# CHAUNCEY NEWSLETTER

2025

#### **TOP NEWS**

#### Roxanna Chiki, Village Clerk

Roxanna joined the staff in September of 2024 as a full-time village clerk. We hope this will allow residents better access to conduct business at the office. Her hours are Monday-Friday, 9am-3:30pm unless otherwise posted.

#### Rainbow Pet Memorial Bridge

Pets have dramatic impact on their owners lives and the loss of one can be devastating. In creating this memorial bridge council would provide residents a place to reflect and acknowledge this loss. A rail would be provided in which to hang a memorial collar.

#### **Debbie Gibson, Council Member**

Please welcome Debbie Gibson as our newest member of council. She will finish the term of former council president Tammy Hawk. Debbie loves the quaintness of Chauncey and looks forward to being part of the team.

#### **CHAUNCEY** COMMUNITY PARK

The Chauncey Community Trails Celebration was held in 2024 and will continue this year with the Outdoor Recreation Council of Appalachia (ORCA).

The shelter house is available to reserve free of charge to Chauncey residents. Non-residents will have a \$25 rental fee. The village website has a calendar to check availability. Reservation forms are at the village hall and may be printed from our village website.

Our Invisible Ground marker was installed at the Chauncey Community Park. There is a QR code set up to a podcast and augmented reality experience highlighting the mining history of Chauncey.

We continue to focus on safe ways for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross State Route 13 and the railroad to get to the park.



Innovation at Work:

### **TRANSFORMING OUR VILLAGE**



Phase one for the sewer line replacement project has been ongoing since spring of 2024 and is on schedule to finish by the end of January 2025. Mendon Pipeline continues to perform this phase of the work.

Chauncey, DLZ Engineering, and the Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP) were successful in getting Phase two of the project funded. Fields Excavating will begin work on Phase 2 in February 2025.

While construction has caused inconvenience to residents, bus stops, and commuters, we continue to appreciate your patience and understanding for this critical project.

We ask you to remember the benefits of these projects. They will make the village a better place to live in the long run by:

- 1. Replacing original lines built in the 1950's which have been a source of financial strain for the Village since the 1990's.
- 2. Reducing maintenance costs.

#### Downtown Revitalization/Streetscape

DLZ and village staff worked through 2024 to develop a plan and design for the new streetscape project on Converse Street. Surveys for a new Gateway were available at village hall and our Facebook page. Thank you to those who participated and provided feedback.

We will have a mural painted on the side of the village hall. The mural is funded by a grant from America 250-Ohio (an organization that is coordinating the U.S. 250 anniversary celebration). See page 2.

www.villageofchauncey.com



#### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

#### Housing

Mayor Renner was involved with Mayors Partnership for Progress' Housing Committee to work with Southeast Ohio communities to figure out strategies around preserving housing, assisting homeowners with rehabilitation, housing tax incentives, and recruiting new affordable housing projects. Drew Daniels and Mayor Hawk will continue attending these meetings to gather ideas and address housing issues in Chauncey.

Council Member Nagy brought legislation regarding Fair Housing to Council for review and was it adopted by council.

#### Zoning

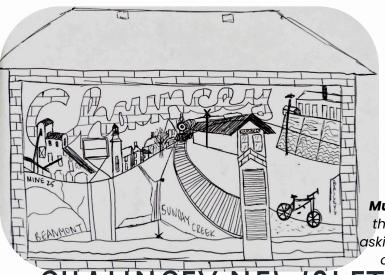
We continue to work on nuisance, vacant, and abandoned homes. The Land Bank has several houses they are going to work on this coming year, and many are in Chauncey.

The zoning districts, zoning code, and permits are on the website at villageofchauncey.com and at Village Hall. If you have questions about these items, you may contact Drew Daniels by emailing <a href="mailto:chaunceycode@gmail.com">chaunceycode@gmail.com</a>

Drew works part time so it may take a few days for him to get back to you after you leave a message.

#### Floodplain Management

FEMA has released revisions to the floodplain maps in Chauncey. To view the changes, go to fema.gov/flood-maps/national-flood-hazard-layer and click on "NFHL Viewer."



#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Regular Council Meeting
  Feb. 13 5:30pm
  Quaker Meeting Space, 22 Birge Dr
- Small Engine Repair Workshop
  April 5 10am & 1pm
  Habitat for Humanity,
  14440 State Rt 13 Millfield
  Online registration: habitatseo.org
- Chauncey Beautification Day
  April 26

#### VILLAGE COUNCIL & STAFF

#### **Interim Mayor**

Tammy Hawk

#### **Council President**

Evelyn Nagy

#### **Council Members**

Connaught Cullen
Dylan Skees
Karla Dellinger
Mike Kraus
Debbie Gibson

#### **Fiscal Officer**

**Kevin Simons** 

#### Solicitor

Jonathan Robe

#### **Village Administrator**

Chris Russell

#### Village Clerk

Roxanna Chiki

#### **Code Enforcement**

**Drew Daniels** 

Mark your calendars: Council will hold the their monthly meeting at 5:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Quaker Meeting Space on 22 Birge Drive.

Interested in Funding the Future of JOIN OUR TEAM!

November 11 will present several opportunities to join Chauncey Village Council. There will be four council seats open for full terms (1/1/26 - 12/31/30). The position of Mayor will also be on the ballot for term ending 12/31/27. Election packets are available at the Athens County Board of Elections on Court Street. Paperwork must be submitted at their office by August 6, 2025.

Mural from page 1: Artist Kyleigh Rae Cox created the design for the mural from a Facebook survey asking for resident ideas. Painting will begin after the completion of sewer and streetscape projects.

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## Volunteer Today



#### CHAUNCEY DESERVES NICE THINGS!

Chauncey has a unique heritage and sense of community. Do you have time and the desire to bring this to life for visitors and residents?

Here are a few ideas and celebrations that are happening throughout the year. Volunteers, fundraising ideas and events are necessary to maintain these happenings.

Consider joining each representative group or organizing a committee to fulfill a community wish list event.

#### **COUNCIL DRIVEN EVENTS:**

- Clean Up Day: this day takes a lot of organizing and volunteering, we have been fortunate to have lots of helping hands from outside the community. We are hoping to have some community involvement this year. Clean up day is scheduled for April 26, 2025
- Community Trail Celebration: join us in organizing activities for an event at the park! How can we get everyone
  out to see all the lovely things our park has to offer, or try out a trail ride or nature hike? Come plan with us!

#### **COMMUNITY WISH LIST:**

- Halloween Committee: the Athens High School Band and Lions Club gift us with a parade and food for everyone
  to enjoy, we would appreciate a committee to lead Chauncey in joining in the celebration! If you have ideas, we
  need you!
- Christmas Committee: What else would make this holiday special for Chauncey? If you are interested in planning an event or raising money for more decorations, please join!
- Party in the Park Committee: The third Saturday in June, July, and August we want to continue bringing in family entertainment, lots of food, and activities for the community to enjoy. Grab a neighbor and help us make it fun!
- Easter Committee: Hop out and help the Fire Department as they organize a celebration for the families of Chauncey!
- Fourth of July Committee: we are hoping to get our first committee together to plan an event for the fourth!

TOWN chai	Complete and return this form to Village Hall. You may also email unceymayor@gmail.com or message us on Facebook - Village of Chauncey
Name:	Phone:
Email:	