3 CPR device

2. Ohio Ems supplemental Grant totaling \$49,000 allowed us to purchase an additional Lifepak15 Defibrillator/Monitor, this unit is being used on our Rescue Engine

3. Permco donated 6 5 Gallon pails of Fire-X foam totaling \$2000

Levy

A 5 year renewal of a 2 mill Fire & EMS levy first voted in 2017 will be on the November ballot.

A renewal of this levy will generate an estimated \$112,232 annually, at a rate not exceeding 2 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$47 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's market value

New Members

Welcome aboard to Mary Ellen Wey to the Montville Fire Department, Mary Ellen is a certified Paramedic.



Members in class

Montville Fire has 3 Cadets currently enrolled at the Auburn Career Center; they are High School Students taking their EMT/Firefighter 1 & 2 class. The Cadets are Christopher Clay, Zachary Clay and Ryan Hudec. Congratulations to Ben Rhodes on Passing his Firefighter 1 & 2 class at Auburn Career Center

**MONTVILLE TWP IS
CURRENTLY IN A NO OPEN
BURN BAN**

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. 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.

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Their website is <https://www.lc-ghd.org/air-pollution-control/>

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 \$17.00 for Firefighter/EMT and \$18.00 for Firefighter/ ADV or Medic.

Please visit our website at: <http://montvillegeauga.com/id41.html>

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 Wroblewski at 440-968-3318

Runs to date - 2025

Calls to date - 403

2026 Calls YTD - 315



Residents:

Please make sure any low branches hanging in drive-ways are cut back to reduce damage to emergency vehicles when on emergency calls at your residence.

ROAD DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Hello to the residents of Montville. As we come to the closure of another year for road maintenance, improvements and repairs, I can only hope that once again your friends, neighbors and family that live here in Montville are satisfied with the continued effort of roads and streets in the township. It is with a large sigh of relief that after more than 20 years on the board with two different memberships that worked together, I can now say that other than Sun Road, every road in Montville township, including Burrows Road this year, has been transformed from dirt and dust to a gravel or paved asphalt road surface.

I take great pride in that Montville has not only been able to accomplish this, but we can also add that we completed it without increasing property taxes to our residents above and beyond, only asking for what was needed for each and every project.

Some of the most recent projects included a new asphalt surface on North Kile Road which was listed as one of the worst roads in the area prior to working with Hambden Township to get that job completed this summer. The biggest and most long over-due project that was completed was on Burrows Road from State Route 528 to the County line at Murphy Road. While working with Thompson Township on this project, it was stabilized with a concrete base and then chip & seal coating applied in hopes that the pothole, mud, dirt and dust will not be a constant problem and money-pit. Keep in mind that the first initial year or maybe two will still require maintenance and even a possible second coat before the road heals and becomes stronger as time passes. Both road improvement projects would NOT have been completed if were not for the Geauga County Engineer assistance with Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant funding

application process. We should all be grateful for the help that both townships received from them.

Aside from those projects, Montville Township still had additional projects scheduled for Joann Drive and Dewey Road from Plank to Burrows. Both roads were starting to fail at a faster rate than we expected so we had depth repairs completed and then both roads received chip & seal, plus a fog sealant to protect the surface and allow salt deicer applications this winter. The township is also doing preventative maintenance of crack sealing on several other roads this Fall.

Now that you have been updated on all the work that was performed this year, the Board of Trustees have been informed that we have stretched out our budget for some time unless we can generate much needed funding. We currently do not have any major projects scheduled for 2027 but will need to continue with our maintenance on all these roads in an effort to keep them in the best possible condition. Property owners in Montville Township will be asked to support an additional levy in November for 4-years with estimates of \$123,405 collected annually, at a rate not exceeding 1.5 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amount to \$53 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's market value. This replaces the 1.5 mill levy that the township allowed to expire in 2024 to offer relief for the property reappraisals that hit everyone hard. Without any type of additional funding the township may need to reduce or postpone some of the regular maintenance and any improvement projects needed in the near future. Additional Levy information will have been provided prior to the Midterm election date in November.

Thanks to all, take care and remember "Winter is Coming."

- Jim



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

Montville Community Day

*We want to say a **BIG** thank you to everyone who came!*





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

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44065
Permit #5

Montville Resident

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- Top 3 priorities from respondents:
Low Crime Rate, Level of Taxation
and Semi-Rural Character

- Support maintaining the current
lot requirements of 3 acres and
240 feet of frontage

- The Community Center, Ambu-
lance Services, Road Maintenance
and Fire protection all received
positive ratings

All comments added to the surveys
returned have been compiled, as
well as those of you that expressed
interest in participating in various
aspects of the Township. We will
reach out in the coming months if
you provided your contact informa-
tion.

The Zoning Commission and
Board of Trustees will review the
results to determine if any actions
should be taken, being mindful of
the response rate and ratings.

-Tricia

www.MontvilleGeauga.com



This year has
seen many
changes in
the cemetery.

We have
hired a land-
scaping com-
pany to keep
the grounds.

I hope you
feel, as I, that
they have done

a good job. The Trustees are in the
process of hiring them back for next
year.

The ENTER and EXIT signs were
purchased and installed. The culvert
pipe in the south side is in the process
of being reinstalled.

Thank you to the volunteer crew for
doing this repair.

Please keep an eye out for the “an-
nouncement sign” to alert of an up-
coming funeral. This sign is placed by
the driveway.

Would you like to help with Spring
clean-up? Send a message to Karen.

As always, stay on the driveway
when you visit!

From
Fiscal Officer
Karen Hawkins

Wow, 2026 has gone by in a
flash. This year has been good
for the Fiscal Office. The 2024-
2025 audit was complete without
any issues as well as the County
Budget Commission passed
the 2027 budget without issues.
They did say that we are running
some areas a little on the thin
side.

The Trustees are aware and
are being vigilant to work together.

I would like to say thank you
to the many volunteers who
freely give their time to help with
things at the Township.

These individuals just show-
up and pitch in without being
asked. Without your helping
hands many things would not
have been accomplished.

Thank you, Karen