



Trustees...

The Geauga County Public Library (GCPL) will be approaching Geauga County residents with a half mill bond issue this November. This bond issue will provide improved spaces and materials for education, information and entertainment throughout the GCPL system. It will also provide the building of a library branch in Thompson which is a GCPL priority. The Thompson library branch will have regular daily hours, community meeting space, study carrels, workstations, computers, Wi-Fi and the traditional library accouterments. The Thompson community needs to make the support of this bond issue and the improvements it will provide a priority. The building of the Thompson library branch will continue the "Revitalization" which started on the Square.

Wed. May 3rd at the Trustee Meeting; Fiscal Officer Cindy Lausin was recognized by NOPEC for her service to the people of Thompson Township. Tony Ramos, NOPEC Community Outreach Manager made this presentation. Cindy is the first Township Fiscal Officer to be recognized by NOPEC.

Joe LaRosa and I stopped at the former Ledgemont High School two weeks ago and talked to Jake Makesh and Jake assured us that his brother Jean was moving ahead with the project. Thompson can look forward to a senior living space starting in a year or two. It will be wonderful to see the revitalization and repurposing of the building. Unfortunately, the building is unoccupied and it gives individuals whose intent is to commit malicious and criminal activities the opportunity to do so. If you think you are witnessing any such activity the best and easiest thing you can do is get a license plate number and report it to the Thompson Police Department (298-1305), Geauga County Sheriff's Department (286-1234) or 911. In addition if you witness any such activity in the Township follow the same procedure. We are our brother's keeper. Keep our Community, its people and properties SAFE.

"Friend, Like or Follow" the Thompson Community Facebook page at Thompson Township Ohio.

The Board of Trustees meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Ledge Park Building at 7 p.m. Attend; voice your thoughts and opinions, become involved in making our township a better place to live. See you at the next meeting and remember to support Thompson businesses!

Township Trustees,
Erwin "Kok" Leffel, Chairman
Frank Sirna, Vice-Chairman
Al Safick, Trustee



Ohio Chautauqua 2017...

Burton Century Village June 6- 10

History comes alive this summer as Ohio Chautauqua returns to Geauga County June 6-10, with big-tent performances each evening in Burton's Century Village. Live music starts at 6:30 pm, actor performances at 7:30 p.m. These shows are free and are open to all ages. For info www.ohiohumanities.org

4th of July...

IT'S A GRAND OLD FLAG! Come join us in our annual 4th of July celebration Tuesday-July 4th on Thompson Square. Parade at 11:00! Plenty of old fashioned fun with Grace Lutheran Church dishing up their delicious barbecue on the Square, Thompson United Methodist Church hosting their Rummage and Yummy Bake Sale in the church gymnasium along with the Thompson Garden Club having their spectacular green thumb flower show in the Social Room, St. Patrick's Church with their annual "free hot dog" booth on the Square, Hot Diggity Dog! Plus the Thompson Fire Department Association's fantastic raffle and tasty lunch at the fire station!

Keep our tradition alive and join us for all this plus; tractor rides with Chuck Lausin, Pony/horse rides behind the Methodist Church sponsored by the Thompson Grange, the 4th of July Committee's Chinese Raffle and ticket sales for CASH prizes of \$300.00 first prize, \$200.00 second prize, \$100.00 third prize. Tickets are only \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00! (Proceeds go to continue next year's 4th of July event and beautification of the Park on the Square.)

Our fantastic parade gathers at the former Ledgemont High School, across from the Ledges. Judging of floats is at 10:30 with cash prizes for the best three entries \$100.00 for 1st, \$50.00 for 2nd, & \$25.00 for 3rd. Organization or Individual, you are welcome to enter! Entries must follow the theme, IT'S A GRAND OLD FLAG!

Booth space is available on the Square to the public and organizations - (\$15.00 / \$20.00 if electricity is needed). To reserve your space, please call or text Lynne Leffel at 440-983-9369 or Audrey Kerr 440-862-0043

Remember, We are the Home of the FREE because of the BRAVE! IT'S A GRAND OLD FLAG!



Community Dance and Social...

Sat, May 13 was the second of 3 Community Dance & Socials with the Real Deal String Band & caller Al Pavlinak. As with the 1st one (Apr 8-callers were Kenny Wilson and Al Pavlinak) about 20 people besides the band attended. Thank goodness there are some experienced dancers attending who can help those of us who have little or no experience. There is a lot of laughter as we learn our right from our left and perform new moves. The dances are low impact, continuous and rest times are welcome! No problem sitting out when one feels the need to rest. My vote is for more circle dances! But all the dances are fun and as partners change all the time you get to meet new people and share the laughter. NOTE: for people who wish to listen only to the band it might be good to come around 7:45 as the first part of the evening is dance instruction without the band. (Of course, the dancers getting the instruction can be fun to watch! I know, I am one of those dancers!)

Thompson Twp. Com. Center (TTCC)...

The TTCC is providing a place for; Girl Scout meetings, private "game" parties, baby and wedding showers, end of life celebrations, community country dances, Geauga Co. Public Library Fun Bus stop, Tai Chi classes and community meetings.

To rent, reserve or find out the availability of the TTCC for your event contact Cindy, Fiscal Officer at 440-298-9813.

If you have an idea for using the TTCC please bring it to the attention of the Trustees, the Fiscal Officer and/or contact elzlef-fel@gmail.com.

The Merge... by Brittany Weidner, Berkshire senior, Thompson resident

I grew up in Thompson and attended the Ledgemont school system from Kindergarten up through my sophomore year. I loved going to Ledgemont. Because it was a small school, I knew everyone. Ledgemont was a close-knit family and life lessons were taught from the heart. The teachers put their heart into teaching us kids. For that I am very thankful and for the years I spent with the Ledgemont family. In fact Ledgemont isn't gone, because it remains in the minds of those who got to experience the joy that it gave us. From the undefeated year in football to every sporting event that brought the whole community out for one night. Ledgemont was small in size but it was big in Heart.

Closing Ledgemont and transferring to Berkshire was scary for the students and their parents. We lost our close-knit community school and were moving into a bigger school that is farther away. Before going to the new school, Ledgemont 10th graders met Berkshire's 10th graders at a mutual ground, Kent State Geauga, for their annual Career Day. We were able to interact with each other throughout the whole event. This event is where I would meet a guy who would become a very important part of my life and help me transition to a new school, my boyfriend. Because of him, I knew I would always have someone to rely on in a school where everything was new and different, even the people. Without a doubt, he made the transition a lot easier and is still an important part of my life to this day! I am a senior at Berkshire, who under- went the merge in my 11th grade year. I have spent a total of two years at Berkshire High school and I must say it has been an adventurous and an amazing new journey.

One concern was the driving time and distance to the new school, especially in the winter, it could be a little scary. However, the drive hasn't been bad at all and doesn't seem as long as everyone thought it would be. The scenery is beautiful, so take it all in! It wasn't so hard going to a new school, when you also have your former classmates and teachers going with you. I can't say we all stayed close after the merger, but everything changes and people move on, its life. Everyone was very accepting of us at Berkshire. This was most of the former Ledgemont parents' worst fear, that their children wouldn't be accepted. The school, most students, and parents welcomed us with open arms and were glad to add more individuals to the Berkshire community. This eased everyone's worry. Ledgemont was such a close-knit community and we all knew each other and everyone's family. This was a very difficult decision to make for everyone, but in the end it all worked out for the best.

I also attend Kent State Geauga as a CCP student. This merger opened new doors to me, because I don't think I would have ever considered Kent State Geauga, if my school didn't happen to be located right down the road from it. I believe this consolidation was the best thing to happen to our community, because it opens more doors for us as students and the community! Ledgemont to Berkshire was a change for the best!

St. Patrick Church... 16550 Rock Creek Rd., Thompson

All are Welcome to Join Us for Masses-weekends (Sat at 5:30 pm & Sun at 9:30 am) weekdays (Mon-Thurs 8:45 am)

Registration now for both PSR & Vacation Bible School! Registration Forms are available in the church or picked up from the Parish Office. The deadline for VBS forms is June 30th. Registration Forms for PSR due by Aug 30th. Financial aid is available for both programs.

St. Patrick offers complementary Hotdogs & Water at the Thompson July 4th Celebration! St. Patrick's community appreciates the warm, welcoming spirit in Thompson and thank community members for their efforts. So before or after the parade, stop by our tent - meet some of our parishioners - and pick up a hotdog to enjoy!

"Maker Fun Factory" Vacation Bible School: July 11-13, 5:30-8:00 pm. Children entering kindergarten through grade 5, & preschoolers accompanied by an adult are invited to participate. Evening begins with light dinner followed by fun activities, games, & singing that will explore the mighty power of God!

Annual Parish Picnic - Sat Aug 12 at 5 PM. Good food, great company & fun for all ages! Come join us. Donations of salads, side dishes and desserts greatly appreciated. All are welcome!

Save the date: Annual Chinese Auction Sat Sept 9 Doors open at 11:00 am for the auction and kitchen for a light lunch. Drawing will begin at 2:00 pm. GREAT prize baskets, GREAT food and fun! Come win some GREAT prize baskets!

For more information on these events please call the Parish Office at 440-298-1327. Email - pattie.batchman@gmail.com

Thompson United Methodist Church...

Summer Community Activities:

4th of July in Thompson - There will be plenty of activities, food, fun, and people in the park and in the church. UMW with have their Bake Sale in the Church Gym and Food Sale down in the Kitchen. The Annual Rummage Sale is also located in the Church Gym with proceeds to support the Bible Quizzers and Drama Group. Horseback rides are behind the church.

2017 TUMC Vacation Bible Adventure

Join us at Hero Central, you'll craft cool projects, laugh as you play fun games, and have fun creating and eating different snacks. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends! All ages are Welcome!

Thompson United Methodist Church (TUMC)

Mon July 10th-Thurs July 13th - 6:30PM-8:30PM For more information call: Church Office 440-298-3033

Community

Sponsored by Thompson United Methodist Church

Sun, Aug 13th 1:00PM-5:00 PM

Koinonia Camp and Conference Center - 6810 Cork Cold Springs Road - contact us for directions. Hot dogs, water, lemonade and paper goods will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. We will begin serving at 1:30PM, bring the whole family for fun and games for all ages.

Park on the Square Beautification...

We've got hostas! Volunteers: Dade Gabrovsek & Lynne Leffel have been working on the square's landscaping. Thinning out the hostas - WANT SOME? And/or have a couple of hours to help? Call Lynne (440-983-9369). The Thompson Garden Club maintains the beautiful flowers on the gazebo.

Thompson Garden Club...

generally meets the third Wed of each month. The purpose of the Club is "For the Beautification of Home and Community." We currently have 15+ active members from Thompson, Montville and surrounding communities. New members and guests are always welcome at our meetings. If you have a love of gardening, or want to improve your gardening skills, please consider joining us! Or just come to have fun! Membership is only \$15.00 per year!

JUNE 21 7:00 pm at Thompson United Methodist Church (TUMC)

Coyotes has certainly been one of the most successful animals at adapting to human-altered landscapes in the past 100 years. Join us for a presentation on coyotes with a naturalist from the Geauga Park District. Begins promptly at 7:00 PM. Business meeting will follow.

JULY 4th 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM at TUMC - **Flower Show**

Come see our arrangements on display in the Social Room of the Church as part of Thompson's Celebration on the Park. Vote for your favorite arrangements. We have categories available for non-members, teens and youth to enter. Enter an arrangement and you may win a nice prize! Come and join us! For descriptions of arrangement categories for non-members call Terri Herbert at 298-1636.

JULY 19 6:00 pm at Observatory Park, Montville

Join us for a fun and informative meeting at Geauga Park District's Observatory Park in Montville. Business meeting/refreshments in the pavilion. 7:00 PM we will have a Planetary Program and guided tour of the facility. Join the fun! Last year's program was awesome!

JULY 21 9:00 AM Day Trip to Hartville MarketPlace & Flea Market. We will begin our trip shopping the 100,000-square-foot two-story building Flea Market behind the MarketPlace building. At 1:00 PM we will meet for lunch at the Hartville Kitchen Restaurant. You may shop for a short while after lunch. Meet at the Gazebo on Thompson Square at 9:00 AM and arrive back by 4:30 PM. Please confirm your attendance to Diana Klima at 298-9810

AUG 16 6:00 PM at Montville Community Center Pavilion - Picnic and Fair Planning - join us for a pot luck supper and planning of the Great Geauga County Fair. Don't forget to come see our arrangements & display at the Great Geauga County Fair!

Contact Terri Herbert at 298-1636 for additional information on any of our meetings. Please "Like" us on Facebook!

Annual Thompson Yard Sale 2017...

Saturday, August 5 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. is the day to bring all your saved-up yard sale items to the Thompson Yard Sale on the Square. Samantha Gibson Akos and the Ledgemont Girl Scouts are now busy organizing the 5th Annual Thompson Yard Sale. Set-up begins at 7:30 a.m. with take downs at 2 p.m. The cost is \$10 per spot, donation to the Ledgemont Girl Scouts. Even if you are not selling anything, come and browse to see what's for sale, visit with neighbors you haven't seen for a while, make a new friend and/or maybe find something you've been looking for. See you there and let's start socializing in our community!

If a Thompson Community group is interested in providing refreshments by donation for this event as a fund raiser contact Kok Leffel, 440-983-9367 or kokeleffel@gmail.com.



Geauga County Public Library...

We've got lots of gardening, homesteading and animal husbandry materials so be sure to visit if you need inspiration this summer! Children's story hour resumes Monday June 12th at 7pm and Wednesday June 14th at 10:30am and runs for 6 weeks. All children welcome and no registration is necessary. Our Summer Reading Program kicks off in June as well, with this year's theme of "Build a Better World..." so be sure to pick up your summer reading packet and get involved! Adult book discussion takes place at 2pm Sunday on the following dates: **May 21** Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger; **June 18** The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion; **July 16** Yes Please by Amy Poehler; **Aug 20** Landline by Rainbow Rowell. Thompson Station can be reached at 298-3831

Thompson Ledges Park...

Remember we have a lovely tennis court for you to use! Be sure to hike the park as the season progresses; keep your eyes open for wildflowers and colorful migrant birds...on warmer days, the lower ledge park is a great place to keep cool in the shadow of the rocks and trees! Park Board Commission meetings take place in the Park building at 7:30pm on the second Wednesday each month...feel free to attend with ideas, comments or with an offer to volunteer! 😊

Ledge Grange... meets at the Thompson United Methodist

Church on the fourth Sunday of the month. We welcome new members at any time. We just finished our annual baking contest at the state level. One of our young members, Joshua Myers, placed fifth in the state with his Apple Cheesecake. We also assist the trustees in the Memorial Day Services here in Thompson.

The next thing we are working on are contests in Art, Photography, sewing, needlework, quilting, and crafts. When you go see our displays at Geauga County Fair, you will see some of our contest work.

If you would like any more information about Grange, call Vic or Mabel Collen at 440-478-0093 or 440-478-0094.

Summer Entertainment 2017...

This year's Summer Entertainment in the Park on the Square, (3) Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30. Inclement weather? The events will take place in the Thompson United Methodist Church.

6/13 - Erie Heights Brass Ensemble – a brass sextet consisting of trumpets, horn, trombone, euphonium, baritone and tuba. Summer music theme: Weather i.e. "Stormy Weather", "Cold as Ice" and many more. The Ledgemont Girl Scouts will provide refreshments by donation & the Geauga County Library's Fun Bus will stop by.

7/11-Erin Burke – local singer/song writer with a bluesy soulful voice inspired from her country roots. Erin sings not only her own songs but also popular hits. The Thompson Garden Club will provide Refreshments by donation.

8/8-Troubadours of Divine Bliss - an international recording duo from Louisville, KY featuring accordion, guitar, harmonies and more. Their music weaves in and out of genres...it's "Americana Spirit", "Acoustic Vaudeville", "Gypsy Bluegrass," "Soul Folk". The Thompson United Methodist Women will provide "It's a Pie Party" Refreshment by donation. Donations will go to the Red Tulip Project of Geauga.

These events are provided by the generous donations of community members and friends, the work of The Summer Entertainment Committee and the Thompson Volunteer Fire Department Association. Please consider donating to this wonderful community activity and/or become a member of the Summer Entertainment Committee. Contact 983-9367 / elzleffel@gmail.com.



Thompson Road Department....

After talking to residents it has come to my attention that culvert/drive pipe responsibility needs to be addressed. Maintenance, repair and replacement of culvert/drive pipes are the responsibility of the property owner. Thompson Township Road Department will replace or install new culvert/drive pipes at the request of the property owner. The fee schedule is replacement \$200.00, new installation \$400.00 with permit issued by the Geauga County Engineer. Township charges include labor, equipment and the cost of stone. Material used to cover the culvert/drive pipe is 304 or 617 limestone. Property owners are responsible for ordering, cost and delivery of the double walled, plastic pipe, maximum diameter of 18 inches, the overall length of 30 ft. For further information contact Road Supervisor Joe LaRosa or Trustee Safick.



Thompson Fire Department...

Run volume for the beginning of 2017 has remained consistent with years past. As of the 1st of May, we have responded to 90 calls for service.



We would like to congratulate Firefighter Baker on becoming a paramedic, Firefighter L. Sowers on completing 240-hour firefighter training, and Firefighter Buterbaugh on completing volunteer firefighter training. Firefighters DiFranco and Sapic recently completed extrication training at Crash Course Village and Assistant Chief Battles completed the Maxwell Leadership Program, through the Ohio Fire Chief's Association in February.

If you have an oil/gas well on your property the fire department would like your help in creating a reference guide for our use. If you have a well on your property and you know the name and contact information for the management company please provide that info to the fire department in the case of an emergency (leak, spill, etc). You can either email the information to thompsonfd@windstream.net or mail it to the attention of Assistant Chief Battles at the Thompson Fire Department. P.O. Box 37. Thompson, 44086. Please no phone messages. Thank you in advance for helping us in case there is an emergency on your property.

Please remember that burn permits are required for all outdoor non-cooking fires, please call the station, 440-298-1405, to obtain a permit. Be safe and we will see you at the fire station on the 4th of July.

Sincerely - Dan Robison, Chief

Thompson Police Department...

Summer will soon be here, I promise. That means increased traffic, noise, motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and trespassing complaints. At a recent trustee meeting, questions were asked about the operation of off-highway vehicles and all-purpose vehicles. It is against the law, Federal, State, and Local to operate these all-terrain, all-season, motor bikes (large or small) and other vehicles designed primarily for travel on land, water, or other terrains without special exemption on public roadways. These vehicles are to be APV registered with the State of Ohio and properly licensed. Only those operated by owners of CAUV tax credited property and where it is not used on any public land, trail, or right-of-way are not subject to the above. Basically, those vehicles so used and going from farm property to farm property with exemption would not need to register.

If you are an owner of a golf cart, as 1/1/17, you may operate on a limited public roadway that is less than 35mph, meets all vehicle safety requirements (as a car), is registered, inspected, licensed, front/back lights, brake lights, engine limited to 25MPH, windshield, seatbelts, proper auto insurance, and driven by a licensed driver. Let's say you meet the above requirements, then consider yourself a very small car, and remember you may encounter a very large truck or semi . . . you need to be seen to be safe.

Lastly, remember whether or not you have some form of permission to be on someone's personal property to hunt, ride APV's, snowmobile, etc. do not take for granted that a verbal or written letter still is valid. Property ownership changes hands or situations occur that require new or updated permissions. Get a current signed written letter with name, property address, and phone numbers verifying your right to be on someone's property. Each person should have their own copy to prevent a trespass complaint.

Thompson Police Department may stop you to check suspicious situations. Remember not every officer knows who you are especially from behind. They are here to protect you, provide your neighbors with protection from those individuals not from our community; or who may attempt to cause damage to our properties.

Sincerely - James F. Koster, Chief of Police

