



LIBERTY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2010

CONTENTS

Econ Dev Round-Up.....	2
Passport to Fish Event.....	3
New Playground in Liberty.....	3
Vision Plan Update	4
Township Zoning Permits	4
Fire / EMS Facts & Figures.....	5
Fire Association Fish Fry	5
Partners in Prime	6
West Chester/Liberty Chamber	6
Join the Events Committee.....	7
Important Numbers	7



ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL RETURNS TO LIBERTY TOWNSHIP SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2010

The Liberty Township Events Committee is gearing up for the annual Fall Festival on **Saturday, September 18** from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Liberty Park, behind the Lakota YMCA off Yankee Road. New to the Fall Festival line-up this year will be a 5K Run which will take place at 11:30 a.m.—the run will begin and end at Liberty Park.

A contest was held to “Name the 5K”...check the Township’s web site—www.liberty-township.com—to see which name was chosen! Online registration is also available for \$20 through September 14. After this date, the cost is \$25. Race registration and check-in will begin at 11 a.m. the day of the race. The 5K run is certified by Steve Prescott with Prescott Racing. An awards presentation recognizing the male and female winners and the top three in each age division will follow the race.

Highlights of this year’s Fall Festival will include SuperGames inflatables, an Activity Zone designed specifically for kids, horse and carriage rides, a variety of games, mini-train rides, food and ice cream vendors, community booths and more! A new feature this year will be The Web: Extreme Entertainment’s Laser Web Inflatable where children of all ages can play laser tag for a small fee.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FALL FESTIVAL SPONSORS!

Gold Level:



Silver Level: Emery Federal Credit Union & PNC Bank

Bronze Level: Fifth Third Bank & Kroger Marketplace

Pewter Level: Monroe Drycleaning, Raymond’s Pizza & Skip’s Bagel Deli



Embraced by nature. ♦ Inspired by progress.

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

Elected Officials:

David Kern, President
Christine Maticic, Vice-President
Patrick Hiltman, Trustee
Pamela Quinlisk, Fiscal Officer

For information concerning
Liberty News, please contact
Caroline McKinney,
Economic Development Director
(cmckinney@liberty-township.com).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ROUND-UP

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP NEW BUSINESS UPDATES

El Rancho Grande Mexican Grill & Cantina opened in The Commons @ Liberty Falls along Cincinnati-Dayton Road and celebrated a ribbon cutting with representatives of the Township and the West Chester/Liberty Chamber Alliance on June 23.



Hodapp Funeral Home has started construction on their new facility along Cincinnati-Dayton Road in the Downtown Bethany Corridor. This will be the company's fourth location in Greater Cincinnati. With the most recent additions in Liberty (coming soon) and West Chester (constructed in 1991), the third and fourth generation members of the Hodapp family extend the same caring services to the Butler and Warren county area that have been offered to Greater Cincinnati since 1886 (in Carthage and College Hill).

Walgreens is under construction at the corner of Cincinnati-Dayton and Princeton Roads across from UDF and Delhi Flower & Garden Center. The new store will open later this year to serve area residents.



Real Solutions Realty celebrated their one-year anniversary serving the Liberty Township community with a ribbon cutting on July 14. Jason Ross heads up the Liberty Township office—located along Cincinnati-Dayton Road next to Putter's Tavern—and describes his team's approach as built on personal touches, a professional approach and positive results.

American Auto LLC opened on Route 4 and celebrated a ribbon cutting with Liberty Township Trustees on August 3. Owner Dave Burlage is excited to bring his certified pre-owned car business to the community and has high hopes for the future based on activity and traffic to date.

The Kidney and Hypertension Center opened in May and celebrated a ribbon cutting on August 5. This is the second such center in the region serving patients who need hemodialysis treatments. They are located in the Liberty Commons Medical Center across from Kroger Marketplace.



American Auto LLC



The Kidney and Hypertension Center

Several new businesses have announced plans to open in Liberty Township in the coming weeks:

- **MIDUSA CREDIT UNION**—Liberty Falls
- **BEEF O'BRADY'S**—Yankee Shoppes
- **LAPELS DRYCLEANING**—Princeton Landings
- **SUBWAY**—Princeton Landings
- **QUALITY SERVICE DRYCLEAN**—Liberty Commons

ROADS AND PARKS UPDATE

SIGN UP TODAY: PASSPORT TO FISH SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

The Liberty Township Parks Committee will stage an event— **Passport to Fish**—on **Saturday, September 25** at The Reserves Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is designed to teach children ages 10 to 15 the art of casting and baiting. It's an educational event designed to provide hands on learning experiences—for this reason, children must be at least 10 years of age to participate. Passport to Fish will be limited to the first 50 children ages 10 to 15 to sign up. There is no cost to participate, but reservations are required. Please contact Vickie Daniel at 759-7500 or vdaniel@liberty-township.com to learn more or to reserve your spot. The Reserves Park is located at 5100 Grandin Ridge Drive in the Reserves of Liberty subdivision.



Kids enjoy a fishing event the Parks Committee staged earlier this year



NEW PLAYGROUND AT DUDLEY MEMORIAL PARK

Be sure to check out the new playground equipment at Dudley Memorial Park! In August, the Township's Services Department constructed a new **boundless playground** designed for children of all ages and abilities. The Township was successful in securing a Community Development Block Grant through Butler County to purchase the new equipment for the park. And stay tuned for more improvements coming soon to Dudley Memorial Park. Residents and visitors can find the new boundless playground at 5700 Yankee Road.



LIBERTY RESIDENT HOSTS NATURE WALKS IN PARKS

Resident and volunteer Chuck Holliday is hosting a series of nature walks dubbed "Holliday in the Parks" in various Liberty Township parks this year. All ages and levels of expertise are welcome to attend. The trails are easy walking but generally not paved. Chuck encourages people to bring field guides, binoculars and friends!

For directions, check out HollidayintheParks.com. For questions, email ChuckH@HollidayintheParks.com

Tree Walk

Saturday, September 25
10 a.m.
Wetlands Park

Fall Walk

Thursday, October 28
5:30 p.m.
Dudley Memorial

Christmas Bird Count

Saturday, December 18
8:30 a.m.
Cherokee Park

PLANNING AND ZONING NEWS

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP'S MISSION STATEMENT

The Township established a mission statement as part of the comprehensive plan process nearly five years ago. A mission statement guides the actions of an organization, spells out its overall goal and provides a sense of direction and guides decision-making.

The mission of Liberty Township is to maintain its position as a family-oriented community that promotes a high quality of life for all ages and income levels.

The Township is committed to providing reliable services, promoting education excellence, being environmentally conscious and encouraging a viable local economy with sustainable development and growth.

In pursuing this mission, the Township places a high value on protecting the residential character of the surrounding neighborhoods by ensuring that the commercial development is well planned and consistent with the character of the surrounding residential community.



TOWNSHIP'S EMBARK'S ON VISION PLAN UPDATE

Liberty Township's current Comprehensive Vision Plan was adopted September 18, 2006. Prior to the adoption of the plan, Liberty Township fell under the jurisdiction of the Butler County Planning Commission for land use planning. The Planning and Zoning Staff is preparing to update the 2006 plan in the coming months. The whole process may take up to a year to complete and will include extensive research, coordination with other agencies and public input. A Comprehensive Plan provides a vision for the future of Liberty Township and as times change, the environment changes, development patterns change, and what has been developed forever changes the landscape of our community. The plan becomes a guideline that is used on a daily basis to direct future growth, preserve environmental features, and plan for greenways, parks, quality of life and to ensure that Liberty Township is a sustainable community.

The 2006 Vision Plan established 14 Implementation Strategies and Recommendations that served as a summary of the key elements of the plan. Eleven strategies have either been accomplished or are moving toward completion. Similar to the plan approved in 2006, the Comprehensive Plan Update will address: transportation, trails, parks, housing, placement of public facilities, water and sewer needs, natural resources, economic development, intergovernmental coordination, land use, zoning guidelines for residential and commercial developers, capital improvement prioritization, and a strategy for monitoring, evaluating, and updating the plan.

A steering committee will be used to guide the development of the plan. A series of public open houses will be held throughout the planning process to gather feedback and input from the residents. If you are interested in reviewing the current Comprehensive Plan document, The Liberty Township Parks and Recreation Master Plan, The Downtown Bethany Vision Plan, or the Liberty Township Zoning Resolution, please visit our web site www.liberty-township.com.

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 Department for the application of a building permit.



Please contact the Zoning Department at 759-7500 or visit the Zoning Department web page at www.liberty-township.com for more info.

FIRE DEPARTMENT FLASH

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP FIRE / EMS FACTS AND FIGURES

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS of LIBERTY TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 1948 Maustown Protective Association formed
- 1953 Liberty Township Firefighters Association Formed
- 1954 Station #1 constructed on State Route 747**
First Fire Engine delivered (still owned by the Township)
- 1955 32 volunteers completed first-ever firefighter training
Frank Maus appointed first Fire Chief
- 1974 Station #2 constructed on Yankee Road**
Instituted EMS Transport Services
- 1994 Chief Stumpf became first full-time department employee
First part-time Firefighter/EMTs hired to support daytime coverage
- 1998 Rank of Career Assistant Chief established
- 1999 EMS service upgraded to Paramedic Level**
Institution of 24/7 first responders
- 2001 First Career Firefighter/Paramedics hired
- 2004 Liberty Township purchases 110' Aerial Platform Ladder Truck
(pictured below)
- 2005 Station #3/Headquarters opens on State Route 747**
All stations staffed 24/7/365
- 2007 Ranks of Career Lieutenants and Captain established
- 2010 Station #111 (formerly Station #1) relocated on SR 747**
The Liberty Township Fire Department Today...
30 Full-time Career Firefighter/Paramedics
60 Part-time Firefighters/EMTs
1 Captain and 3 Lieutenants
1 Chief and 1 Assistant Chief
Operating 3 Stations 24/7

RESPONSE STATISTICS— EMS and FIRE

- 2001 **1428** calls for service
- 2003 **1637** calls for service
- 2006 **1836** calls for service
- 2009 **2115** calls for service

- ⇒ **Based on 2009 figures, Liberty Township residents need the services of an EMS ambulance or fire apparatus every 4 hours.**
- ⇒ **EMS services are required more frequently than fire responses. In 2001, 63% of responses were for EMS services. The percentage has risen steadily over the years. In 2009, 71% of calls were for EMS services.**



The Liberty Township Fire Department recently participated in a propane tree training exercise

OTHER SERVICES OFFERED TO THE COMMUNITY

- ◆ Residential Fire Safety Inspections
- ◆ Public CPR Instruction and First Aid Classes
- ◆ Juvenile Fire-Setters Counseling
- ◆ Fire Safety Speakers
- ◆ Child Car Seat Safety Program
- ◆ The Vial of Life Project
- ◆ Knox Box for Emergency Access
- ◆ Youth Fire Explorer Post 895



110' Aerial Platform Ladder Truck—purchased in 2004— in action

55th ANNUAL FISH FRY RETURNS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1—5 to 8 p.m. LAKOTA EAST FRESHMAN SCHOOL

The Liberty Township Firefighter's Association will hold its 55th Annual Fish Fry on **Friday, October 1** at the Lakota East Freshman School (7630 Bethany Road) from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for kids under 12. Tickets will be available for purchase at Fire Headquarters (6682 Princeton-Glendale Road) and the Township Administration Building (6400 Princeton Road). Tickets will also be available at the door the evening of the fish fry. For more info, call 759-7530.



LAKOTA AREA ACTIVITY CENTER OPENS THIS FALL

Liberty Township residents, as well as those from surrounding communities, can include a new local destination in their leisure schedules later this year. Construction continues at the site of the new West Chester Activity Center, located at 7900 Cox Road.

"The inside is shaping up nicely, and the project is running on schedule for an end of September completion, so we are very thankful," said Steve Schnabl, CEO of Partners in Prime. Partners will relocate its Prime Club to the site, serving the region's older adults, and a variety of other programming is envisioned to attract and serve other age groups.

Local businesses including IKEA, Barrington & Heritagespring of West Chester and Butler County United Way are stepping up to lend their support to underwrite the renovations. Corporate and private donations are being sought to complete the move-in phase of the Activity Center, with a start-up campaign target of \$266,000.

"We couldn't make such an expansion happen without the support of the West Chester/Liberty community, and we are very thankful to have reached 75.6% of the campaign goal right now," said Schnabl. With over 15,000 square feet, the Activity Center's floor plan is designed for a wide variety of activities to run simultaneously, something that wasn't possible in the previous location. Plans for the space include 2,900 square feet for full time sublease to an area business or educational facility.

The staff of the Activity Center is currently planning programming for the Center, which will include rooms for group exercise, an exercise equipment room and a dining area.

"Community input is important to make a Center like this a success, and we invite area residents to complete our online survey at www.WestChesterActivityCenter.org," said Schnabl.

WEST CHESTER ■ LIBERTY CHAMBER ALLIANCE

AN UPDATE FROM THE CHAMBER



The West Chester ■ Liberty Chamber Alliance strives to maximize our members return on their Chamber membership. By *connecting people and possibilities* we support our members through various resources to help market and sell their products and services. Businesses need our Chamber as a strategic business partner today, more than ever!

The programs and events held by the West Chester ■ Liberty Chamber Alliance continue to grow in popularity as evidenced by the increasing attendance by members and guests locally and along the I-75 growth corridor. Our Chamber's next major event is the 24th Annual Golf & Tennis Classic. This year the outing will be held Monday, September 20 at a new location - The Heritage Club.

The annual Golf & Tennis Classic is a great way for our members to network and get to know other business professionals while enjoying the day out on the beautiful golf or tennis courts. In 2009, we hosted over 180 golfers and multiple competition holes. Our "Pro & Joe" competition allows guests to drive off the tee with the golf course's golf pro and putt with Joe Hinson, President and CEO of the West Chester ■ Liberty Chamber Alliance *New for 2010* – Kirby Bolen from Golf Stix Cincinnati, one of the Top-100 Club fitters for 2009 as announced by KZG, The #1 Custom ProLine. Kirby will offer swing analysis to guests with a focus on the new "smash factor." Both competition holes will help raise money for Butler County United Way Women's Initiative support of the backpack program through Shared Harvest. You do not want to miss this! For more information and to register players, please visit the West Chester ■ Liberty Chamber Alliance's website at www.TheChamberAlliance.com or email Pam Gruber at pgruber@TheChamberAlliance.com.

Another great way to *connect* is to utilize the *Connections Magazine*, our award-winning annual community guide for West Chester and Liberty Townships and the 1-75 Growth Corridor. With the support of *Cincy Magazine*, the 2010-2011 edition was just published this summer. This guide provides area information right at your fingertips! From a wide range of businesses to workforce education, and from recreation and leisure to community support, *Connections Magazine* showcases our community's amenities and is a great resource for all area residents and businesses. Please stop by the Liberty Township office or our Chamber office at VOA Centre for your copy today!



Photo at left shows the **Lakota Area Activity Center** under construction. The Center is planning a Fall opening.

For more information about the Activity Center, contact Steve Schnabl at 867-1998.

OTHER TOWNSHIP NEWS

JOIN THE LIBERTY TOWNSHIP EVENTS COMMITTEE

The Liberty Township Events Committee is seeking new members to help with the Township's three primary events:

The Easter Egg Hunt
4th of July Festivities
 (Includes a parade and 5K)
Fall Festival and 5K

The committee is responsible for helping to get sponsors and volunteers as well as coordinating the activities. All events are held at Liberty Park behind the Lakota YMCA.

The committee meets about 10 times a year and is in need of a few more dedicated and enthusiastic residents who want to lend a helping hand. To learn more about the Committee, contact Vickie Daniel at 759-7500 or vdaniel@liberty-township.com.

KEEP CURRENT ON LIBERTY TOWNSHIP HAPPENINGS

Liberty Township is developing an email list of residents and community people who want to keep current on Liberty Township happenings. If you find the *Liberty News* newsletter beneficial, we encourage you to join our email list to receive additional and more frequent updates on topics including road closures, special events, important reminders and other community offerings.

How do you join the Liberty E-News List?

It's easy—just call or email Vickie Daniel at 759-7500 or vdaniel@liberty-township.com and asked to be added to Liberty E-News!

SAVE THE DATE!

Home Owner Association Information Session returns on October 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Liberty Township Administration Building. Residents involved with their HOAs are encouraged to attend! For more info or to join the HOA contact list, call Vickie Daniel at 759-7500.

TRUSTEES SEEK FEEDBACK ON RECREATIONAL VEHICLES PARKED ON RESIDENTIAL STREETS

The Liberty Township Trustees are considering whether or not to enact legislation banning the parking of certain recreational vehicles—namely mobile homes, RVs and campers—on residential streets. The resolution would define a parking time period, understanding that residents who store these types of vehicles at appropriate storage facilities bring them to their home occasionally for short periods of time to prepare for trips or clean them following an outing. The idea is to eliminate these vehicles from permanently sitting on residential streets for safety purposes. Such vehicles can cause sight distance issues and emergency response issues for fire, police and road maintenance as they must jockey around them during emergency responses and routine road maintenance (ie, snow plowing) as well as to preserve the appearance of our neighborhoods. If you would like to express your thoughts on the topic, please contact Melanie Brokaw at mbrokaw@liberty-township.com or 759-7500 by Friday, October 29.

Liberty Township Offices

Administration	759-7500
Fax	759-7501
Fiscal Office	759-7604
Roads/Parks	759-7585
Zoning	759-7500
Emergency	911

Sheriff's Office (Non-Emergency)

Dispatch	785-1300
Liberty Substation	759-7340
Traffic Unit	759-7345

Fire Dept. (Non-Emergency)

Station #1 (5763 Princeton-Glendale)	759-7521
Station #2 (6957 Yankee)	759-7570
Station #3 (6682 Princeton-Glendale)	
Fire Headquarters	759-7530
Fax	759-7531
CPR Classes	759-7564

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 Gorden 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
US Post Office	800-275-8777
Vehicle Registration (Mason)	398-8928
West Chester Chamber Alliance	777-3600

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 and the Events Committee meet 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

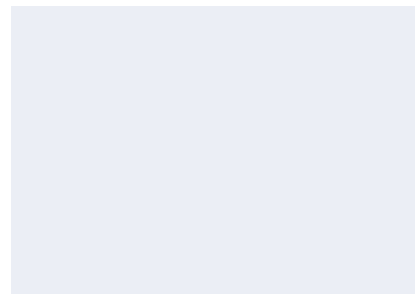
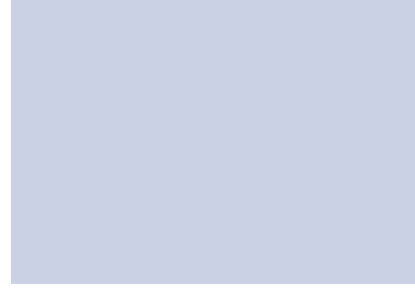
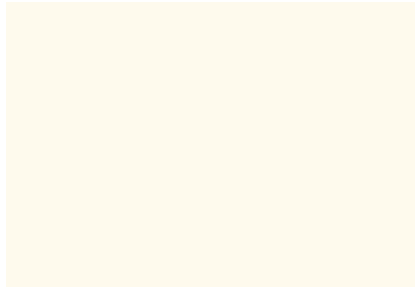
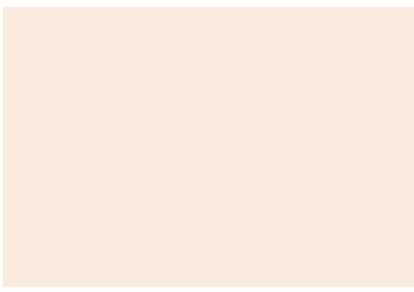
Every Thursday: Butler County Commissioners Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

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

2nd Thursday of the Month: Liberty Township Historical Society at 7 p.m. (7:30 p.m. during the summer months)

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
www.liberty-township.com





OTHER TOWNSHIP NEWS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

FESTIVALS & EVENTS
