



VOLUME 15, ISSUE 9

*Bicentennial 1813-2013*

FEBRUARY 2013

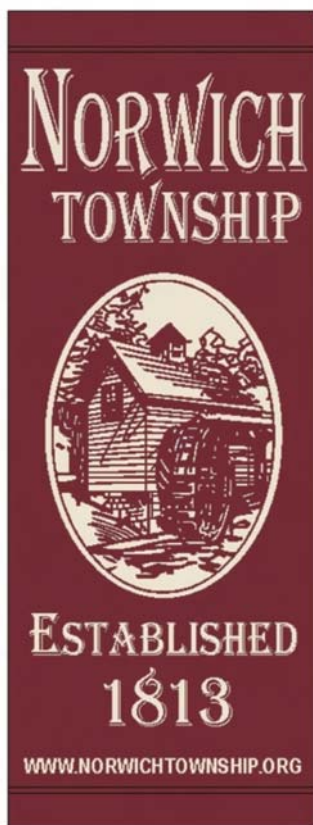
# NORWICH

T O W N S H I P

## NORWICH TOWNSHIP

*Bicentennial 1813-2013*

*By Mildred Brooks, Bicentennial Committee Chairperson*



**Norwich Township** was laid out and organized by its present name in 1813. To mark our 200th Birthday, we are making preparations to commemorate this occasion in several ways that will provide opportunities for the residents to participate in our celebration.

**Saturday, April 27:** From 9 a.m. to 12 noon we will be hosting an open house at the Safety Services Building at 5181 Northwest Parkway. We will have displays depicting historical events and memorabilia of our history. Our fire department will give tours of their facility and equipment.

**4th of July:** Look for us during the City of Hilliard's Parade. Norwich Township will have a float depicting our Bicentennial.

**Fall, 2013:** We plan to have a History Walk that will be held at Wesley Chapel Cemetery (3225 Dublin Road) which was established in 1835. Years ago, cemeteries were often used as parks which were a nice place to take a walk, visit lost loved ones and a peaceful setting to read a book. Wesley Chapel Cemetery is indeed park-like with its peaceful environment and beautiful monuments.

Also, look for our Bicentennial Banners this spring which will be placed near our Township Facilities and along the streets of the City of Hilliard, which has graciously permitted us to use their existing poles.

We would like to thank our Bicentennial Committee consisting of retired Trustee Jim Rice and his wife, Lois, retired Township Clerk Theresa Montgomery and her husband A.C., retired fire fighter Captain Paul Ritzenthaler, Christy Clark of Destination Hilliard, Kate Cavanaugh and Mildred Brooks of Norwich Township for volunteering their time to plan these events. 🍀

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Larry Earman  
Charles Wm. Buck  
Tim Roberts

### 2013 TRUSTEE MEETINGS

February 5, 12:00 PM  
February 19, 6:30 PM  
March 5, 12:00 PM  
March 19, 6:30 PM  
April 2, 12:00 PM  
April 16, 6:30 PM  
May 7, 12:00 PM  
May 21, 6:30 PM  
June 4, 12:00 PM  
June 18, 6:30 PM  
July 2, 12:00 PM  
July 16, 6:30 PM  
August 6, 12:00 PM  
August 20, 6:30 PM  
September 3, 12:00 PM  
September 17, 6:30 PM  
October 1, 12:00 PM  
October 15, 6:30 PM  
November 5, 12:00 PM  
November 19, 6:30 PM  
December 3, 12:00 PM  
December 17, 6:30 PM

The public is always welcome to attend.

### MEETINGS ARE HELD AT:

Norwich Township  
Safety Services Building  
5181 Northwest Parkway

If you have questions,  
please call (614) 876-7694.

[www.norwichtownship.org](http://www.norwichtownship.org)

# SPRING CLEAN-UP



## Refuse Removal

Norwich Township contracts with Local Waste Services for waste disposal services for residents in the unincorporated area. Benefits to residents who receive this service include reduced rates, recycling and yard waste collection services. The company bills residents directly for the services provided. Senior citizens receive a discount on their monthly bill. However, you must notify Local Waste Services (614-409-9375) to receive this discount.


## Trash Service Guidelines

Please have your trash out by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled pick-up day. Please have your yard waste in biodegradable brown paper bags or in containers that are marked "YARD WASTE". Stickers are available at the Township administrative offices. Brush must be tied or bundled in 4 foot or less lengths.

## Recycling Policy

All recyclable materials will be collected and mixed together in a truck. It is then separated at the local recycling center. Do not bundle or bag materials. Place loosely in bins. Plastic grocery bags are NOT accepted. Please return them to the grocery store. Window glass and glass dishes are NOT recyclable. If you reside in the unincorporated areas of Norwich Township and need a recycling bin, simply call Local Waste to have a bin delivered or stop by the Safety Services Building at 5181 Northwest Parkway Monday through Friday between 8:00AM and 4:00PM to pick one up.

## Bulk Items (bulky or heavy items)

Local Waste Services will collect bulk items with your other items on your scheduled pick-up day. Please cut bulk material such as boards, fencing, paneling and carpeting into four foot lengths and tie into bundles with a diameter not to exceed 18 inches. All other types of bulk materials should be collected as one piece. Please keep in mind that single items weighing more than 50 pounds may injure your driver. To schedule removal of any Freon-based appliances, contact Local Waste Services directly. For more information, go to <http://www.localwasteservices.com>. 

# WHAT IS RADON?

Radon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that forms when naturally occurring uranium decays. Radon gas is commonly found in rocks and soil, and it enters homes through cracks and other holes in the foundation. Prolonged exposure to radon levels above 4 picocuries per liter of air significantly increases the risk of lung cancer, even for nonsmokers. The USEPA considers radon the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States overall, and it is the leading cause among non-smokers. The only way to find out if you have elevated radon levels in your home is to conduct a simple test.

**FREE RADON TEST KITS:** The Franklin County Public Health Department has a limited supply of short term radon test kits available to residents of Franklin County. They have recently changed the means by which they distribute their Radon Test Kits. These kits are no longer available at the Norwich Township offices. To request a free Short Term Radon Test Kit, please visit [www.myfcph.org](http://www.myfcph.org) and click on Radon, in the Popular Links area.

**Complete the form on-line or call Franklin County Public Health at (614)525-3859.**

Your kit will be mailed to you directly from the Air Check Laboratory. Follow the testing directions in the package that accompany the kit. When you've finished testing, place the kit in the pre-paid mailer and send it to the manufacturer for analysis. There is no cost to you for the analysis. You will receive your results in the mail.

If you have questions or concerns please contact Mike Lopinsky at (614) 525-3859 or at [mjlopins@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:mjlopins@franklincountyohio.gov). Above information courtesy of Franklin County Public Health 

# A HISTORY OF SERVICE:

## Your Norwich Township Fire Department



Fire Chief  
Bob Kaufman

*It's hard to imagine* that the Village of Hilliard organized its first fire protection service a little over 70 years ago to support its community of approximately 510 residents. This service was comprised of a dozen volunteer fire fighters, a collection of buckets, an axe and a borrowed length of hose. Over the next 25 years the department continued to expand to meet community needs. It doubled its volunteer staffing, acquired a used church bell to serve as a fire alarm, installed two telephones, and obtained a trailer mounted engine with a pump, shovels and ladders. A two-bay building also permitted additional services for Brown and Norwich Townships.

Funds were acquired in 1949, allowing the fire service to add emergency medical services via a 1947 Ford panel truck. In 1950, a \$20,000 bond issue was passed by the ever-growing community to provide funding for two more firehouse bays. Norwich Township assumed control of the fire department in 1957 and hired its first two fulltime employees.


It was around this time that, as a young boy living on a farm on Hayden Run Road, I observed the Norwich Township Fire Department in action when my Mother woke me to witness a grain elevator fire near our home. I was impressed with the efforts of this mostly volunteer group as they provided the necessary fire protection for our community. As my life progressed, I settled into a comfy career in data processing with a major retailer, but felt the need to make a difference in my community.

In 1985 I joined the Norwich Township Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter until a fulltime position became available. The change of career called for a financial step backward and required my wife to seek employment outside our home. The assistance of family and friends was needed to help with home essentials like getting our children off to school when I was on duty and my wife was working. It takes support, cooperation, and sacrifice to make important things happen.

In 2012 I was promoted to Fire Chief of Norwich Township, with its 32,000 residents. I was faced with the challenge of providing the best response times, fire and medical protection — all with continually shrinking financial resources.

It has been almost 15 years since a fire levy has been approved by the community. That levy enabled us to add two new stations, 29 people, new equipment, and provide medics and firefighters with updated training. Even with continuous inflation, we have made every attempt to stay within our budgetary constraints while maintaining response times of less than six minutes. We have done this by extending the life of aging equipment, leaving vacated positions unfilled, renegotiating money-saving fuel and maintenance contracts, and reviewing every aspect of our daily operation for possible money-saving benefits. In addition, members of the Fire Department have recently agreed to a three year salary freeze.

Despite all these cost-saving efforts and measures, the department is now in a deficit spending situation that requires us to seek the support of our community in the form of an anticipated 4.12 mil fire levy. This will assure the continued safety of our community and the quick response times for fire and medical emergencies. As of this writing, it is anticipated that the levy will cost approximately \$10.51 per month for a \$100,000 home, which I hope you will agree is a reasonable cost for the safety and well-being of our community.

As things are finalized, meetings will be held to address residents' questions. The Norwich Township Fire Department appreciates its community and looks forward, with your support, to providing the best possible fire service, medical service and response times to all citizens of Norwich Township, Brown Township and the City of Hilliard. 



**Norwich Township**  
5181 Northwest Parkway  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-7694

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#### Board of Trustees

Larry Earman, *Chairman*  
Charles Wm. Buck, *Vice-Chairman*  
Tim Roberts, *Trustee*

#### Administration

Kate Cavanaugh, *Administrator*  
Mildred Brooks, *Administrative Assistant*

#### Road/Cemetery Department

Steve Montgomery, *Road Superintendent/Cemetery Sexton*  
Mike Johnson, *Asst. Road Superintendent/Asst. Cemetery Sexton*  
3225 Dublin Road  
Hilliard, Ohio 43026  
(614) 876-2236

#### Fiscal Office

Jamie Miles, *Fiscal Officer*  
Ellen Woodford, *Assistant Fiscal Officer*

#### Fire Department

Robert Kaufman, *Chief*  
John King, *Admin. Battalion Chief*

ORC 9.03 Allows for Public Funds to be used for newsletters

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Left to Right: Jeff Morales, Jake Bickenheuser and Drew Hayes**

Several members of the Norwich Township Fire Department are part of Ohio Task Force One, and were deployed during Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. Task Force membership requires advanced training in search and rescue disciplines. We are proud of the fine work of these representatives of the NTFD.



**Lieutenant George Sorge (left) and Captain Mike Isham (right)** Mike Isham, a firefighter with the NTFD since 1984, was recently promoted to the position of Captain. He is now the department's Training/Safety Officer. Employed since 2000, George Sorge has been promoted to Lieutenant and is a company officer on Unit 2. Both promotions were effective 12/31/12.



**Fred Still** was recently chosen as Firefighter of the Year for 2012 by VFW Post 4931. He is a Hilliard resident and was honored for his community service as well as the quality of his professional work.

As warm weather approaches, please keep the safety of our children in mind. Parents might want to review safety rules with their children to prepare them for a new year of outdoor activities. And remember that small bicycles and motorized kiddie cars can sometimes be invisible to drivers of cars, even in what appears to be a safe area such as a cul-de-sac.

**Online Option:** Do you prefer to view our future newsletters online? Please just go to our website, [www.norwichtownship.org](http://www.norwichtownship.org), and click on "Township Newsletters" to enter your e-mail address. Or give us a call at 614-876-7694 to provide your e-mail address. The link to future editions will then be delivered right to your Inbox.

[www.norwichtownship.org](http://www.norwichtownship.org)