



HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER 2025

1454 Rome Corners Road, Galena, OH 43021



Noteworthy



Township Offices Closed

11/27 & 11/28 - Thanksgiving
12/24 & 12/25 - Christmas
1/1 - New Year's
1/19 - M.L.K. Jr. Day
2/16 - President's Day

Township Meetings:

Trustee - 2nd Monday
Zoning Board - 1st Thursday
(Note: January meeting is on 1-8-26)
Zoning Board of Appeals - 3rd Wednesday
dates are subject to change
check [website](#) for most up to date information



Rumpke

Christmas and New Year's both fall on weekdays. Service will NOT occur on those days. Service will be delayed one day during the rest of the week.

Rumpke will return to its regular collection schedule the following week.

Please follow guidelines for tree disposal which fall under yard debris and must not exceed 4ft and must be bundled. All ornaments and lights must be removed. Do not place in a plastic bag.

Township Highlights

Park Updates

Memorial Christmas Tree

A 7ft live tree will be displayed inside the Berkshire Township Community Pavilion starting the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. **We invite residents to visit and add white ribbons with the names of loved ones you wish to remember and honor. (Supplies provided)**

The tree is topped with a Dove which over time, has come to embody everything gentle and unifying about the holiday season — a reminder of compassion, forgiveness, and peace. A few red cardinals, long been seen as a symbol of hope and remembrance; will also adorn the tree.

The cardinal's bright color stands out even in the coldest days, a symbol of warmth, faith, and the enduring bonds that connect us beyond time and distance, a gentle reminder that love never truly leaves us. Perhaps cardinals appear to remind us that though life changes, connection remains.

*This holiday season, as we share in decorating our **Memorial Christmas Tree**, we invite you to pause, reflect, and remember.*

After the holidays, the tree will be planted in our community park offering a living tribute to those we hold dear, and a peaceful place where cardinals may someday perch, carrying quiet whispers of comfort and love.





Work on the township courts project began shortly after our last newsletter was published. Vasco Sports Contractors have been working hard. currently infrastructure, base surface and preparation for fencing has been completed. The fencing should be completed in the next couple weeks as weather allows. This will complete work for the season. The project will then wait until Spring for completion. Once weather allows the final top coats will be applied. Get your rackets ready and maybe put a ball or new shoes on your Christmas wish list and we'll see you in the

spring.

Pavilion to remain open

As the rental season closed at the end of October, the pavilion's west side garage doors were closed to cut the wind and rain during colder weather. We will close the east side doors just after new years but the space remains accessible through all regular man doors. Our rental season will start back up May 1st and run through October 30th. We accept hall and pavilion rental applications (*available on our website*) 6 months in advance so please plan accordingly.



Economic Development

The Ashford of Berkshire a senior residential care facility has recently begun building. This 8.4-acre property at the Northeast corner of S. Wilson Road and District Crossing will have 108 total units with 82 being assisted living and 26 for memory care. Residence will have amenities such as meal service daily, nursing car, multi-purpose rooms, salon and fitness/rehab facilities.



Berkshire Lofts is in full build mode on the west side of Rider Road just south of the Farrow Harley Davidson access drive. This is a 4.65-acre multifamily property with 58-units ranging from one to three bedroom. The facility will offer full-time onsite management, a community room, fitness center, playground and picnic shelter. Occupancy is expected in Spring of 2026

The Honey Grove a Del Webb Community which is a Pulte Homes project crossing two townships will ultimately have 624 homes mostly in Kingston. Honey Groves phase one will have 54 single family lots with 30 residing in Berkshire and the other 24 lying in Kingston. Crews have begun to move dirt and start infrastructure including the entrance marque . Base home plans range from 2,722 - 3,539 square feet with options to increase. Multi-use paths will be constructed connect Honey Grove to Goldwell and another will serve as a Northstar community amenity. Home sales can be expected to start in Spring 2026.

Berkshire Retail Plaza is new on the horizon, most likely breaking ground early spring; and will sit on property located on the north side of State Route 36/37 between the existing Waffle House and Taco Bell restaurants. This property is zoned Planned Commercial and Office with a Planed Mixed Use District overlay. The property was formerly occupied by a service station which closed and has remained vacant for more than two decades. The new plaza's plans includes space for up to four retail store fronts depending on renters needs, at least one with a drive through option on one end.

Community News

What is a CEDA?

On Monday November 10th an open public meeting was held to introduce a potential CEDA

between Berkshire Township and the Village of Galena. A Cooperative Economic Development Agreement (CEDA) is a legal agreement in Ohio that lets local governments like villages and townships work together on economic development projects. It helps communities work cooperatively on infrastructure, tax incentives, and revenue to attract businesses and create jobs, while guarding against annexation. Berkshire Township and the Village of Galena see value in partnership through a CEDA. The CEDA helps Berkshire Township protect its borders by securing the ability for residents to tap into the Village of Galena's sewer district and lowers the risk of potential annexation by entering into a nonannexation agreement with the Village. The CEDA allows the Village of Galena to diversify its revenue to improve its infrastructure.

The meeting on the 10th allowed for the public to get an overview and address questions and concerns. The full agreement can be viewed on our website along with a newly posted FAQ document. Follow up questions and comments are welcomed. The Township will continue to discuss the CEDA at each of its board meetings until a vote is held (a vote is not currently scheduled). Please contact Administrator Lane at tlane@berkshiretp.org to ask any questions concerning or set a meeting to discuss the CEDA.

Did someone say Community Center?

On November 12th, Pizzuti Developers hosted a public open house on behalf of the Eastern Delaware County Joint Recreational District which is comprised of two representatives each from Berkshire Township, Village of Galena and the City of Sunbury. A Joint Recreational District or JRD is a partnership formed by two or more local government entities to create, operate and maintain parks, recreation facilities and programs for their shared communities. The open house was to allow the residents of each of the three communities, the opportunity to come together, discuss and give input on a potential Community Center. Over 100 people attended the event across all three communities. While most in attendance were very positive and in favor of moving forward with a potential center, there was concern over keeping any increase in taxes to fund the center as low as possible. Find more details on our website and [take the survey](#) to give your input.

The next steps for the JRD will be to take the feedback and understand wants, start to consider possible locations sites and to get preliminary cost projects. Two follow up public open houses are targeted for January and March

Noteworthy

Oh Christmas Tree

The first "National Christmas Tree" lighting ceremony occurred on Christmas Eve 1923 under President Calvin Coolidge. The cut Christmas tree tradition continued through 1978 when a blue spruce was planted and has served as the National Tree since. The National Tree will be lit on Thursday, December 4th. The ceremony will be broadcast on CBS at 8 p.m. ET

If you want to join a lighting in person, here are some dates of **local tree lighting events** near Berkshire Township.

December 5

Main Street Delaware - Corner of Williams and Sandusky 6:30 - events 6-9

City of Westerville - Uptown 7:00 at City Hall - events 6-8

December 6

City of Sunbury - Christmas on the Square - 4-8

Village of Galena - Dec 7th 7:30 - 8

December 7

Orange Township - North Orange Park - 4-6:30

December 13

Genoa Township - Freeman Farm- events 4-6



Love a real tree and better yet the opportunity to pick it out and cut it down yourself? You live in a great area. Ohio has over 700 **live tree farms**. Here are a few within a short ride of the township.

Country Cabin 3600 Wilson Road Nov.28,29 and 30 (reservations required)

Taylor Tree Farm 3720 Wilson Road 740 965-3293 Dec. 6&7 9AM - dusk

Fly Away Farm 1950 Lackey Old State 740 816-0818 Dec. 6&7 - 9AM - dusk cash or check only

Stonehaven Tree Farm 6718 Perry Road Centerburg (614) 668-6293 9AM - Dusk Nov. 28 - Dec. 15 F/S/S or while supplies last

Crackler Farms 4971 Crackler Road 740 524-5311 Opening Day Wed. Nov. 26th - Dec. 2nd
(reservations encouraged - weekday and weekend appointments available)

Just want to pick out a live tree without going to the farm check out
1st Impressions 9821 St. Rt. 37 740 965-6486 right here in Berkshire Township

Please call or check out each businesses webpage or social media for more details. (links above)

Holiday Lights

Before you plug in this year's display, take a quick moment to make sure your family stays safe while you home sparkles bright.

From the warm flicker of candles on early Christmas trees to today's dazzling LED displays, light has always been at the heart of winter celebrations. The earliest trees were lit with candles in 17th-century Germany. This was a beautiful but risky practice that often ended in fires and certainly would be frowned upon by today's local fire departments. When Thomas Edison introduced electric lights in the late 1800s, it revolutionized holiday decorating and made the season brighter and a lot safer. Today, we have endless ways to illuminate our homes—from energy-saving LEDs to programmable displays that dance to music. But even modern technology comes with a few safety reminders:



- **Use outdoor-rated lights and cords** for exterior displays.
- **Check for frayed wires or loose bulbs** before hanging anything.
- **Avoid overloading outlets**—spread strands across circuits.
- **Set timers or smart plugs** to turn lights off overnight or when you're away.
- **Secure cords** to prevent trips or falls.

As our township lights up for the holidays, we carry forward a tradition that has always been about more than decoration—it's about bringing light, joy, and connection to those around us.
May your holidays be *bright—and safe*.

Community Events



Don't throw them out! Recycle them!
At these following locations:

Ashley Wornstaff
Memorial Library
302 E. High St.
Ashley, OH

Delaware County
District Library
All Locations

Genoa Township
Administration Office
5111 S. Old 3C Highway
Westerville, OH

Sunbury Municipal
Building
9 W. Granville St.
Sunbury, OH

Delaware City
Public Works
440 E. William St.
Delaware, OH

Delaware Public
Health District
470 S. Sandusky St.
Delaware, OH

Price Farms
Organics, Ltd.
4838 Warrensburg Rd.
Delaware, OH

Shawnee Hills
Municipal Building
9484 Dublin Rd.
Shawnee Hills, OH



First Friday Tree Lighting - Dec. 5th 6-9PM

- Skating Rink Dec. 5th 5-9PM & Dec 7th 1-5PM
- Carriage Rides Dec. 5th, 6-9 PM
- Dash for Dasher Scavenger Hunt Dec. 6th 11AM - 1PM
- Great Gingerbread Build-off Dec 6th 3:30 at COhatch, 18 E William Street
- Visits with Santa - Welcome Center Walk ins welcome during 5th - 7-9PM 6th 11AM-12PM appointments 6th 12-3

[Click here for full details](#)



Sunbury/Big Walnut Area Chamber of
Commerce

"CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE 2025."

Saturday December 6th
4-8PM

Join us on the Sunbury Square for the usual
"Hallmark" charm you have come to love

This year we will include an iceless skating rink! There will be the food trucks on Granville, hot drinks and treats all around the square. Decorate with local businesses. Enter your dog in the Santa Costume Contest, enter the donut eating contest, watch or enter the parade and see Santa and of course, join as the City of Sunbury lights the tree.

[Visit our Website](#)



TangerOutlets



Christmas at the Library

December 13th - 6-8 Crafts/Games/Santa



Sunny 95 is excited to welcome **Santa 95's Christmas Lights Ohio** to the Delaware County Fairgrounds - Presented by KEMBA Financial Credit Union.

This BRAND-NEW drive-thru Christmas lights show features a dazzling world of sparkling tunnels, massive light displays and non-stop Christmas cheer [Details at THIS LINK](#)



Nov 18 - Dec 27 Suite 944 by Starbucks
Children & teen winter clothing drive

Special Gift Wrapping Fundraiser on Dec. 6th
[See website](#) or [social media](#) for details



Butch Bando's Fantasy of Lights

Nov. 21 – Jan. 4
5:30 - 9 p.m. weeknights)
5:30 - 10 p.m.(weekends)

Butch Bando's Fantasy of Lights is the perfect activity if you want to see holiday lights and stay warm. The three-mile drive-through experience at the Alum Creek State Park Campgrounds takes about 30 minutes, featuring twinkling holiday displays and dazzling tunnels, with the perfect holiday music pairing piped through the radio. Learn more [here](#).

Church Spotlight



Berkshire Township is blessed with three neighborhood churches. As we enter the holiday Season, if you are looking for a place to worship and join in fellowship, please reach out as all their doors are open to members and visitors alike.

Living Word Lutheran Church
Pastor Derrick Hurst
7539 Dustin Road
(740) 965-3335

Sundays - 8 AM Worship
9 AM - Adult Bible Study/Youth Sunday

Northgate Church
Pastor Chris Stephens
51 Fourwinds Drive
(740) 369-6000

Sundays 10 AM Worship
Kids Church open the duration of the service (check in at 9:45 AM)
Dinner Groups Thursday Eve. 6:30 PM

December 21st
Family Christmas Service 10:30 AM

[View Live Stream](#)

St John Neumann Catholic Church
Fr. Dan Dury Pastor
9633 East St Rt. 37
(740) 965-1358

Saturdays: 4:00 p.m.
Sundays: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

School
10:30 AM Worship

Weekdays: Tuesday/Thursday, 6:00 p.m.
Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 11:00 a.m.
First Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Advent

Midweek Advent Soup Supper 6pm with
worship 7PM Dec. 3, 10, 17)

December 7th

Family Christmas Party/Serve Night
4-6 PM

*Those in attendance will be making tie
blankets for children in the adoption
system and cards and cards for nursing
home residents.*

December 24th

7PM - Family Christmas worship
11PM Candlelight Christmas worship

December 25th

Christmas Morning - 10:30 AM

[View Live Stream](#)

Advent Mass Time

Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm

Advent Reconciliation Service:

December 3 6:30-7:30 pm

Vigil Project Advent

Concert: December 4 7:00pm, following
the 6:00 pm Mass

Immaculate Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary: December 8

Masses: 11:00 am, 6:30 pm

Children's Christmas

Pageant: December 21 3:00 PM

Christmas Eve: December 24 Masses:
4:00 pm, 6: 30 pm

Christmas Day: December 25 Masses:
Midnight, 10:00 am

Mary, Mother of God: Masses:

December 31 at 5:30 pm (Vigil)

January 1 at 11:00 am

[View Live Stream](#)

**Please check our township website for current event
schedule along with general information and forms.**

[Visit our Website](#)

Berkshire Township | 1454 Rome Corners Road | Galena, OH 43021 US

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