

Claridon Twp. Community Brief

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Greeting

Greetings Claridon and welcome to the first Claridon Twp. Community Brief! We are so very glad to get information to you! Please don't hesitate to contact any Trustee should you have any questions, concerns or insights regarding anything within our great township. -Jonathan Tiber

About the Claridon Community Brief

Each Claridon Community Brief is intended to get information about our township to you via email no more than 4 times annually. Information is key to understanding. The fastest and most fiscally efficient way to disburse information is by email. Thank you for signing up. Please encourage fellow Claridon residents to sign up by sending their name and email to trustee Jonathan Tiber at JTiber@ClaridonTownship.com. The more residents who are in the know, the more 'community' we will achieve and the more successful Claridon will be. If you are getting this email in error or wish not to receive them, please email me, Jonathan Tiber, and let me know.

Claridon's Operations Due to COVID-19

We are going through a unique and challenging time due to the effects of COVID-19. Following guidelines and suggestions from health officials, we are trying to avoid in-person meetings with our Claridon team and residents. Therefore, our administration office is closed until further notice. We will check emails, voicemails, mail and all messages on a regular basis. If you feel the need to talk with someone immediately, please don't hesitate to call any of the trustees. Our Zoning Inspector, Mr. Jacob, can be contacted remotely. Permits can still be issued. If you need assistance from our Cemetery Sexton, Mrs. Sherman, please attempt to communicate remotely. We are very much looking forward to things getting back to normal!

In case you are not aware, there will be no in-person voting this primary (with some exceptions). Please visit the home page of our website at ClaridonTownship.com to view information on what you need to know and links to absentee ballots. They must be post marked no later than April 27. If you fill out a ballot application online, they will ask for the voting date. The correct answer is March 17, 2020. If you put in another date, don't worry. After speaking with the Geauga County Board of Elections, they said the application will not be held up due to the error.



Taylor Wells Road

Helpful Dates

Go to your website, ClaridonTownship.com to see these very helpful dates. They are dates, times and locations for specialty trash drop-off such as hazardous, electronics, appliances and expired prescriptions drugs. The locations are either on Merritt Road in Claridon or at Geauga-Trumbull Solid Waste Management District in Warren. All these events are managed by the district. For questions, call them at 800-707-2673 or visit their website at GottaGoGreen.org. In case you have a friend or relative living outside of Claridon, you can point them to ClaridonTownship.com to get the info as it applies to everyone in Geauga County.

SPOTLIGHT!

Claridon Kindness

This issue of Spotlight features a charity and two churches in our community. There's a direct link to their websites on the 'Community Links' page of Claridon's website. We hope this inspires you to get involved with some of these fine groups so the blessings which come from their heartfelt actions will grow even bigger. They already have the train chugging, all we need to do is climb aboard!

SpotLight - NTBC Church

The New Testament Baptist Church of Claridon purchased 390 gift cards ranging from \$10 cards to \$20 cards! Wow! We asked Pastor Jack Holbrook a simple question, "Why"? He replied,

"We, wanted to do something during the Stay At Home order and the shutdowns. Many restaurants and fast food establishments are open but are seeing a significant decrease in business. We want to be an encouragement to local restaurants who have donated to benefits through the years. Also, we recognize the risk that so many local workers, many living right here in Claridon, are taking, such as first responders, hospital workers, nursing home staff, grocery store, fast food and restaurant workers."

The Pastor let all the gift cards sit for over 72 hours as suggested by health officials.

We asked Pastor Jack to email a list of who the church purchased the gift cards from. He sent us the following list: Beans Coffee House, Mr. Hero (Chardon & Middlefield), My Mom's Bakery, Jersey Mike's, Subway (Chardon), Maggie's Donuts, Dairy Queen (Middlefield), Ferronis Allegro, Mr. Hero (Middlefield), J.C.'s, Coffee Corners (Burton) and Mangia Mangia.

Pastor Jack also sent us the recipients list: Chardon Fire Dept. (Chardon Fire Dept. is assigned to service the church), Maple view Country Villa nursing home (179 gift cards to all 179 of their staff!), the Covid Unit of Geauga Hospital, Amish Salvage Store workers, Aldi Middlefield workers, Save A Lot workers, Family Dollar Middlefield workers and Giant Eagle Middlefield workers.

The church included a letter with the gift cards thanking them, *"In times like these we are reminded of the great sacrifices that people make in order to help others. Please accept this gift as a small token of our appreciation for your work."* A short Gospel message was presented in the letter. The letter closed, *"As you work hard and serve others through this hard time, remember that you do not have to do it in your own strength. The Lord will help you as you call upon Him. Please know that you have friends at New Testament Baptist Church that are praying for you and are thankful for you."* As a PS, the church offered free Bibles to anyone who wanted one.

Jack said all the recipients were grateful and some were clearly moved by the gesture. Way to go NTBC church! We're glad you're here....making a positive difference in Claridon!

Spotlight - Claridon Community helps

Recently, we had a chance to catch up with Claridon resident, Judi Maloney of Claridon Community Helps. We asked her a few questions about the charity;

Briefly, what is the purpose of Claridon Community Helps?

"Neighbors helping neighbors. Claridon Community Helps is a non-profit that works together in Claridon and surrounding communities. We fill in the gaps when working with other organizations."

Does CCH do anything in the community on a regular schedule?

"Yes. The 3rd Tuesday of every month from 5:00p-6:30p we have a free dinner. There is a donation drop box there as well, which is certainly not required but always appreciated."

I heard about CCH's 'Now That's What I'm Talking About' program. What is it?

"It's a summer lunch program for all children living in Berkshire and Cardinal school districts. It's for all children who live in the two districts including home school or private school. We include school age children and younger".

How many students and how many dinners do you serve?

"2974 lunches to date. We had over 140 yesterday alone. We serve 5 lunches per child per week."

Has CCH been doing anything different during the stay at home directive?

"Yes, our 3rd Tuesday dinners are drive-through instead of sit down. Also, we started our Summer lunch program on March 16 instead of in June, when school normally ends. We also follow health guidelines by not having more than 10 volunteers at a time".

How many volunteers does Claridon Community Helps have?

About 10 now but when the state guidelines are lifted, we hope for and need more.

Where do you operate from?

Claridon Congregation Church next to the Town Hall.

The church has a health department approved kitchen. The church is very kind and happy to share their resources with us. We are not sanctioned by the church. In fact, other churches and groups help us during our 3rd Tuesday dinners which are at the church. Claridon Community Helps is truly a community charity as we get help from Claridon churches and so many folks." *(As a Claridon SpotLight side note, the First Congregational Church of Claridon is very community driven. They are always willing to help the community with their resources and time.*

Thank you *First Congregational Church of Claridon!*).

How can people join CCH volunteer team and/or donate to the efforts of CCH?

Call 440-321-5596 to ask about volunteer opportunities. You can donate by visiting ClaridonCommunityHelps.org or mail check to P.O. Box 12, Claridon, OH 44033

Way to go Claridon Community Helps! Your kindness is not just noticed but quite effective! We're so glad you're here!

The Claridon Team

Every year, specific responsibilities are passed on to each Trustee. This can help you decide which Trustee to call with your specific question. We work with a wonderful team here in Claridon. Go to ClaridonTownship.com for contact information;

Trustee, Roger Miller:	Roads, equipment
Trustee, Cooper Sherman:	Buildings, Zoning
Trustee, Jonathan Tiber:	Parks, Cemeteries, Human Resources, Website, Township Events
Fiscal Officer, Paula Jolly:	The Fiscal Officer is of great importance in any township.
Mrs. Janet Sherman:	Your Cemetery Sexton helps you figure cost, locations, purchasing lots and more.
Mrs. Lilly Olszewski:	As township secretary, Lilly is positive and happy to assist and point you in the right direction when you call the Township.
Mrs. Theresa Warner:	Theresa is our Town Hall agent and Custodian. We have been in awe of Theresa's thoroughness, efficiency and her 'above and beyond' mentality.
Mr. Harry Jacob:	As Zoning Inspector, Mr. Jacob assists you with obtaining permits and if qualified, agricultural exemptions.
Mrs. Liz McMahon:	As Zoning Secretary, Liz keeps minutes for both the Zoning Commission and the BZA. She also posts all BZA notifications.
Maintenance Team:	Mr. Nick Burzanko (full time) and Mr. Michael Blair (part time) perform the bulk of the mowing, trimming, road maintenance and more.

We have 5 residents who serve on the Zoning Commission and 4 residents who serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals however, there are 5 seats open on the Board of Zoning Appeals. We are in search for a 5th. You must be a resident of the township. If you would like to serve alongside your fellow residents, please contact Trustee Cooper Sherman. We are most thankful for all who serve. You can find the board members names on your website,

ClaridonTownship.com



Center Cemetery

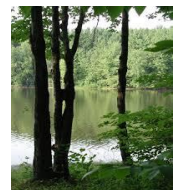
Making a Close-Knit Community

The more Claridon residents we meet, the more thankful we are to live here in Claridon. We encourage all of us to include ourselves in our community on a regular basis. It takes time to take part in a community, but it is worthy time. The relationships we develop is, and will be, beneficial on many levels. Here are some ways to be a part of the Claridon community:

1. Attend trustee meetings (the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month. They last between 45 minutes and 1.5 hours).
2. Call us! Offer insights, share ideas, share observations, ask questions or just to say 'hello'!
3. Volunteer for one of the township charities or at your cemeteries or parks or start a parks or cemetery fund. Call Trustee Jonathan Tiber for info.
4. Organize community gatherings like picnics, concerts, contests, etc.
5. Attend the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. Aside from Trash Day, this is the only event where we come together as a community. There is a ceremony accompanied with a parade to and from East Cemetery on 608. Immediately following is a ceremony at Center Cemetery on 322. Each lasts no more than 1 hour. They are very well attended.
6. Receive the Claridon Community Brief. We intend to send no more than four per year.
7. Be a good neighbor. Say hello to your neighbors via in person or dropping them a note. Let them know you are there for them.
8. Attend the Claridon Community Helps free dinner the 3rd Tuesday of every month. A wonderful group of Claridonites put this together. It's a great way to meet other caring Claridonites.
9. Pray for your neighbors, your community, Claridon Officials and team members.

The Next Issue of the Brief

In the next Claridon Community Brief, we hope to include the financial status of our township. The Claridon Community Brief is an ongoing work in progress. We would love for it to include not just current items, but a bit of Claridon history and other fun things. On behalf of your trustees and fiscal officer, we very much look forward to sharing Claridon information with you! Remember to encourage your fellow residents to sign on!



East Branch