

# Harrison Insights

Businesses • Image • Neighborhoods • People • Prosperity • Services

Montgomery County, Ohio

## **Trustees Honor Citizen Hero**



"I've never had anything like this happen to me," Mr. Cox said. "I'm so thankful to be recognized." Despite the images portrayed by Hollywood, real heroes don't wear capes and use supernatural powers to capture villains.

Mr. Joseph Cox is a good example.

On the evening of December 15, 2021, as he was driving near the intersection of Needmore Road and Webster Street, he came across an accident. He stopped and got out of his car to see if anyone needed his help. As he approached the wreck, he noticed a man inside, unresponsive. At that point, the 37-year-old Mr. Cox tried to open the door, but damage from the accident made that impossible.

Moments later he noticed fire coming from under the hood. Without regard for his own safety, he quickly smashed out the window and pulled the driver to safety.

For his selfless act in a life-or-death emergency, Harrison Township trustees presented Mr. Cox a proclamation detailing his heroism.

"I've never had anything like this happen to me," Mr. Cox said. "I'm so thankful to be recognized."

## **New Trustee Brings Fresh Perspective**

The newest – and youngest ever – Harrison Township trustee began her two-year term of office in January 2022. In addition to a youthful perspective, Danielle Bradley brings a knack for listening and understanding, along with a desire to serve the community.

"I want people to feel heard and feel comfortable voicing their concerns and wishes," the 36-year old said.

Danielle believes the township's strategic plan identifies the most important issues facing the community,

including updating the zoning code, rebuilding from the 2019 tornadoes, attracting businesses and ensuring affordable housing. She's also committed to providing the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office the resources needed to keep the community safe.

"As a young trustee, I bring a fresh set of ideas from a different demographic," she said. "I'm a voice for the young families and citizens that did not have a 'seat at the table."

Danielle is employed as a recruiter for Monterey Consultants, working on a contract with the U.S. Department of Labor.

#### **Police Department News**

### **New Commander a Familiar Face**

A two-time Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Deputy of the Year has been named as Harrison Township's new substation commander. Captain Brad Daugherty, a 24-year veteran of the office, now leads the department of 34 deputies and sergeants. He was previously assigned to the township from 2000 to 2004 and worked as a road patrol officer and detective.

Captain Daugherty replaces Captain Dave Parin, who led the department for three years that included challenges such as the 2019 tornadoes and COVID-19.

Having grown up in Clay Township, Captain Daugherty earned an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice from Sinclair College. The 43-year old began his career with the sheriff's office as a corrections officer in 1998 and was promoted to deputy sheriff in 2000. He has worked in jail operations, road patrol, community-oriented policing and field training.

As a detective from 2004 to 2018, Captain Daugherty worked high-profile cases, including robberies, rapes and homicides. He is also an active member of the Montgomery County Regional SWAT Team.

Once promoted to sergeant in 2018, and then captain in 2019, he was assigned to the jail division before returning to Harrison Township.



The new commander's goal is to make deputies more visible and promote positive relationships with citizens – especially youth – to create a safer community for everyone.

Captain Daugherty is also known as Vice Mayor Daugherty as a member of the Englewood City Council. He has also coached numerous youth sports teams. He and his wife of 22 years, Kristie, have four children. They live in Englewood.

### **Township Calendar 2022**

#### Township offices are closed on the following dates:

May 30 Memorial Day Trash service delayed one day
June 20 Juneteenth Trash service REGULAR SERVICE
July 4 Independence Day Trash service delayed one day
September 5 Labor Day Trash service delayed one day
October 10 Columbus Day Trash service REGULAR SERVICE

#### **Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule**

Board of Trustees' meetings are held twice a month at the Township Government Center First Monday – Workshop Meeting at 5:30 p.m.; General Session at 7 p.m. Third Thursday – Workshop Meeting at 10:30 a.m.; General Session at 12 p.m.

All meetings except executive sessions are open to the public, and citizens are welcome to attend.



## **Deputy Earns Sheriff's Top Honor**

One of Harrison Township's hardest working sheriff's deputies has been named Deputy of the Year by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. Assigned to road patrol last year. Deputy Alec Denker, responded to more than 920 incidents and completed 285 reports. His record for felony arrests was unmatched in the

entire sheriff's office, and he was also responsible for getting many intoxicated drivers off the road.

"Deputy Denker's direct supervisors praise his professionalism and work ethic every day," said Harrison Township Substation Commander Captain Brad Daugherty, who nominated the deputy for the sheriff's office-wide award. Denker earlier was honored as Harrison Township's Deputy of the Year.



## In an Emergency...

In a life-or-death emergency involving injury to someone or property damage, calling 9-1-1 is the fastest way to connect with the police, fire and emergency medical services.

But when the need is not immediate and life-threatening, such as a barking dog or abandoned vehicle, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office provides an easy-to-remember non-emergency number: (937) 225-HELP (4357).

All calls are answered by the Regional Dispatch Center, and responders who are appropriate to the situation are dispatched from there.

#### **Township News**



## Township Goes Extra Mile for Safety

When it comes to keeping roadways safe, Harrison Township makes a practice of exceeding minimum state requirements. Although state law requires twice yearly mowing of public rights-of-way – those areas along the edge of the road that are not in front of homes and businesses – the township performs the maintenance at least three times.

"This maintenance task is much too important," said Services Department Director Merle Cyphers. "It reduces collection points for litter and increases residents' safety. It also improves the township's appearance."

A pass through the entire township takes up to 80 hours of labor.

## **Litter Hurts You**

Litter is a global problem: It harms wildlife, pollutes rivers and contaminates soil. On a community level, it detracts from the ability to attract new businesses and residents.

The litter problem in Harrison Township is typical. Among the items that litter local streets are cigarette butts, food wrappers, plastic bottles and grocery bags.

Don't be a litterbug, please throw trash in the trash can, where it belongs, and teach your children to do the same.

To learn how to report littering in Montgomery County, please visit mcohio.org and enter "report a litterer" in the search box.



## Prepared for Road Repairs

With the threat of snowy, icy weather passed, the township's first priority for keeping roadways safe is patching rough spots and repairing potholes. After that, officials survey roadway conditions across the township and develop a resurfacing plan for the coming season.

The 2022 paving budget of \$465,000 will cover the resurfacing of 4.5 miles. Grant funding – which the township has applied for but not yet notified of an award – would pay for additional miles.





## Hydrant Testing May Discolor Water

The Harrison Township Fire Department will be testing fire hydrants from May 2 through May 22. It's best to check before doing laundry since this may stir up sediment in the water lines and cause the water to be discolored.

To find out when the testing will take place in your area, please contact the fire department at (937) 274-4351.

## **Program Limits Flooding**

Like vehicles, household plumbing, the internet and so many other conveniences, it's easy to take for granted the systems that make life more comfortable – until something goes wrong. A community's storm drainage system is one such system: It only becomes noticeable after it malfunctions.

To prevent surprises, the Harrison Township Services
Department carries out an annual storm-drainage
maintenance program across all 83 miles of the township's
underground storm drains and open ditches that keep street
flooding at bay. The program will be carried out through the
month of April.

"We identify potential storm drain blockages and clean that area of the system with a specialized truck designed for this use," said Services Department Director Merle Cyphers.

Additional cleaning is performed on a request basis.

"The most important thing that property owner can do to assist in keeping the storm system functioning is to ensure the areas around the inlets stay clear of litter and grass clippings," said Cyphers. "Litter and environmental waste are the main causes of blockage."

## Township to Update Zoning Laws

The average citizen doesn't spend much time thinking about zoning or the role it plays in a community – until a new business decides to erect an oversized sign or a developer wants to build a high-rise in a suburban neighborhood.

Zoning's purpose is to ensure that land uses are compatible, prevent new development from interfering with existing uses and preserve a given area's character. It keeps factories out of residential neighborhoods, for example.

Harrison Township's strategic plan prioritizes updated zoning regulations to align them with today's markets and lifestyles. A comprehensive review and revision of the community's zoning maps and regulations has not been completed in recent history.

The time is right because new opportunities have emerged since the 2019 tornadoes wiped out entire swaths of residential and commercial development in the township. The existing zoning in these areas may be too restrictive to realize their potential in today's marketplace.

Before the Harrison Township Board of Trustees adopts any changes to the zoning code, citizens will have opportunities to review and comment on the recommendations.

### **Household Trash: Contain It**

One trash and one recycling container are included in your residential trash bills. All trash must fit inside these containers with the lid closed. Overage bags are available at the Harrison Township Government Center



for \$4 per bag, or additional containers may be rented for \$3 per month, billed a year in advance.

## Why Does Zoning Matter?

The Wagner-Ford and North Dixie corridor was hit hard by the 2019 tornadoes. Now this prominent area presents the opportunity to reimagine its future.

Unfortunately, the township's decades-old zoning code limits the possibilities.

As part of the ongoing zoning code update, the township has declared a one-year moratorium on any new development in that area. Meanwhile, the development department is conducting a market analysis and will recommend new development standards that maximize the area's potential.

"This is our chance to ensure we get the kind of development the community wants and needs in this area," said Development Director Emily Crow. "We want to seize this redevelopment opportunity."



## **Community Meetings: Residents Come to Listen, Learn and Help**

With 30 people participating in the township's quarterly community outreach meeting in December and about 25 in March, attendance far surpassed expectations.

The township is holding the meetings as part of the strategic planning process, in an effort to learn citizens' concerns, priorities and suggestions.

"We want to invite citizens into the strategic planning process and ask them what's important to them now and in the future," said Development Director Emily Crow.

One result of the first meeting was a citizen-driven network of support groups that represent the philanthropic community, programs for seniors, food pantries and faithbased groups that will meet regularly to coordinate the response to residents in need.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28 at 6 p.m., in the community center at the Harrison Township Government Center. Please check the township's website for further details.





### Website: The Good Stuff, Just a Click Away



Harrison Township's new and improved website launched in February. The redesign – the second since the original website was created in the early 2000s – provides more information and functionality

News, forms, payments, events, feature stories, social media icons, meeting minutes and agendas are just a click away.

"The new design even provides a portal that allows residents to let the township know about issues and track their status

as they're being addressed by staff," said Communications Manager Ken Jarosik. "We're excited to use this technology to better communicate with our residents and businesses."

#### **Neighborhood News**



## **More Eyesores Coming Down**

When abandoned houses turn into dilapidated eyesores, the problem is more than cosmetic: They diminish residents' safety and health, as well as neighborhood appeal and property values.

These are among the reasons Harrison Township is aggressive in pursuing the removal of abandoned nuisance properties. The township has gained outside funding to supplement local tax dollars as part of this effort.

Officials are now approaching the end of a long legal process that will allow for the demolition of 15 properties that have been declared dangerous, including some abandoned after the 2019 tornadoes.

## Farmers' Market Opens May 14

With farm-fresh produce and tempting treats, the Shiloh Farmers' Market is the ultimate in shopping locally.

#### When?

Join us every Saturday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. from May 14 - October 8

#### Where?

Shiloh Church parking lot, corner of North Main Street and Philadelphia Drive

Make this your summer of healthy eating!





## Township Increases Resources for Nuisance Cleanup

Harrison Township has deployed a new strategy to keep up the community's appearance. Contracted firms will help to clean up nuisance properties, including mowing overgrown weeds and grass, as well as junk removal. This work becomes necessary after property owners fail to comply with notices of property maintenance violation.

In the past, this work was completed by services department crews at a cost last year of \$90,000. These costs are assessed to the property owner's tax bill, but not all can be collected.

This work becomes challenging during the summer months, however, because crews must also work on to road repairs, right-ofway mowing, park maintenance and other summer projects.

Harrison Township trustees decided this year to supplement the cleanup effort with contractors so that major nuisance concerns can be scheduled more quickly.



HarrisonTownship.org

## Spring Cleaning Simplified

If your spring cleaning has you disposing of large, bulky items, the following is news you need to know. Harrison Township's contract with the residential trash hauler, Rumpke, includes bulk item pick-up at no additional cost to residents. You may set out up to three bulky items per week for collection on your regular trash pick-up day.

#### **Bulky-item guidelines**

- If you're disposing of upholstered items, such as couches, chairs, mattresses and box springs, those items must be wrapped and sealed in plastic. Containment bags for this purpose can be purchased for \$7 per bag at the Harrison Township Government Center.
- TV sets may not exceed 32 inches.
- Freon must be removed from appliances such as dehumidifiers and air conditioners before pickup. Please complete a refrigerant recovery statement and contact Rumpke for more details.
- Items such as drywall, concrete, bricks, dirt or rocks, are not accepted.
- By federal law, Rumpke may not accept batteries, tires, liquids, combustible materials or any items identified as hazardous.
- Please remove safety hazards to help keep drivers safe.

A complete list of accepted items and how to prepare them is available on the Rumpke website at rumpke.com/for-your-home/curbside-guidelines. You may also contact Rumpke at (800) 828-8171 or (937) 461-0004.

## Parks: Ready to Rock Your Summer

The snow is gone and warmer days are coming. It's time to enjoy your community parks.

Harrison Township's two parks are now open to the public until November 1. Here are details to know about each:



#### Sinclair Park - Shoup Mill Road at Riverside Drive

- Volleyball court
- New playground equipment
- Open green space
- Public restrooms
- 88 new trees have been planted to replace those destroyed by the tornadoes

Also coming this summer to Sinclair Park (These items are still under construction.)

- New walking track/running path
- Two open-air picnic shelters with grills (rentable)
- Parking upgrades

## Shiloh Park - Intersection of Markey Road and Philadelphia Drive

- Two tennis/pickleball courts
- Volleyball court
- Playground equipment
- Two open-air shelters with grills
- Large pavilion (rentable starting mid-summer, after remodeling completed)
- Open green space
- Public restrooms

To reserve a shelter, please complete an "Application for Facility Use" available on the township's website, or by calling the township at (937) 274-6871 during business hours.

## Company Growing, Adding Jobs in Township

A local company has launched a new phase in its trajectory toward premier status in its industry. Dedicated to aggressive growth, Budde Precision Machining has just completed a relocation within Harrison Township that quadruples its space and sets the stage for expansion over the next 15 to 20 years.

The company provides prototype-to-production computer numerical control (CNC) machining to high-profile industries, including defense, aerospace, health care/medical and industrial equipment.

#### **Outstanding growth**

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Bursting at the seams in its former 5,000-square-foot Wadsworth Road location, the company recently purchased and relocated to a vacant, 20,000-square-foot facility at 2608 Nordic Ave.

Budde's sales have soared in recent years, resulting in a significant backlog of orders. Current employment stands at 13, but owner Mike Budde envisions increasing employment significantly in the near future. Many of these jobs will be high-value machining/engineering positions.

#### **Customer partnerships**

"We partner with our customers and will grow in lockstep with them," he said. "Our close customer relationships have built their trust in us as a vendor."

The new facility will require \$155,000 in improvements, including a new roof and energy-efficiency upgrades. Harrison Township recently assisted Budde in obtaining a \$200,000 economic development grant from Montgomery County's ED/GE program to help pay for the improvements.

"We looked at quite a few new locations but decided to stay because it's convenient to so many of our vendors and the interstates," Budde said.

"And the township's staff have been great to work with.

They have the expertise to get things done."

Michael Budde, president and owner of Budde Precision Machining

HarrisonTownship.org

## Welcome, New Businesses

These businesses have recently opened their doors in Harrison Township:

#### **She's Pretty LLC**

3561 W. Siebenthaler Ave.

### **Martin Custom Products**

4325 Webster St.

#### **Northern Light Upfitting**

5307 Webster St., Ste. 103

## **Blossoming Beginnings Learning Center**

800 Shoup Mill Rd.

#### **ARC Electronics LLC**

5251 Webster St.

#### **DTA Petroleum dba Marathon**

6519 N. Dixie Dr.

#### Wing Stop

4171 N. Main St.

When you're shopping for goods and services, please be sure to "shop local" first.

## Congratulations, FC Industries!

Harrison Township trustees and staff congratulate FC Industries on its 50th anniversary this year. This manufacturing company in Harrison Township has been providing jobs and economic vitality to our community since 1972, when it was started by Frank and Lila Casella.

To learn more about FC Industries, including jobs, please visit their website at fcindinc.com.

## **Starting a New Business?**

First-time business owners don't have to face their startup challenges alone. The Harrison Township Development Department can help navigate the process, especially when it comes to finding a location with proper zoning, obtaining plan approvals, scheduling required inspections and obtaining the necessary permits.

"We often see people who aren't familiar with the processes or who get trapped in bad leases," said Development Director Emily Crow. "We want to help new business owners with those initial steps toward success."

To get help, contact the development department at (937) 890-5611.





## New Health Facility to Focus on Seniors

Kettering Health is opening a new facility in Harrison Township. Due to open next month, the one-story, 8,000-square-foot Years Ahead Health Center, located at 3969 Salem Ave., will feature patient-centered care with facility design and educational programs tailored for those age 65 and older.



Georgeann Godsey, President

Danielle Bradley, Vice President

Roland Winburn, Trustee

Craig A. Jones, Fiscal Officer

Kristofer McClintick, Township Administrator

Administrative Offices: 937-890-5611

Roads and Services Department 937-274-6871

Fire Department Admin. Office 937-274-4351

Sheriff's Officer (D-10) Admin. Office 937-890-9581

Non-Emergency Dispatch: 937-225-4357

#### HarrisonTownship.org



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HarrisonTownshipMontCoOhio1841



TownshipOhio



HarrisonTownshipDaytonOH2



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#### Save A Tree

Please let us know if you'd like to receive this newsletter in your email. Call 937-890-5611 to have your name added to the list.

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