



1454 Rome Corners Road, Galena, OH 43021



BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER July 30, 2026

Noteworthy

Township Offices Closed

9/7 - 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 [website](#) for the most up to date information.

Voting Dates of Interest

10/5 - Deadline for voter registration for 11/3 general election

10/6 - In person voting begins

11/3 - Primary Election.

Polls open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Mail in/walk in absentee ballots due to BOE by 7:30 p.m.

[Link - Delaware County Board of Elections](#)

Property tax bills adjusted

Delaware County has extended the second-half property tax deadline to Monday, August 17, 2026, to accommodate an Inflation Cap Credit from Ohio's House Bill 186. The Inflation Cap Credit will reduce taxes on certain school district levies and requires it to be applied retroactively to tax year 2025. This may reduce your tax bill. Tax bills should have recently been received, and eligible taxpayers will see the Inflation Cap Credit clearly identified on their bill.

Taxpayers with questions are encouraged to contact
The Delaware County Treasurer's Office at 740-833-2480

Township Highlights



Welcome to Stephen Ciacchi

Our newest trustee, Stephen Ciacchi; who was sworn in on May 11th, has been a resident of Berkshire Township since 2020 and has called Delaware County home for the past 32 years. Raised in Genoa Township, Stephen graduated from Big Walnut High School in 2005 before earning a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Ashland University and a postgraduate degree in Public Administration from Kent State University. Stephen and his wife have lived in Berkshire Township for the past six years, where they are raising their four children. He is deeply committed to the community and looks forward to

investing in the township where his children will grow up. As a trustee, Stephen is dedicated to listening to residents, staying informed, and continually learning about the township's needs to help Berkshire continue to thrive.

When he's not working at Ohio REALTORS or serving the residents of Berkshire Township, Stephen enjoys spending time with his family. You can often find them playing bocce at Giamarco's or exploring the many local playgrounds where their kids can run and play. An avid Ohio State

Road/Maintenance Department Projects

The Berkshire Township Road Department has continued making significant improvements to our local roadways this summer. Golf Course Road has been successfully repaved from the township limits to South Galena Road, providing a smoother and safer driving surface. On Alexander Drive, crews completed important base repairs, resurfaced the cul-de-sac with new asphalt, and applied a chip seal treatment to the entire roadway to help extend its lifespan.

As weather conditions allow, additional road improvement projects are scheduled for Streamside Drive, Indian Summer Drive, and Falling Meadows Drive through the first phase line of the Hidden Creek development.

In addition to these paving projects, the Road Department has completed its monthly roadside mowing throughout the township and continues to maintain road berms and replace damaged or worn traffic signs to help keep Berkshire Township safe, attractive, and well maintained.



Berkshire Cemetery - Restoration at Work



Fabia Taylor who is the Cemetery Records Coordinator with the Delaware County Veterans Service Office has been working with our cemetery and several other local cemeteries to make cleanings, repairs and even replacements where needed of Civil War Veteran's grave markers. The cenotaph (empty grave/monument) monument for James Burna got a much welcomed cleaning *above left*, Orlando Roloson's monument was cleaned, up righted and got a new base *above right* and Orloff Norton's marker is soon to be corrected for severe leaning. Finally, James Courter who had a cenotaph next to his mother at our cemetery which was destroyed over the years will be getting a new one which is currently on order. These restorations are funded through Veterans Services via grants and other designated funds.

In addition to restoration Fabia has done a good amount of research and found some interesting facts about James Burna and James Courter, both of the cenotaph graves mention above. You can see that full article on our website under the [cemetery tab](#)

Workshop Scheduled

If grave restoration is something that might be of interest to you, Fabia is holding a 'hands-on' **restoration workshop at the Stark Cemetery** at 5431 OH SR656, Sunbury on Saturday **August 8th beginning at 8:30am**. This is an all-day class. Please bring brushes, sprayers, buckets and hand shovels along with your own food and water. Sunscreen and bug spray recommended and no open-toe-shoes.

Sign up at headstones@co.delaware.oh.us

Park Highlights



First Annual Flag Day Celebration

Despite Mother Nature keeping everyone on their toes until just hours before the festivities began, Berkshire Township's first Annual Flag Day Celebration turned out to be a great day of patriotism, community, and family fun.

Those who shared the Township's optimism and joined us on Sunday, June 14, came together to honor our Nation's flag while enjoying an afternoon in the park with friends and neighbors. The BST&G Color Guard opened the celebration, followed by the Berkshire Roads Department leading an enthusiastic children's parade that followed their festively decorated Ranger.

Families enjoyed visiting the America 250 booth, along with classic summertime favorites including hot dogs, apple frypies, popsicles, and refreshing lemonade. The day's biggest hit was the Hunt for Uncle Sam, where children searched the park for 200 miniature Uncle Sam figures hidden throughout the grounds.

Thank you to the Park's Committee who's support and enthusiasm made this inaugural celebration a tremendous success. We're already looking forward to making the Berkshire Township Flag Day Celebration an annual tradition for years to come

Patriotic Food for Thought

As we look back to our local July 4th celebrations which marked the 250th celebration of delegates approved the final text of the Declaration of Independence. It is important to note that the Declaration did not end the Revolutionary War. It did not create a new government. It did not force Britain to surrender or instantly make the colonies a recognized nation. Instead, it announced to the world that the thirteen colonies considered themselves free and independent and explained the principles and grievances behind that decision.

Even the famous signing didn't happen as many imagined. While July 4 appears on the document, most delegates including Thomas Jefferson who signed first, signed the engrossed copy nearly a month later, on August 2, 1776. So, this Sunday, feel free to celebrate again and maybe take stock that this was just the beginning of building our great nation.



The war with England continued through British General Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia in October of 1781. On September 3, 1783, nearly two additional years later, representatives of Great Britain and the United States signed the Treaty of Paris. Britain formally acknowledged the independence of the United States, established its boundaries, and officially ended the Revolutionary War. Even then, the nation's story continued. The Articles of Confederation provided America's first national government, but experience soon revealed the need for something stronger. In 1787, delegates once again gathered in Philadelphia to write the United States Constitution. After its ratification, George Washington was inaugurated as the nation's first president on April 30, 1789, giving the United States the constitutional government that still serves our republic today.

Time to start thinking Back to School

Big Walnut Schools are back in session on Wednesday, August 20th. (*staggered start*) All students reporting Friday, August 24th.

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

Both districts will have Monday, September 7th off for Labor Day as well as Monday, September 21st for 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. While last year's event covered a full 2 weeks, House Bill 186 reallocated funds to school property tax relief so this year's Sales Tax Holiday is back to running one weekend **Friday, Aug. 7 at midnight through Sunday, Aug. 9 at 11:59 p.m.**

What is tax free is also adjusted. Clothing purchases under \$75 and school supplies under \$20 are exempt.

[Details at The Ohio Department of Taxation](#)



**Department of
Transportation**

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) will host a series of in-person public meetings for the US 23/I-71 Connector Study in early August. During the week of July 27, a video update will be posted to the study website. The public is encouraged to watch the video before attending the meetings. The video will provide details on the background and status of the study, the Department's preferred alignment, and next steps.

Through these meetings, the public will have the opportunity to provide comments that will be documented and included in the final study report. ODOT will present findings on the legislative requirements established in House Bill 54, as amended by House Bill 96.

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 **Thursday, Aug 6 12:00-2:00 PM and 4:00-6:00 PM** at The Delaware County Fair Grounds Ag. Building 236 Pennsylvania Avenue
- **Online:** publicinput.com/23-71study Or by email at 23-71study@dot.ohio.gov

Comments received by September 1, 2026 will be formally documented.



Symphony Pops @ Whimsy Saturday, August 8th

Doors Open at 5pm
Comedy Pre-Show at 5:30pm
Concert Stars at 6:30pm

Featuring hits from Michael Jackson, Bruno Mars & more! Enjoy a night with the Central Ohio Symphony!

This is a free admission event for all who want to enjoy the concert!

[RSVP to help us plan.](#)

TangerOutlets

Back to School Bash Presented by Sunbelt Bakery

Friday, August 7 from 1-3PM

Kick off the new school year with a day full of family fun at Tanger Columbus (near Nike). Enjoy live DJ, local food trucks, kids' activities, giveaways and more! Whether you're checking off your Back-to-School shopping list or just looking for a fun day out with the family, there's something for everyone. Bring the kids, enjoy the festivities, and celebrate the start of a brand-new school year with us!

Check the [website](#) or [Facebook](#) for additional details and ways to save.

Sunbury Sizzle - Come to the Sunbury Town Square Saturday, **August 22nd 11am-11pm** for a day of food, great music and 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



All Horse Parade - Sunday Sept. 13

The 40th annual Horse Parade and one of the largest and most unique non-motorized annual horse parade gatherings east of the Mississippi, kicks off on Sunday, September 13th 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. 19 - 26

The Delaware County Fair will be back in action Saturday September 19th - Saturday September 26th.

Daily general admission (*excludes Jug Day*) is \$8 (children under 8 are FREE)



**October 3rd at Boardman Arts Park
Delaware Ohio
Doors Open: 8am, Ceremony Starts: 9am**

Every registered participant who achieves the fundraising minimum of \$100 will receive an official Walk to End Alzheimer's T-shirt via USPS. To receive a shirt in time for Walk day, participants must raise the T-shirt minimum at least four weeks prior to the event

*All funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association
Additional Information - click [HERE](#)*

Weekly pass can be purchased for \$50
Senior Day is Tuesday September 22
(those +55 are FREE)
Military Day is Friday September 25
(Military/Veterans are FREE)

[Tickets/Information HERE](#)



**Little Brown Jug
Live racing
September 20th
through Jug Day on
September 24th,
2026**

Come celebrate the Little Brown Jug! On the fastest half-mile track in the world, it is one of the jewels in the Triple Crown of Harness Racing. 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 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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