



LIBERTY NEWS

SUMMER 2014

CONTENTS

HOMEARAMA Info.....Pg. 2
 Nuisance Complaints..... Pg. 2
 Unique Learning Experience . Pg. 3
 Business News..... Pg. 3
 Parks Summer Activities.....Pg. 4
 Explorer Post Takes 1stPg. 5
 Shappelle PromotionPg. 5
 Community NewsPg. 6
 2013 Financial Highlights..... Pg. 7
 Important Numbers.....Pg. 7



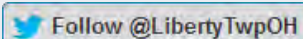
Embraced by nature. ♦ Inspired by progress.

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

Liberty News Editor:
 Caroline McKinney



ANNUAL 4th of JULY PARADE and 5K RETURN

The Board of Trustees are pleased to announce the activities planned for Liberty Township’s annual 4th of July festivities on Friday, July 4. The walk/run will begin at 8 a.m. with registration starting at 7 a.m.—it starts and finishes at Lakota East High School. The 5K Run for Liberty is certified by Prescott Racing. An awards presentation recognizing the male and female winners and the top three in each age division will follow the race.

The Run for Liberty 5K registration is \$20 online through June 30. After the deadline, the cost goes up to \$25. Registration can be found online at sprunning.com.

The 29th Annual Liberty Township 4th of July Parade will begin at 10 a.m. and go from the Lakota East High School parking lot, down Wyandot Lane to Yankee Road and end at Liberty Park behind the Lakota Family YMCA.

Thank You to our 2014 Community Sponsors!

Platinum: 

Bronze: Cincinnati Eye Care Team
 Eli’s Sports Bar & Grill
 Emery Federal Credit Union
 Liberty Veterinary Hospital
 SDA Studios
 Walgreens

Gold: 


Pewter: Han’s White Tiger
 Home Depot
 Koebbe Auto Tech & Tire
 The Lakota Family YMCA
 Live Well Chiropractic Center
 Massage Envy
 Quaker Chemical Corporation
 The Web: Extreme Entertainment

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

PLANNING AND ZONING NEWS



HOMEARAMA is the registered trade name for the single-site new home showcase produced by the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati. The 2014 show at Carriage Hill in Liberty Township will feature a variety of architectural styles. The homes will range in price from \$1 million to \$2.3 million and will range in square footage from 5,000 to 12,000 square feet.

DATES:

Sat., July 12—Sun., July 27, 2014

HOURS:

Monday to Thursday: 4—10 p.m.
Friday to Sunday: Noon—10 p.m.

TICKETS:

\$14 at the gate or \$12 at area Kroger stores. AAA members can purchase discount tickets by showing their AAA card at the gate. Children 12 and under are free with an adult. No tickets sold or admittance after 9 p.m.

DISCOUNT TICKETS FOR TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS:

\$11 at the gate on Thursday, July 17 as part of Liberty Township Community Day—see info at bottom right

LOCATION:

6306 Princeton-Glendale Rd,
Liberty Township, OH 45011

For more info about Carriage Hill, visit carriagehillliving.com.

More info about HOMEARAMA on cincybuilders.com.



NUISANCE COMPLAINTS OFTEN INCREASE IN THE SPRING

With warmer weather comes a natural increase in nuisance complaints. The Liberty Township Zoning Department works on a **COMPLAINT ONLY** basis to respond to nuisance complaints including tall grass, weeds, garbage, refuse or other debris in yards, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 505.87. Complaints may be made by filling out the Resident Complaint Form in person, by mail, fax or email. The form is on the web site under “Planning/Zoning.” Please refer to the ORC section above, however here is a summary of the steps involved with a nuisance complaint.

- ⇒ Once a written complaint is received, a site inspection is completed and photos of the nuisance are taken.
- ⇒ Notification may be mailed to the property owner and the property will be put on the next available Liberty Township Board of Trustees Agenda to be declared a public nuisance.
- ⇒ A copy of the Public Nuisance Resolution is posted on the property and the property owner and lien holders will be sent copies giving the property owner seven days to abate the nuisance.
- ⇒ Seven days after the notification period, the property is re-inspected. Any violation remaining at this time will be corrected by the Township, with the cost of the abatement placed on the owner’s property tax bill.
- ⇒ For additional information, please contact the Zoning Dept. at 759-7500.

DON'T FORGET YOUR LIBERTY TOWNSHIP ZONING PERMIT

Please note that almost all construction activity will require the issuance of a Zoning Permit **PRIOR TO STARTING CONSTRUCTION**. This includes, but is not limited to new construction, fences, pools, decks, additions, pergolas, gazebos, sheds, garages, pole barns, remodels, basement finish, anything related to commercial, home occupations, and the like. The Zoning Department processes Zoning Permits for homeowners, developers, builders and contractors. With the exclusion of fences and sheds (less than 200 sq. ft.), all applications that come through the Liberty Township Zoning Department, must then be taken to the Butler County Building Dept. for the application of a building permit. Visit the Planning & Zoning web page at liberty-township.com for more info or contact the Zoning Department at 759-7500 and we will assist you to ensure you have the necessary permits before you start your project.



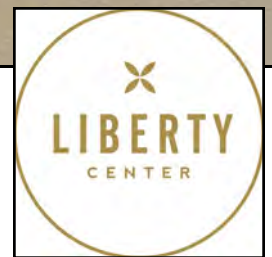
LIBERTY TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY DAY – THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2014!

Liberty Township residents will receive \$11 discounted tickets to HOMEARAMA with proof of residency all day on Thursday, July 17 (show open 4 – 10 p.m.). The \$11 discounted tickets will be available at the gate. Representatives from the Liberty Township Fire Department and Administration along with Butler County Sheriff’s Office deputies will be around to kick off the Liberty Township Community Day and answer any questions visitors have about the community!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ROUND-UP

A GREAT LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR INDEPENDENCE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 4th GRADERS

This year's Independence Elementary School fourth graders learned some of their science and social studies curriculum in a hands-on way thanks to the leadership and vision of their teacher Ryan Corris and some representatives of the business community. Mr. Corris had the idea to utilize the Liberty Center development as a real-life example to help teach topics like changing ecosystems, weathering, erosion, economics and working with timelines. A team of professionals representing Steiner & Associates, developer of Liberty Center, and Liberty Township made presentations to the students in their classrooms last November on these topics. The presentations were well-received and served as a preview to their field trip and site visit which was conducted in early May. During the field trip, the students had the opportunity to learn more about the Liberty Center construction site and witness first-hand some site grading work. In addition, the fourth graders traveled to Dudley Woods Park to see some of the restoration work along Gregory Creek that was completed recently by the Liberty Center development team. The collaboration was rewarding for all involved, and we hope the students will remember the behind-the-scenes preview they received when the project opens next fall!



TOWNSHIP'S LEADS REGION IN SINGLE-FAMILY PERMITS

A recent press release from the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati (HBA), recognizes Liberty Township as leading the region in issuing single-family housing permits through April 2014.

Liberty Township issued 92 permits through April. Hamilton Township in Warren County has the next highest permit number at 63. Two other Butler County townships made the list of top 15 communities in the region with the highest number of single-family permits—Fairfield Township issued 18 permits and West Chester Township issued 17 permits, both through April.

The HBA acknowledges Carriage Hill, site of the 2014 Homearama Show, as being one factor in the permit numbers. Liberty Township ended 2013 as the top community for single-family housing permits so the trend is continuing.

BUSINESS TAX REFUNDS COULD BE AVAILABLE FROM STATE

Ohio Tax Commissioner Joe Testa visited a Liberty Township business owner earlier this year. Dale Magie, owner of West Chester Lawn & Garden, received a refund check for overpaid tax and interest dating back more than 10 years from the State of Ohio. According to Testa, the Department of Taxation is



changing the way it does business with business taxpayers. A check for \$7,085 was presented to Mr. Magie (pictured center right). Businesses can contact the State of Ohio's Department of Taxation online at tax.ohio.gov or by calling 1-888-405-4039.

Liberty Township welcomes **DOLLAR TREE** to the community. A ribbon cutting was held in April to celebrate the stores opening at 7222 Towne Centre Drive. The store is open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday—Saturday and 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Sundays.

In addition, a new **CHARLES SCHWAB** office will open in the coming months in the retail center next to Hot Head Burritos off Cincinnati-Dayton Rd.



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 events below, contact Chuck Holliday at ChuckH@hollidayintheparks.com.

Creek Walk—Dudley Woods
July 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Butterfly Walk—Cherokee Park
July 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Prairie Walk—Cherokee Park
August 16 at 9 a.m.

Sounds of Night Walk—Cherokee Park
August 20 at 7 p.m.

Give a Hand—Cherokee Park
Sept. 6 from 10 a.m.—1 p.m.

Fall Wildflowers Walk—Cherokee Park
Sept. 17 at 7 p.m.

PARK ADDRESSES:

Cherokee Park: 4616 Watoga Dr.
Dudley Woods: 5591 Hankins Rd.

SOLICITOR ACTIVITY IN LIBERTY TOWNSHIP

A few reminders about solicitor activity in Liberty Township:

- ⇒ Solicitors are required to register at the Township office where they are given a Solicitor's Badge which must be visible when they approach your home.
- ⇒ Solicitors are limited to the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ⇒ If you witness solicitors without registration badges or see soliciting activity after the permitted hours, please call the Butler County Sheriff's Office non-emergency dispatch number: 785-1300 to report the activity.

LOOKING FOR AN OUTDOOR ACTIVITY FOR KIDS THIS SUMMER?

The Liberty Township "Parks Passport Program" is a great outdoor activity for kids this summer. The program is designed to engage families with the Township's diverse park system.

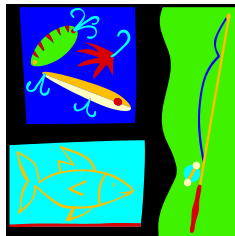
"The Parks Passport Program is a great way for kids and families to visit nine parks throughout Liberty Township. It was an idea originally created by the Parks Committee and after seeing how it worked the last couple of years, we have made improvements and are excited to get it back out into the community. It's a great activity for parents, grandparents or other care givers to do with children this summer, and it gets kids outdoors," said Rick Plummer, Services Director.



Children and their families are encouraged to pick up a Parks Passport from the Liberty Township Administration Building at 6400 Princeton Road. When ready to visit the first park, take a crayon, pencil or colored chalk along with the Parks Passport booklet and look for the kiosk with the Parks Passport Station sign. Rub an impression from the placard which is attached to the kiosk onto the passport booklet. Then, have fun and explore the park! Once all 10 parks are visited and impressions from each have been recorded in the Parks Passport booklet, return the completed passport to Liberty Township to receive a wristband and coupon for a free ice cream cone from Twist, located along Bethany Road in front of Green Crest Golf Course.

SAVE THE DATE—PASSPORT TO FISH ON SEPTEMBER 13

The Liberty Township Parks Committee will host Passport to Fish—a special event designed to teach kids ages 10 to 15 about the art of casting and baiting—on **Saturday, September 13**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is limited to 50 participants ages 10-15 so please RSVP to 759-7500.



Passport to Fish will take place at the Reserves Park, 5119 Grandin Ridge Drive in the Reserves of Liberty Subdivision. Thanks to Hamilton Bait & Tackle for their generous donation for the Township's fishing events.

Liberty Township resident **Riley Boeddeker** of Boy Scout Troop #942 was recognized for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout at a recent Board of Trustees Meeting. His project included building a bridge across a creek for a walking trail at Wetlands Park. Riley, son of Alicia and Tim, is the



third Boeddeker boy to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Each contributed to the community through their scout projects. The Township thanks the Boeddeker boys—and Congratulations to Riley!

FIRE DEPARTMENT FLASH

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP EXPLORER'S POST WINS FIRST PLACE

Liberty Township Fire Department Explorer Post # 2895 was awarded the 1st Place Overall Plaque for the Annual Regional Fire Service Exploring Competition. Explorer Post # 2895 competed against eight other teams and won Gold medallions in Barrel Fill and Obstacle Course, Silver in Bucket Brigade and Bronze in Jeopardy (Fire & EMS knowledge), EMS Backboarding and Radio Communication. The team initially tied with Delhi Township but ultimately won out in a "sudden death" turnout gear drill.

Explorers pictured below include Bryce Canupp, Andrew Korb, Elijah Kirk and Eliora Kirk. Team members not pictured include Matt Casey, Brandon Newton and Mike Schmidt. Liberty Township Firefighter/Paramedic Christopher Oakes serves as the Post Advisor assisted by Lieutenant Chad Canupp and

Firefighter/Paramedic Andy Robben. The Liberty Township Fire Dept. has sponsored an Explorer Post since 1978. Congrats to the Explorer Post #2895!



ADAM SHAPPELLE PROMOTED TO TOWNSHIP CAREER FIREFIGHTER

Adam Shappelle has been a part-time member of the Liberty Township Fire Department (LTFD) since 2008. He started his career in the original Maustown Station on State Route 747. Shappelle served as a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic in Delhi Township prior to his full-time appointment with LTFD. In addition to being a Firefighter and Paramedic, Shappelle also has extensive training and certifications in Fire Company Officer Modules, Fire Service Leadership, Fire/Arson Investigation, CPR/First Aid Instruction, Fire Inspection, Car Seat Installation, and High Angle Rope Rescue.

"Adam brings a great deal of experience in numerous Fire and EMS disciplines. And through his many years of service in Liberty Township, he has acquired an excellent understanding of the area. This career hiring process was completed from within our current part-time workforce. This was possible due to our wealth of capable employees. Internal candidates allowed for a more streamlined process which involved a written exam, interview and certification/resume review," said Chief Stumpf.



Shappelle spends much of his off time with his wife Jessica, and 3-year-old son, Ethan. He and Jessica are patiently awaiting the arrival of their new daughter, Olivia, in the coming months. Congratulations Adam!

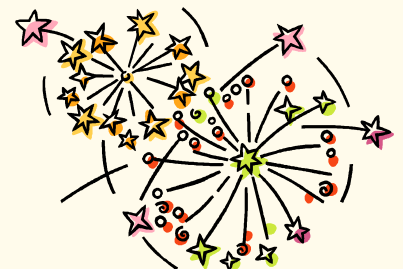
FIREWORKS: DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!

As we approach the July Fourth holiday and the September Labor Day celebrations we are inundated with questions and concerns about fireworks. The only types of fireworks that can be legally discharged by the average resident in the state of Ohio are trick and novelty items also known as Exempted 1.4G Fireworks. These include items such as sparklers, glow snakes, smoke bombs, snaps and similar devices. Traditional devices such as firecrackers, bottle rockets, fountains and roman candles are classified as 1.4G Fireworks—and while they may be purchased by residents over 18 years of age from a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler—they can not be legally discharged in the state of Ohio. When purchased in state the purchaser must sign a form stating that they will transport these devices out of the state within 48 hours. Aerial shells and other shells that are shot from mortars are classified as 1.3G fireworks and can only be discharged by a licensed exhibitor with a valid permit in accordance with Ohio laws.

The Ohio State Fire Marshall's Office has additional information on fireworks laws on their web site at: com.ohio.gov/fire/.

You may also contact the State Fire Marshall's Office at 614-752-8200 or Liberty Township Fire Headquarters at 759-7530.

Please enjoy one of the displays put on by the professionals and stay safe!



COMMUNITY NEWS AND INFO



The Everest Award was established in 2012 to pay homage to the leaders and legends that have shaped the I-75 Growth Corridor; to spotlight and help market the emerging global economic center along I-75 and; to connect people and possibilities from all over the region. The West Chester/Liberty Chamber Alliance presents an Everest Award to a person who has reached the heights of being a leader or legend through his or her actions. Each honoree has made a significant positive impact on business, the community and quality of life within the I-75 Growth Corridor. The 2014 honorees are:

DICK ALDERSON
Alderson Properties

WILBUR COHEN
Cohen USA

JIM DAY
Esther Price Candies

The Keynote Speaker is **Archie Griffin**, the only two-time winner of the prestigious Heisman Trophy, symbolic of "The Outstanding College Football Player of the Country." The emcee is **Clyde Gray** of WCPO 9 On Your Side.

The third annual event will take place on August 15 at 6 p.m. at the Cincinnati Marriott North. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 777-3600 or visit TheChamberAlliance.com.

LAKOTA RECOGNIZES CHARACTER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

In May, the Liberty Township Trustees honored two students who had been named a Character Student of the Month in the Lakota Schools. The character award program is a joint project of the Cox Media Group, the Lakota Schools, and the Character Council of Greater Cincinnati & Northern Kentucky.

Eighth-grader **Bryan Afadzi**, son of Nicholas and Esther Afadzi, was nominated by Marcie Fitzwater, an American Studies teacher at Plains Junior School. In her nomination, she said, "In my career as a social studies teacher, I can honestly say that Bryan is one of the most respectful young men I have had the chance to teach. He is always happy and welcoming. Bryan is never too busy to say "hello" or ask me something about my day. He is a genuine young man who shows maturity beyond his years. His fine character is demonstrated on a daily basis and not just with teachers. Bryan leads the classroom with his calm sense of understanding and sharing. He works hard in class and participates. Bryan settles discussions when things get heated and others respect him. Bryan deserves to be recognized for his character."



Sixth-grader **Tanner Freeman**, son of Steve and Krista Tanner, was nominated by his Independence Elementary teacher, John Littig, who said, "Tanner Freeman is an enthusiastic student who consistently demonstrates excellent effort, collaboration, creativity, and most importantly, compassion. He leads by example – cooperating and taking initiative without making a show of it. Tanner begins each day with a smile and spreads that joy to all he encounters. For the past month he has been working before school one-on-one with a fourth-grader who struggles with reading. That student's confidence, attitude and reading skills have all improved. Tanner is not only willing to lend a helping hand when needed, but he does it with excitement and passion."



IF YOU CAN'T VISIT THE LIBRARY, LET THE LIBRARY VISIT YOU

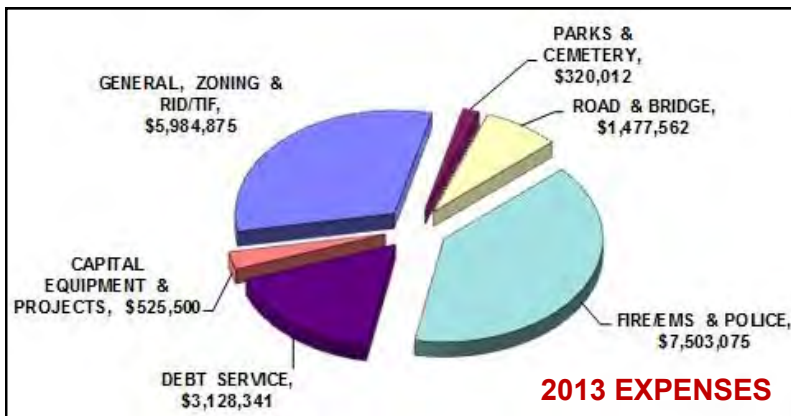
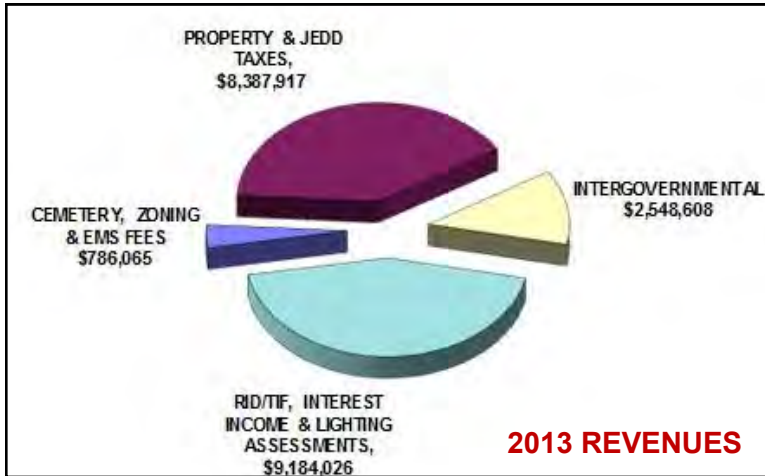
You can spot your MidPointe Library throughout the region as the Outreach Services Team delivers library materials to homebound patrons in the service area! For more information about this service, or to find out if you or a loved one is eligible for home delivery, visit MidPointeLibrary.org or call 513-424-4918.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S 2013 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2013, Liberty Township had the following financial highlights.

- ◆ The Township installed a new network phone system to improve communication with residents and between Township buildings.
- ◆ Several capital outlay purchases were made for various departments such as: purchased a thermal imaging camera, purchased rescue tools for two fire engines, replaced a 1999 dump truck, replaced a reach arm on one of the mowers to extend its useful life, and replaced a 2005 plotter, which was subsequently donated to Lakota East High School.
- ◆ The annual paving, curb/gutter and crack sealing roadwork was completed. The Liberty Township Services Department assesses the roads to determine which areas need to be addressed each year.
- ◆ Total revenues were \$20,906,616 compared with total expenditures of \$18,939,365, resulting in a net surplus of \$1,967,251.
- ◆ Total revenues exceeded budget by 10%.
- ◆ Total operating expenses came in 8% under budget.
- ◆ If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Fiscal Officer Pam Quinlisk or Finance Specialist Carolyn Cifuentes at 759-7500.



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



Follow us on Twitter

@LibertyTwpOH



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.