HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER 2026



1454 Rome Corners Road, Galena, OH 43021

Noteworthy



Township Offices Closed
11/26 & 11/27 - Thanksgiving
12/24 & 12/25 - Christmas
1/1 - New Year's
1/18 - M.L.K. Jr. Day
2/15 - President's Day

Township Meetings:
Trustee - 2nd Monday
Zoning Board - 1st Thursday
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 Day both fall on Fridays. Service will NOT occur on those days. Service will be delayed one day. For those with Thursday pickups your service should not be affected. Rumpke will return to its regular schedule the week of January 11th .

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

Township Highlights

Memorial Christmas Tree



A live tree will once again 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 red 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.

Pavilion to Remain Open



We had a great rental season with a total of 47 rentals from May to October. The pavilion's west side garage doors will be closed soon to cut the wind and rain during colder weather. We will close the east side doors just after New Year's but the space remains accessible through all regular man doors. Our rental season will resume on May 1st. Rental applications, available on our website, are accepted up to six months in advance, so please plan accordingly.

Township Hall Building gets a New Roof





As of this writing, the township administrative and maintenance building is getting a new roof.Country View Construction began work after being selected as the lowest and best bidder through a process approved at the September 16 trustee meeting . Spring storms brought significant hail damage that caused water leaking due to damage of the existing roof. Insurance is providing all but around 12% of the total cost after trustees approved an upgrade to the quote adding sheathing to the original hall portion of the building which had none when built. This upgrade added a waterproof membrane and extended the roofing material warranty with DMI Metals to a full 30 years.
The project is expected to be complete the week after Thanksgiving.



The current Berkshire Township Hall and Maintenance Building at 1454 Rome Corners Road was built in 2010.
In the Fall of 2024 the maintenance building expansion was completed, adding three bays. This included a wash bay complete with catwalk system for thorough cleaning which helps extend the life of the equipment.



Snow Season will Soon be Here.

As we begin to wrap up the 2026 calendar year, snow is sure to arrive at any time and our team is gearing up getting equipment prepared.

Once temperatures drop and the snow begins to blow please make note of these few reminders for snow plow season:

- Whenever possible keep cars off the road overnight
- Make sure mailboxes are not leaning into the roadway
- Keep tree branches trimmed to at least 14 feet above the roadway
- Keep portable basketball hoops or any other objects away from the road and certainly these items do not belong in cul-de-sacs or dead ends.

Be mindful, roads are plowed based on a schedule which puts main thoroughfares as first priority followed by secondary roads and finally cul de sacs and dead ends. Please know we make it our priority to be as quick and efficient as possible. Also note that a number of the roads within our township boundaries are maintained by O.D.O.T, Delaware County or are a shared responsibility with an adjacent municipality.
Not sure who maintains which roads? Check our website under the **public works tab.**

Community News

Celebrate the Season: Christmas Tree Lightings & Local Tree Farms



The National Christmas Tree tradition has continued for more than a century, becoming a beloved holiday celebration in our nation's capital. The **2026 National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** will take place on Thursday, December 3, in Washington, D.C. The ceremony will premiere nationwide on Saturday, December 5, through the National Park Foundation's YouTube channel, with additional broadcast availability through national and local media. For viewing information, visit **Watch The Lighting - National Christmas Tree.**

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

Friday, December 4
Main Street Delaware - Corner of Williams and Sandusky 6:30PM - events 6-9PM
City of Westerville - Uptown 7PM at City Hall - events 5:30-8PM
Saturday, December 5
City of Sunbury - Christmas on the Square 7PM - events 4-8PM
Sunday, December 6
Village of Galena - 6PM - events 6 - 8PM
Orange Township - North Orange Park - events 4-6:30PM
Saturday, December 12
Genoa Township - Freeman Farm- 5:30PM - events 4-6PM

Love a real Christmas tree and want to make a family outing of picking one out and cutting it down? We are fortunate to have several Christmas tree farms within a short drive of Berkshire Township. Here are a few local options for the 2026 season.

Country Cabin 3600 Wilson Road Nov.27, 28, and 29 (reservations required)
Taylor Tree Farm 3720 Wilson Road 740 965-3293 Dec. 6 and 7 9AM - dusk
Fly Away Farm 1950 Lackey Old State 740 816-0818 Dec. 5&6 - 9AM - dusk cash or check only
Stonehaven Tree Farm 6718 Perry Road Centerburg (614) 668-6293 9AM - Dusk Nov. 28 - Dec. 15 Friday, Saturday, Sunday or while supplies last
Crackler Farms 4971 Crackler Road 740 524-5311 Opening Day Wed. Nov. 25th - Sat. Dec. 12th (reservations encouraged - weekday and weekend appointments available)

Just want to pick out a live tree without going to a farm? Check out
1st Impressions located right here in Berkshire Township at 9821 St. Rt. 37 (740) 965-6486

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

Holiday Lights - Play it Safe



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

•**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.

May your holidays be *bright—and safe.*



Tanger Outlets - 31 shopping days until Christmas

There are plenty of reasons to stop by Tanger Outlets this holiday season. The annual tree lighting at Santa's Wonderland took place on November 13, welcoming visitors with festive decorations and a beautiful tree that takes center stage and illuminates the shopping experience. The outlets have a few new shopping highlights including Build-A-Bear Workshop, which recently opened between Ulta and Old Navy. It joins other new stores added this summer including The Children's Place, All-Star Elite and Spring Step Shoes.

Additionally, there is a welcomed addition of Sbarro set to open in December between North Face and Kate Spade New York. The Columbus-based restaurant will offer XL New York-style pizza by the slice, along with pasta, salad and other items.

Community Events





Shop in Downtown Delaware's Season of Shopping supporting small business all season long. Join the contest and keep track along the way. Pick up a card at a participating business (or print your own), make a purchase and receive a sticker. The more stickers you get, the more chances you'll have to win a prize! Each tickers earns on entry.
Prizes will include gifts from local businesses, 2027 Chocolate Walk tickets, gift cards and much more! We hope you shop small before you hit the big box stores this holiday season. Turn in your completed card at The Greater Gouda by Wednesday, December 23 at 8 p.m.

Click here for full details

Community Library
Serving the Big Walnut Area



Saturday, December 5th 10-11a.m.
Please join us for a
Special preview of Newsies Jr.
presented by Sunbury Performing Arts.
Registration is required, admission is FREE



Saturday, December 12th - 6-8PM
Crafts/Games/Santa
Get into the spirit by joining us for a festive celebration with holiday crafts, games, and a visit with Santa! No registration needed.

Note: Due to limited supplies, registration is required for Santa's Workshop.



Butch Bando's Fantasy of Lights

Nov. 20 – Jan. 3
5:30 - 9 p.m. (Sun-Thu)
5:30 - 10 p.m.(Fri-Sat)

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.**



December 4 - 6 2026
Friday- Tree Lighting - Skating Rink, Santa Visits & Carriage Rides 5-9PM
Saturday - Dash for Dasher 11AM-1PM, Gingerbread Build Off 3:30 PM; skating rink, Santa vsits
Sunday - skating rink 1-5PM, Light the Night Parade 6PM Sandusky Street from Mingo Park to Wilmer Street

Visit our Website

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Sunbury/Big Walnut Area Chamber of Commerce

"CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE 2026."

Saturday December 5

4-8PM

Join us on the Sunbury Square for the usual "Hallmark" charm you have come to love. Celebrate the season by enjoying an evening of holiday traditions, local shopping, food vendors, music and Christmas cheer! Highlights include: Ice skating rink, community singers, donut eating contest, Santa and Mrs. Claus and the lighting of the tree.

Visit our Website

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 a.m. - Worship
9 AM - Adult Bible Study/Youth Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

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

Sundays 10 AM Worship
Kids Church is open throughout the service (check in at 9:45 AM)

Please Check the church's website for updates on special Christmas services.

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

November 25
Thanksgiving Eve Worship 7 p.m.

Advent - Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23
Midweek Advent Soup Supper at 6pm
worship following 7 p.m.

December 6
Family Christmas Party/Serve Night
4-6 p.m.
Those in attendance will be making tie blankets for children in the adoption system through My Very Own Blanket

December 24
7 p.m. - Family Christmas Worship
11 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Worship

December 25
Christmas Morning - 10:30 a.m.

View Live Stream

Advent Mass Time
Saturday (Vigil): 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Advent Reconciliation Service:
December 3 - 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Vigil Project Advent
Concert: December 4 - 7:00 p.m., following the 6:00 p.m. Mass
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: December 8
Masses: 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
Children's Christmas Pageant: December 13 - 3:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve: December 24 Masses: 4:00 p.m., 6: 30 p.m., Midnight
Christmas Day: December 25
mass: 10:00 a.m.
Mary, Mother of God:
December 31 at 6:00 p.m. (Vigil)
January 1 at 11:00 a.m.

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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