



BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER July 29, 2025

1454 Rome Corners Road, Galena, OH 43021

Noteworthy

Township Offices Closed

9/4 - Labor Day

Township Meetings

Zoning Board Meetings - 1st Thursday Trustee Meetings - 2nd Monday Board of Zoning Appeals - 3rd Wednesday

Dates are subject to change check the <u>website</u> for the most up to date information.

Other Dates of Interest

8/2 - Sons of the American Revolution Revolutionary War Hero Ceremony Berkshire Cemetery (Muster Noon/Ceremony 1 PM) 8/6 - Nominating petitions due to board of elections

10/6 - Deadline for voter registration for 11/4 general election

10/7 - In person voting begins

Delaware County Board of Elections

Township Trustee seats up for election

Berkshire Township will have two of the three trustee seats up for election in November. To be eligible to run for an Ohio township trustee seat, a candidate must be a resident of the township and at least 18 years old by the date of the general election. They also need to be an elector (a registered voter) in the township. Nomination petitions must be signed by 25 township residents and filed with the county board of elections at least 90 days before the general election. 4 PM on August 6th is this years deadline. Township trustees serve four-year terms and are elected on a nonpartisan ballot in the November general election in odd-numbered years.

Time to start thinking Back to School

Big Walnut Schools are back in session on Wednesday, August 13th. (staggered start) All students reporting Friday, August 15th.

Olentangy Local Schools are back in session on Wednesday, August 20th.

Both districts will have Monday, September 1st off for Labor Day as well as Monday, September 15th for Fair Day/Professional Development respectively.

Please be aware of these dates as school zone speed limits will be back in effect, and children will be present in crosswalks as well as around school areas for before and after school activities.

We wish all our educators, building personnel, and students a safe, happy and productive school year!



Sales Tax Holiday

Each year in early August,
Ohioans get a break from paying
tax on specific items, which especially benefits
families with school-age children, college and
higher-education students and teachers
preparing to go back to school. This year's
Sales Tax Holiday is a full two week period
running Friday, Aug. 1 at midnight to
Sunday, Aug. 14 at 11:59 p.m.

During the holiday, most all purchases of individual goods \$500 or less are tax free. (There are a few exclusions such as motor vehicles, watercraft, alcohol, tobacco, and vaping and marijuana products).

Details at The Ohio Department of Taxation

Park Highlights

A lot can happen in a year. Last year in our back to school issue we highlighted the July 2024 ground breaking for our new parks projects. In November we held a community grand opening and this spring we began rentals in the new Berkshire Township Community Pavilion. We also painted and logo'd the Silo and installed a new complex sign. And... we aren't done yet.

If you haven't check out your community space... stop on by!



Community Pavilion is a community favorite

There have been over 25 rentals of the new Berkshire Township Community Pavilion since opening weekend May 1st. This space has been very well received and continues to get many rental inquires and daily use by park goers. August weekend dates are filling up and the space will be especially beautiful in the Fall. Guidelines and applications are available on our website. Please contact the main office at 740.965.2992 ext. 4 to check on availability and to reserve the space.



Ball Courts Coming

On July 16th, the township posted a legal notice that they are accepting bids from contractors for the latest phase of our park area that will see the addition of a tennis court, two pickleball courts and a basketball court. Expectations are to have courts fully up and ready for use by Spring of 2026. Documents can be viewed via a <u>link on our website</u> and bids are due in our office by August 13, 2025 3 p.m.



Cornhole boards in place

As of early June, the new cornhole boards which were paid for by a Healthy Community Micro Grant award from Delaware County Health Department have been installed. There is a full set of bags available and anyone is welcome to play. We do ask that parents supervise small children and that everyone put the bags back in the drawstring bag and leave with the boards when done.

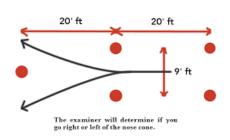


Road/Maintenance Department Projects

In between Mother Nature's downpours and unseasonably extended hot weather the maintenance team has been busy mowing and trimming along with berming and patching along our roads. In the context of roads, a berm is a raised strip of land or embankment, along the edge of the road or highway. It can be a natural feature or man-made, and it serves multiple purposes, including providing stability, managing stormwater runoff, and preventing erosion. Regular maintenance is required to help prevent various potential other problems and to extend the life of current roads.



The team also has replaced nearly 25 zoning enforcement signs across the township. Many of the signs were old, damaged or even missing. The new versions incorporate our logo and offer better branding with a cohesive message. See photo above right



Maneuverability Kit

Reminder - we have a driver's maneuverability kit available at the Berkshire Township Hall. The kit includes everything you need to set up and practice including cones, poles, flags, diagram and tape measure. This is located on our front porch, free to use, but must be kept in our parking lot. With increased traffic for park amenities please make sure you have plenty of space to set up and watch for others walking through the parking lot.

Flag Retirement Drop Box

Just after the 4th of July celebrations is a good time to remind everyone that a tattered American flag should not be flown under any circumstances. It is disrespectful, in particular the United States Military. If you noticed your flag is beginning to wear and tear, take it down immediately to make proper repairs or retire it.

Berkshire Township offers a flag disposal bin where you can drop your old flag and we will make sure it is properly disposed of. The flag retirement box is accessible on the township hall porch. Please only deposit U.S./State flags in need of retirement.



Economic Development

Property Clean up - After years of trying to get the old house and barn torn down at the northeast corner of State Route 37 and Wilson Road, they are gone. Through the permit process, the township and Ohio Health, who purchased the 62 acre property last year were able to get this torn down and cleaned up. While Ohio Health has no current plans to build on the property they are already being a great new neighbor.

Mercedes Benz moving along - The Mercedes Benz dealership construction has begun at the southeast corner of Wilson Road and State Route 37. You can see the structured walls and framing going up. They plan to be open in the summer of 2026.

When will we see another grocery store? - This is one of the most asked questions in our office. And while, it may not be in our township, Kroger has plans to build a new store just east of Delaware on State Route 37 and east of the Meijer. It may be a good option for those in the western part of our township or those that commute that way for work. The current Kroger in Sunbury is one of the busiest in central Ohio. An additional store may improve the shopping experience in both locations.

How about a new sit down restaurant? - Berkshire Township has been partnering with the management of the Tanger Outlet Mall to get a new restaurant located in the area. There is land on their property as well as other parcels on Wilson Road that would be great locations. While general developer comments over the past couple years have been we do not have enough population to support an upscale establishment that fact is changing. If you work in the restaurant industry, help us promote the wishes of many of the residents to get this done.



Northstar Community Update - When the Northstar

Development Plan was approved in 2003 in conjunction with Kingston Township, there were three items included in the plan for the betterment of both townships and the general area.

The first item was a donation of 28 acres to Berkshire Township for a future park area, and after many years of negotiation this past spring the land was transferred to the township. The land is located on the east side of North Wilson Road just north of the Goldwell Patio homes. Access will be through Honey Grove Drive from Wilson Road. At this time the land will remain farm ground until a future park or recreational project is determined.

The second item in the agreement was a donation of approximately three acres for a future BST&G fire station. The land was recently transferred, and the much needed, new station is currently under construction. It is located on Wilson Road just north of the Camping World site.

The third item was land to be donated to Big Walnut Schools for a future school site. The final development plan included 35 acres located in Kingston Township. Over the past 25 years as things changed the location has been under review. With the new residential development called Del Webb starting to build in the Kingston area, the land was reviewed entering their planning phase and the location for the future school was moved to a better area closer to Wilson Road but still in Kingston Township. While no specific plans are in place, the land offers opportunity for future expansion as needed.

In other Northstar news, the club house at the Northstar Golf Course has completed renovations and has doubled in size. They added locker rooms; a restaurant, and golf simulators. The course is now private but added values in increase tax dollars for the area.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT



The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is performing a **corridor study along State Route (SR) 37 between the City of Delaware and State Route 161**. The objective of this study is to recommend potential solutions that would improve the existing roadway conditions along the SR 37 corridor and accommodate the anticipated traffic demands from future development and land use changes. The study's primary objective is to focus on improvements that are feasible to implement within a 10-year timeframe.

ODOT is hosting an Open House for the public to view and comment on the study's current recommendations. The Open House can be attended two ways:

- In-Person: on July 30 from 9:00-11:00 AM and 6:00-8:00 PM at Big Walnut High School at 713 Miller Drive, Sunbury, OH 43074
- Online: through <u>PublicInput.com/SR37Study</u> from July 30 through August 30, 2025.

Comments received by August 30, 2025, will be formally documented.



Photo above from the March 29, 2025 ceremony honoring five Revolutionary Soldiers

The Sons of the American
Revolution honors our
Revolutionary War patriot
ancestors by promoting patriotism,
serving our communities and
educating and inspiring future
generations about the founding
principles of our Country.

A United States of America 250th Anniversary Event

Sons of the American Revolution to honor three Revolutionary War veterans at a Patriot grave marking ceremony

On August 2nd 2025 The Sons of the American Revolution will honor three additional Revolutionary War veterans at a patriot grave marking ceremony. The three include Jacob Fisher, James Gregory and James Longwell. Five Revolutionary War veterans were already honored in a similar ceremony earlier this spring. The ceremony will begin at 1:00 pm am with a muster time of noon. This event is rain or shine. No coverings are onsite.

All SAR and DAR chapters are invited to present a wreathe as part of the ceremony. Any other civic, military or service organizations that would like to have your organization represented at this event are welcomed and encouraged to help us honor these distinguished veterans. Please email Scott Humphrey at scott1117@yahoo.com to be included or for further details.



Sat., Aug. 9 | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Morrow County Fairgrounds, 195 S. Main St., Mount Gilead

By appointment for residents of Delaware, Knox, Marion and Morrow Counties only.

To schedule call DKMM at 419-751-2290 by Aug. 1.

Must have count and size of each tire when registering.

Tire size is measured from side to side (not the inside diameter) and passenger tires will not be accepted.

Fees apply.

Partially funded by

Environmental

Agency

Recycle Ohio
Grant Program



The <u>DKMM Solid Waste District</u> is hosting an <u>agricultural tire recycling event</u> at the Morrow County Fairgrounds on August 9th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is by appointment only and is open to residents of Delaware, Knox, Marion, and Morrow counties. You will need to schedule your appointment and provide the number and size of tires you intend to recycle. A fee of \$5-10 per tire will be charged.

Community Events



The <u>United Way of Delaware County</u> "Supplies for Scholars" program

that provides free school supplies to students in Delaware County, Ohio. The program aims to equip students from kindergarten through 12th grade, including those who are homeschooled or have special needs, with the necessary materials to start the school year feeling confident and prepared.

Walk-ins are welcome. Next events: July 30th from 2-4 General Rosecrans Elementary

August 6th 1-2 Delaware Woodward Elementary

August 12th 11-1 Olentangy Administrative Office Lewis Center.



Come to the Sunbury Town Square Saturday, August 16th for a day of food, great music and



All Horse Parade - Sunday Sept. 7

The 39th annual Horse Parade and one of the largest and most unique non-motorized annual horse parade gatherings east of the Mississippi, kicks of on Sunday, September 7th at 3 p.m. from the Main (Euclid) gate of the Delaware County Fairgrounds onto Pennsylvania Avenue. Come watch hundreds of horses, mules, donkeys and bands. The circular parade route which whines back to the main gate is 2.3 miles in length, allowing for lots of places to take in the spectacle. Parade admission is always free!

Find more details at this parade link

Delaware County Fair Sept. 13 - 20

After the Horse Parade gets you hyped up, its almost that time again...

The Delaware County Fair will be back in action Saturday September 13th - Saturday September 20th.

Daily general admission (excludes Jug Day) is \$8 (children under 8 are FREE)
Weekly pass can be purchased for \$50
Senior Day is Tuesday September 16 (those +55 are FREE)
Military Day is Friday September 19 (Military/Veterans are FREE)

Ticket Information/Fair Schedule click here



activities for toddlers to adults. Shuttles will be available to get you to the square.

Follow the link for details.

Presented by the Big Walnut Civic Association and Fraternal Order of Eagles 3614.

TangerOutlets

Back to School Bash Presented by Destination Delaware

August 8 from 1-3 PM

Get ready for the school year with amazing deals and enjoy FREE family fun including a caricature artist, crafts, games, a selfie station, live music, and more! Located near Nike and Coach. Don't miss out—bring your shopping crew and celebrate the season in style! . Check the website or facebook for additinal details, ways to save and sweepstakes to win a \$500 giftcard.

Little Brown Jug Live racing September 14th through Jug Day on September 18th, 2025

In it's 80th edition The Little Brown Jug pacing classic is back in action with five days of racing (Sunday, September 17 through Thursday, September 21). The Jug website invites all to come celebrate racing on the fastest half-mile track in the world, it is one of the jewels in the Triple Crown of Harness Racing. It further states that The Little Brown Jug is the premier pacing classic for 3-year-olds and provides a fascinating chapter in the more-than-a-century-old history of harness racing. This race was built in the tradition of the famed Grand Circuit and is an exciting finish to the week-long Delaware County Fair

Those wanting to check out the action can find all the details in the link to their **website**.



With summer winding down, the last few weeks before school starts can become a a classic "I have nothing to do" syndrome. Check our Destination Delaware for links to programs, classes and other events from favorites like:

The Art Castle
Preservation Parks
Community Library

For more of what's going on around town Check out **Destination Delaware**

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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