



LIBERTY NEWS

SPRING 2014

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Liberty Township Easter Egg Hunt

April 19



ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT RETURNS SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Children ages 1—8 are invited to take part in Liberty Township’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 at Liberty Park, 6757 Yankee Road—behind the Lakota Family YMCA. In the event of inclement weather, the Easter Egg Hunt will be held indoors at the YMCA. See below the designated hunt times for the children. Each session will begin promptly at the time listed.

10 a.m.—Ages 1 and 2	11 a.m.—Ages 5 and 6
10:30 a.m.—Ages 3 and 4	11:30 a.m.—Ages 7 and 8

The Easter Bunny will be available for photos from 10 a.m.—Noon. Bring your camera, a basket for collecting eggs and get ready for some fun!

The Liberty Township Board of Trustees look forward to hosting the rest of the 2014 community events—mark your calendars now! Sponsorship opportunities are available too. Contact Vickie Daniel at vdaniel@liberty-township.com to learn how you can join the list of sponsor businesses.

JULY 4th FESTIVITIES—July 4

8 a.m. 5K Run for Liberty at Liberty Park
10 a.m. Annual Parade

FALL FESTIVAL & 5K—Oct. 4

8 a.m. Pursuit of Liberty 5K
11 a.m.—3 p.m. Fall Festival at Liberty Park

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA—Dec. 6

8:30—10:30 a.m. at Liberty Heights Church

THANK YOU SPONSORS!

Platinum: **Cincinnati Children’s**

Gold: **Meijer**

Silver: Fifth Third Bank, Tide Dry Cleaners and Uno’s Pizzeria & Grill / Taco Bell

Bronze: Cincinnati EyeCare Team, Emery Federal Credit Union, Liberty Veterinary Hospital and SDA Studios

Pewter: Koebbe Auto Tech, Lakota Family YMCA, Live Well Chiropractic Center, Quaker Chemical and The Web: Extreme Entertainment



Embraced by nature. ♦ Inspired by progress.

6400 Princeton Road
Liberty Township, Ohio 45011
P: 513.759.7500
F: 513.759.7501
www.liberty-township.com

Office Hours: Monday—Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Elected Officials:

Christine Matacic, President
Thomas Farrell, Vice President
David Kern, Trustee
Pamela Quinlisk, Fiscal Officer

Liberty News Editor:
Caroline McKinney

PLANNING AND ZONING NEWS

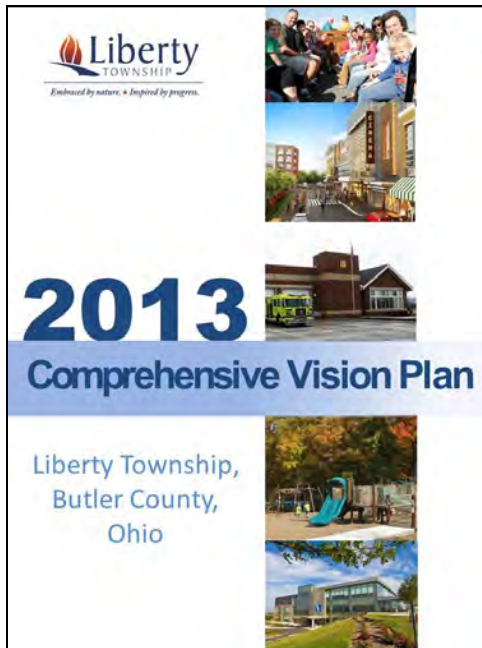
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S COMPREHENSIVE VISION PLAN 2013 IS FORMALLY ADOPTED

On February 4, the Liberty Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adopt the Comprehensive Vision Plan 2013 document. Then on March 11 the plan received support from the Butler County Planning Commission as they recommended its adoption.

The Vision Plan 2013 is an update to the 2006 Comprehensive Plan which was designed to be a 20-year planning tool to be updated approximately every five years. In spring 2012, a Vision Plan Steering Committee was formed representing the interests of residents, businesses and community stakeholders.

The Comprehensive Vision Plan 2013 was drafted over the course of 18 months by Liberty Township planning staff working with the 22-member steering committee. The planning process included three public open houses to solicit input from the community on topics of the plan. Furthermore, progress of the plan was charted on a page on the Township's website, which was also used to gather public input on the plan. Once drafted, the plan was presented at public hearings before the Township Zoning Commission and Board of Township Trustees where comments from the public were solicited prior to the plan being adopted.

The Comprehensive Vision Plan lays out a future vision for the direction of Liberty Township, while putting forth specific goals and objectives towards accomplishing that vision.



Liberty Township's 2013 Comprehensive Vision Plan can be found online at www.liberty-township.com under Departments and then Planning/Zoning.

The plan serves multiple purposes, and is used by the Township in several ways:

As a Vision Statement:

The process of updating the Comprehensive Vision Plan is an opportunity for the community to come together and answer the question, "What do we want our community to be in the future?"

A Guide for Decision Making

The Vision Plan is frequently referred to during decision making processes the Township goes through; particularly those involving land use and infrastructure improvements. Consulting the Vision Plan when considering everyday focused decisions ensures that the long-term plans and goals of the community continue to be embraced and supported in those decisions.

A Means of Communicating the Community Vision to the World

The Vision Plan serves as a means to project the Township's vision, along with ideas and plans about how to achieve that vision with the community. Even more than that, the document is a way to project that vision out to the wider world. The purpose of this is to generate buy-in from the community and to excite outsiders to the opportunities present in our growing community.

PERMIT NUMBERS ON THE RISE REGIONALLY

According to the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati (HBA)...

- ◆ Single family home permits were up 29% across the region in 2013 (compared to 2012).
- ◆ Warren County registered highest number of new single-family permits followed by Butler County.
- ◆ **Liberty Township** led all local jurisdictions with 255 single-family permits issued in 2013.
- ◆ Single-family home permits in **Liberty Township** rose nearly 76% from 145 in 2012 to 255 in 2013.

SAVE THE DATE!



July 12—27, 2014

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ROUND-UP

NEW BUSINESSES NOW OPEN IN LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

Liberty Township was proud to celebrate with a couple new businesses when they celebrated their grand openings earlier this year.

Right 2 Arm Firearms

opened on Mercedes Drive off Route 4 in Liberty Twp. Owner Mike Reed (pictured center at right) at their ribbon cutting and grand opening. Right 2 Arm Firearms sells firearms, ammunition, gun safes, knives, optics, tactical lighting, concealed carry holsters and related accessories. They also offer Ohio Concealed Carry Classes. For more info, visit www.rt2arm.com.



Blow Dry Bar & Salon opened late last year along Cincinnati-Dayton Road and recently celebrated a ribbon cutting with the community. Owners Cheryl Kidwell of Liberty Twp and Liz Dorriot of West Chester Twp (pictured center at left) have created a salon offering “the best of both worlds.” They have combined the latest trend in dry styling or “blowouts” with the services



traditionally found at salons and spas, like haircuts, hair color, massage, makeup and facial needs. The blowout styles are named after drinks and “chick flicks” play on a large screen TV as you are pampered. For more info, visit www.cincyblowdrybar.com.

In addition, two new IT businesses have opened in the Liberty Office Park:

IT Xcel Consulting—provides companies with managed print services and solutions. For more info, visit www.xgsit.com.

Vision One IT Consulting—provides traditional IT hardware sales and solutions to small and medium-sized businesses. For more info, visit www.v1corp.com.

Liberty Township congratulates resident and volunteer **CAROL SWISSELM** for being awarded the PARACHUTE: Butler County CASA **2013 Ohio Pro Star Volunteer of the Year**.



Thank you for the important work you do in our community!

PROJECT UPDATES

CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S – construction has begun on a new facility to house a proton therapy and research center for cancer treatment. The \$118-million center will open in 2016 and will house three proton treatment rooms for clinical use with the potential to add a fourth room in the future. Also underway is the addition of a fourth floor to the existing Liberty Campus facility. The addition will open in 2015 bringing the bed total to 42 inpatient beds.



LIBERTY CENTER – the site has transformed significantly since December when homes lined Liberty Way. Now, the site is full of various earth-moving equipment preparing the site for construction. The 1.1 million square-foot Liberty Center mixed-use development is expected to open in Fall 2015. Dillard's and CineBistro have been announced as anchors. Pies & Pints has also announced that they will open a new restaurant at Liberty Center. More announcements are expected in the coming months as Liberty Center begins to take shape!



ROADS AND PARKS UPDATE

PARKS COMMITTEE PLANS WALKS AND WORK DAYS

Join the Parks Committee as they lead several walks and clean-up days around the Township's parks. To learn more about the walks and clean-up days below, contact long-time volunteer Chuck Holliday at ChuckH@hollidayintheparks.com.

Give a Hand—Allen Park
April 5 from 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Wildflowers Walk—Dudley Woods
April 19 at 10 a.m.

Give a Hand—Allen Park
April 26 from 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Evening Walk—Wetlands East
April 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Bird Walk—Cherokee Park
May 3 at 9 a.m.

Evening Walk—Dudley Woods
May 7 at 6:30 p.m.

B&B Planting—Allen Park
May 10 from 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Give a Hand—Cherokee Park
May 17 from 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Tree ID Walk, Wetlands East
June 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Summer Stroll, Cherokee Park
June 21 at 9 a.m.

Park Addresses:

Allen Park: 5440 Joann Drive
Cherokee Park: 4616 Watoga Drive
Dudley Woods: 5591 Hankins Road
Wetlands East: 6950
LeSourdsville West Chester Road

SCHOOL OF FISH EVENT FOR KIDS—SAT., JUNE 7

Open to kids of all ages, the annual **School of Fish** event is designed to teach children how to fish. Join us on Saturday, June 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Reserves Park, 5100 Grandin Ridge Drive in the Reserves of Liberty. Poles, bait and a hot dog lunch will be provided. No RSVP is required. Many thanks to Hamilton Bait & Tackle and McDonald's on Route 4 for sponsoring the event!

UPCOMING ROAD CLOSINGS AND CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Several road projects are planned for spring/summer in Liberty Township. See below a list of construction projects being led by the Butler County Engineer's Office (BCEO) in our community. The BCEO web site—www.bceo.org—is the best source of information for updates or to learn more about these projects.

Maud Hughes/Millikin Roads—the intersection is closed for construction of a single-lane roundabout. Completion is expected in May, weather permitting. Following the roundabout, bridge replacement work will commence on both sides/legs of Maud Hughes Road. Soil borings will also be done to understand the size and scope of the improvements needed to Maud Hughes Road.

Cincinnati-Dayton/Yankee Roads—later this month, work will begin to make some needed improvements around Cin-Day and Yankee Roads. Traffic will be maintained throughout the project which includes the addition of lanes on Cin-Day and Yankee Roads and ramp lane additions on SR 129 exit ramps. In addition, a sidewalk will be installed on the south side of Yankee Road.

Liberty-Fairfield Road—beginning in April, Liberty-Fairfield Road will be widened to five lanes from OH-4 to the Great Miami River. Traffic will be maintained and completion is expected in August, weather permitting.

Annual Paving—the following streets will be paved in 2014:
Kyles Station Road—from Cincinnati-Dayton to the pavement break
Providence Ridge—from High Saddle to Mt. View Ct.
Crown Point—from Hamilton-Mason Road to cul-de-sac
Furlong Way—from Millikin Road to cul-de-sac

Annual Black Mat Slurry—the following streets (or sections of them) will receive the black mat slurry treatment (a thinner layer of asphalt): Spruce Creek, Maple Creek, Elm Creek Ct., Ash Creek Ct., Mt. View Ct., Trade Winds Ct., Raven Valley Dr., Raven Ct., Raven Crest Ct., Peak View Ct., Mesa Place, Peak Dr., Sautern Ct., and Port Lane.

Annual Retracing—Bethany Road from Cincinnati-Dayton to Butler-Warren roads will be retraced this year, as will Hankins Road from Maud-Hughes to Yankee roads.

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP RECOGNIZES OUR VALUABLE VOLUNTEERS

The Liberty Township Board of Trustees recognized Township volunteers for their service in 2013 at a February Board Meeting. We simply could not do some of our best work without the support, encouragement and dedication of our trusted volunteers. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Vickie Daniel at vdaniel@liberty-township.com. **THANK YOU** to the members of the following Committees and Boards.

- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Economic Development Committee
- Events Volunteers
- Finance Committee
- JEDD I Board
- Parks Committee
- Trails Volunteers
- Zoning Commission



FIRE DEPARTMENT FLASH

TOWNSHIP AND FIRE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZED BY EMA

Butler County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Operations Manager Matt Haverkos recognized the Liberty Township Trustees and the Township's Fire Department for their collaboration on the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) at a recent February Board of Trustees Meeting.



CERT is a group of civilians that volunteer and receive special training to enhance their ability to recognize, respond to and recover from a major emergency or disaster.

CERT was developed to augment first responders in major or large-scale disasters or events where regular emergency services are stretched to their capacity. Butler County is fortunate to have an active EMA organization dedicated to safety and preparedness. For more info on CERT and the Butler County EMA, visit their web site at www.butlercountyohio.org/EMA.

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR DETECTORS: DAY-LIGHT SAVINGS REMINDER

For the past several decades we have been encouraging you to "Change your clock, Change your batteries!" In the early days of smoke detectors this was very necessary as most smoke detectors were free-standing units operated by a single 9-volt battery. In the early days one detector per floor was considered adequate.

Current residential building codes require a smoke detector on each floor as well as one in each sleeping room. Additionally, these detectors must be integrated such that when one is set off it activates all detectors in the system. The modern day systems are powered by the house electrical system and may have a battery back up to assure that the detector will activate during a power outage.

We recommend testing your detectors monthly by simply pushing the test button and assuring the detector activates.

RARE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

One advantage of the extreme weather we experienced this winter is the opportunity it gave the Liberty Township Fire Department to actually practice ice rescue techniques. Crews took advantage of the ice on the pond in Reserves Park recently to practice both victim and self-rescue. In recent years we have not had sufficient ice to actually allow the firefighters to go out on the ice and practice the techniques.

Pictured at right: Justin McPhillips, Jon Meyer, Zack Bernard and Joe Miller

Pictured below left: Julia Beiser, Jake Oakes and Lt Jason Knollman

Pictured below right: Jake Oakes and Julia Beiser



Most manufacturers recommend replacing the units in the 5—7 year range to make sure that you and your family are safe. Furthermore, the US Fire Administration now recommends the use of the new dual sensor technology models. These detectors utilize both photoelectric and ionization technology to more efficiently detect smoke, smoldering fires as well as rapidly burning fires that create less smoke. In addition to smoke detectors, make sure your home has a working carbon monoxide detector near the bedrooms in your home. Although many of our smoke and carbon monoxide detector activation calls turn out to be defective detectors never hesitate to call 911 and have our crews respond to confirm that no hazards exists.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFO



In February, the Lakota School District partially restored some bus service to students. That has meant reduced traffic congestion on township roads and streets near the schools.

The restoration of service was made possible when voters approved a school levy in November. One of the levy commitments was to restore busing for students in grades 2 through 6 who live farther than one mile from school. Previously, the district provided busing to those grades only to students who lived farther than two miles from school.

Lakota has 10 elementary schools, for students in grades 2 through 6. Five of the schools are in Liberty Township. They include:

- ◆ Woodland: Dutchland Pkwy
- ◆ VanGorden: Lesourdsville-West Chester Rd.
- ◆ Independence: Princeton Rd.
- ◆ Heritage: Hamilton-Mason Rd
- ◆ Cherokee: Kyles Station Rd.

Congested traffic in the mornings and afternoon around the schools was common, as many parents opted to drive their children to school. With bus service restored to about 2,400 students, traffic congestion has been reduced in those areas.

To see the school district's spring newsletter with a full report on the levy commitments, visit www.lakotaonline.com.



THE WEST CHESTER • LIBERTY CHAMBER ALLIANCE WILL HOST REGIONAL BUSINESS EXPO ON MAY 13

The West Chester • Liberty Chamber Alliance will host the Largest Regional Business Expo on the I-75 Growth Corridor on Tuesday, May 13 from 1—5 p.m. "A Taste of West Chester & Liberty" will be featured at the May 13 luncheon at Skatetown USA in West Chester Township just prior to the Business Expo.

More than 120 exhibitors will be featured at the Business Expo—including Liberty Township, pictured at right during last year's event. Admissions is FREE with a business card.

Booths are still available. Call the Chamber offices at 513-777-3600 or visit TheChamberAlliance.com.



PARTNERS IN PRIME OFFERS COMMUNITY SPACE FOR RENT

Looking for a place to host your next meeting, party or special event? Located in the former library at 7900 Cox Road, the West Chester Activity Center offers a variety of rental options, including a dance floor, a kitchenette, and comfortable family-style seating. Available space holds anywhere from 20—120 people.

From the West Chester Symphony and a SilverSneakers™ classic fitness class for adults to 4H Clubs and computer, dance and art classes for youth, the Center provides opportunities for people of all ages to fulfill their physical, social and spiritual needs.

Rental prices range from \$60 to \$150 per hour. Whether you are planning a class reunion, special meeting or birthday party, the West Chester Activity Center has the space you need. For more information or to schedule a tour of the space, contact Susan at 513-779-7360 or email scostantino@community-first.org.



MIDPOINTE LIBRARY SYSTEM IS READY FOR SUMMER!

Warm weather will be here before we know it, and with it comes the MidPointe Library System's popular Summer Reading Program. This fun and free entertainment option for the whole family kicks off June 1 and runs through July 31.

The more you read, the more prizes you earn! Additionally, special Summer Reading programming and events will be held all summer long. Don't miss the fun! Visit www.MidPointeLibrary.org for the latest Library news and a full schedule of summer events.

OTHER TOWNSHIP NEWS

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, OHIO 45069—NOW APPROVED FOR USE

Liberty Township businesses and residents are now able to utilize “Liberty Township” as the city name with the 45069 zip code. Traditionally, this pocket of businesses and homes located along Liberty Way/Hamilton-Mason and north to State Route 129 were required to utilize West Chester, Ohio 45069 with their Liberty Township address.

The Township has been working with the U.S. Postal Service to ensure that all businesses and residents within this pocket of the community are able to be identified as part of Liberty Township. The process involved verifying the streets and addresses that exist within the 45069 zip code in Liberty Township with the U.S. Postal Service to allow the use of “Liberty Township” or “West Chester” with the 45069 zip code within this specific pocket of the community. This applies to approximately 145 parcels and 50 Liberty Township businesses that currently fall within the 45069 zip code area. The number of businesses in this area will increase significantly when the 1.1 million-square-foot Liberty Center mixed-use development along Liberty Way opens in 2015.

U.S. Postal Zip Codes do not represent jurisdictional boundaries of townships or municipalities, but rather are established based upon postal delivery routes and the location and size of the post office serving an area. Liberty Township’s 28 square miles are served by five zip codes because there is not

one zip code specifically associated with Liberty Township. The majority of businesses and residents fall within the 45011 (Hamilton) or 45044 (Middletown) zip codes. Several years ago, the Township worked with the U.S. Postal Service to allow all businesses and residents with these two zip codes to utilize Liberty Township, Ohio as an acceptable mailing address. The Township has now added 45069 (West Chester) to the list of zip codes permitted to use “Liberty Township” as the city name with the existing or previously approved zip code.

Participation is optional as the mailing addresses within this designated area did not change, but rather now have the opportunity to utilize “Liberty Township” as the city name if desired. Therefore, existing businesses and residents do not need to update letterhead or menus at this time but can consider including “Liberty Township” to better identify their locations in the future as collateral materials are reprinted.

Another recent benefit of residents and businesses utilizing Liberty Township with their appropriate zip code has been with Google. They are now identifying and utilizing Liberty Township for addresses in the 45011 and 45044 zip codes. Other search engines have not yet updated their databases. The goal is to provide all businesses and residents the ability to proudly identify their Liberty Township location.

LEUTENANT DALLMAN NAMED DIVISION COMMANDER OF THE LIBERTY TOWNSHIP SUBSTATION

Lieutenant Morgan Dallman, a veteran of the Butler County Sheriff’s Office (BCSO), has been named the Division Commander of the Liberty Township BCSO Substation. Lt. Dallman replaces Lt. Lance Bunnell, who served in the same capacity for the last six years.



Lt. Dallman brings a wealth of experience to the post working with the BCSO since 1997. He’s worked in various capacities with the BCSO including working road patrol, in the jail, as an undercover agent, as contract deputy for Hanover Twp and serving as Sergeant on road patrol in Liberty Twp. In 2012, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and is proud to serve the residents of Liberty Township in his new capacity as Division Commander. Dallman has also served on the County’s SWAT team for 15 years and is currently Assistant Commander of the Butler County Regional SWAT team. Dallman and his wife Debbie have two children and reside in Milford Township.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Liberty Township Offices

Administration	759-7500
Fax.....	759-7501
Fiscal Office	759-7604
Roads/Parks.....	759-7589
Zoning, Economic Development ...	759-7500
Emergency	911

Sheriff’s Office (Non-Emergency)

Dispatch	785-1300
Liberty Substation	759-7348

Fire Dept. (Non-Emergency)

Station #1 (5170 Princeton-Glendale)..	759-7521
Station #2 (6957 Yankee).....	759-7570
Station #3 (6682 Princeton-Glendale)	
Fire Headquarters.....	759-7530
Fax.....	759-7531

Lakota Schools

Central Office	874-5505
Creekside Early Childhood Center..	874-0175
Liberty Early Childhood School ...	777-6194
Shawnee Early Childhood School.	779-3014
Wyandot Early Childhood School	759-8100
Adena Elementary	777-0100
Cherokee Elementary	755-8200
Endeavor Elementary	759-8300
Freedom Elementary	777-9787
Heritage Elementary.....	863-7060
Hopewell Elementary.....	777-2258
Independence Elementary	755-8300
Union Elementary	777-2201
Van Gordon Elementary	644-1150
Woodland Elementary	779-7775
Hopewell Junior School.....	777-2258
Lakota Plains Junior School.....	644-1130
Liberty Junior School.....	777-4420
Lakota Ridge Junior School	777-0552
Lakota East Freshmen School.....	588-7700
Lakota West Freshmen School.....	874-8390
Lakota East High School	755-7211
Lakota West High School.....	874-5699

Butler County Offices (411)

Auditor.....	887-3154
Board of Elections.....	887-3700
All County Officials	887-3000
Animal Shelter.....	867-5727
Child Abuse Hotline.....	868-0888

Libraries

Hamilton	894-7156
Middletown.....	424-1251
Monroe.....	360-0714
West Chester	777-3131

Other

Drivers License Bureau (Hamilton)..	868-2180
Titles (West Chester)	860-9705
Vehicle Registration (Mason).....	398-8928
US Post Office.....	800-275-8777
West Chester-Liberty Chamber....	777-3600
Lakota Family YMCA.....	779-3917



Embraced by nature. ♦ Inspired by progress.

Liberty Township, Butler County, Ohio
6400 Princeton Road
Liberty Township, OH 45011
P: 513.759.7500 / F: 513.759.7501

LOCATIONS

All meetings are at the Liberty Township administrative Building, 6400 Princeton Road, unless otherwise noted.

The Liberty Township Historical Society meets at the Hughes School House, 6040 Princeton Road (next to Liberty Elementary).

The Parks Committee meets at the Roads Garage, 6959 Yankee Road, unless otherwise noted.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONDAY

Every Monday: Butler County Commissioners Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

For more info: www.butlercountyohio.org

1st Monday of the Month: Zoning Commission Meeting at 7 p.m.

Last Monday of the Month: Trails Meeting at 2 p.m.

TUESDAY

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month: Trustees Meetings at 6 p.m.

2nd Tuesday of the Month: Board of Zoning Appeals at 7 p.m.

Last Tuesday of the Month: Parks Committee Meetings at 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Every Thursday: Butler County Commissioners Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

2nd Thursday of the Month: A representative of John Boehner's office is available at 11:30 a.m.

2nd Thursday of the Month: Liberty Township Historical Society at 7 p.m.