

I have taken the time to work with our Community Volunteer Board ("CVB") frequently as they serve as a recommending/advisory committee to the Trustees. Through their leadership, the CVB encourages innovation and bridges relationships in Orange Township. I helped alongside our hardworking staff and specifically the Events subcommittee, to have our first township sponsored Independence Day parade, which I am proud to say, was a big success!! It was wonderful to see the community come together again as we celebrated our nation's birthday and the great community that Orange Township is. We had over 40 organizations participate and will continue expanding and improving our parade for future years to come.

Our next community event, the Founder's Festival, will be held on September 30, 2023 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at North Orange Park. We'll have food trucks, vendors, inflatables and more! This event has been a desire of the CVB for the past few years to showcase how proud we all are of our Township.

Orange Township was founded on September 3, 1816, and we chose the OSU by-weekend for our festival so fans and others would be more likely to attend. I am a firm believer that when we take the time to get to know our neighbors and bring people together, it encourages a sense of belonging and unity for our community. So, let's celebrate how proud we are to live, work, and play in our Orange Township community. Again, the Founder's Festival will be on September 30, 2023 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. I'm looking forward to meeting you!

**-Erica Fouss**  
Trustee Chair



All three Trustees and Fiscal Officer Lisa Kraft enjoyed a round of pickleball on the new courts at North Road Park.



## Meet Trustee Mike Ringle

On June 7, 2023, I had the privilege of being sworn-in as your newest Trustee. My wife and daughter were by my side for the oath of office that was graciously administered by Fiscal Officer Lisa Kraft. For me, that is what public service is all about, making your community a better place to raise a family, work, and enjoy life with loved ones.

Orange Township provides excellent services for residents but rapid population growth in Central Ohio has focused the Township on maximizing the benefit to you for every tax dollar received. As an attorney and CPA who helps townships across the State find ways to pay for buildings, bridges, and roads, I look forward to using my skill set to serve you. I promise to bring new tools to the Township to ensure that every tax dollar is safeguarded and stretched so the Township remains an affordable place to live and work with the high-quality services we expect.

The Township also has a vibrant network of State, County, and Township parks. I have been working to preserve Delaware County's Bicentennial Barn that sits along Bale Kenyon Road in beautiful McCammon Creek Park. I promise to collaboratively work to connect the Township's parks so all residents can enjoy access to waterways and green spaces in the Township and across Central Ohio.

And this is just the beginning. What do you find important in our community? Please call or email me so we can talk on the phone or over a cup of coffee about how we can continue to make Orange Township the best place to call home.

**-Mike Ringle**  
Trustee



## DID YOU KNOW?

Orange Township has the most females holding elected office of any of the 18 townships in Delaware, with three of the four office holders being women, as well as our administrator. This appears to be a first for our area.

Orange Township has the most residents of any township in Delaware County, with about 32,500 people living in its unincorporated areas. Projections show over 38,000 residents will call Orange Township home by 2030.\*

Orange Township has the most ethnically diverse population of any township in Delaware County, a trend which continues to increase each year.\*

These facts are just a few of the reasons I love serving our very unique community! The input we receive from our residents is invaluable, and helps the trustees make decisions of all kinds, from relatively trivial, to consequential.

\*Source: Delaware County Regional Planning Commission  
**-Lisa Knapp**  
Trustee Vice Chair

# Parks and Roads Updates



Township Hall Wetland Planting



Lewis Center Trail-Phase 3

Foot Golf/Disc Golf Course Map



North Road Park Shelter House

- Bale Kenyon Road Phase 1 - This long-awaited road-widening project began June 12, 2023 and is expected to last throughout the summer. This is the first of 3 phases that are expected to continue through 2025.
- Township Hall Park - The pond was recently renovated and a new wetland was added. A 9-hole foot golf and disc golf course have also been added. Scan this QR code to view the map
- Lewis Center Trail-Phase 3 - The newest section of the Lewis Center Trail opened in June 2023. The final component of this project is a signalized crossing providing pedestrian access to the Visitor's Center and Alum Creek State Park. That work is anticipated to be completed in late 2023
- Veterans Memorial - A friendly reminder that commemorative bricks are available for the upcoming Veterans Memorial that will be constructed at the corner of South Old State and East Orange Roads. Bricks will be installed prior to the opening of the new memorial on Memorial Day of 2024.

## Zoning

The Orange Township Zoning Department would like to invite you to an open house on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Orange Township Hall! We have been working diligently on our zoning code rewrite project, and we would like to share with you our progress so far and get your feedback before we move into the final stages of the project. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

We are also working on our Active Transportation Plan. This project is examining our network of sidewalks and multi-use paths throughout the Township, and will prioritize and recommend projects so that Orange Township will be well-poised to secure grant funding for them in the future. In the next few weeks, we will have an online map of draft projects that we would like your feedback on so that we can properly prioritize the projects. Keep an eye on our social media and website for more details soon.



**-Robin Duffee, AICP**  
Director of Development and Zoning

Scan to complete the Active Transportation Plan survey!

## Independence Day Parade



The Orange Township Independence Day Parade was a huge hit! We could not have done it without YOU! We are already looking forward to next year.





# FISCAL INSIGHT by Lisa Kraft

## DID YOU KNOW?

Ohio House Bill 920, which was passed in 1976, was enacted to keep inflation from increasing voted taxes.

This means voted levy rates are adjusted down when property values increase to provide the township the same tax dollars it received the previous year from the same voted millage. The adjusted rate is known as the effective tax rate. The opposite occurs when property valuations decrease, as the effective tax rate may actually increase to collect the original amount of tax passed by voters.

Orange Township's existing fire levy was voted in at 7 mills in 2013. Fast forward 10 years later and it is still collecting approximately the same dollar amount and has an effective tax rate of 5.39 mills.

Please contact Fiscal Officer Lisa Kraft to learn more.

## Orange Township Fire Department

### Mission Statement

Our mission is to serve and protect our residents, businesses, and visitors by providing the highest level of fire and emergency medical services through education, prevention, and training.



### Core Values

- **Integrity**- Promoting honest, ethical behavior while maintaining strong moral principles in word, deed, and action, fostering a relationship of trust.
- **Accountability** - Commitment to the community, one another, and to oneself in all aspects of moral, ethical, and fiscal responsibilities.
- **Professionalism** - Committed in standards, appearance, and attitude to provide the highest level of service with compassion and dedication.

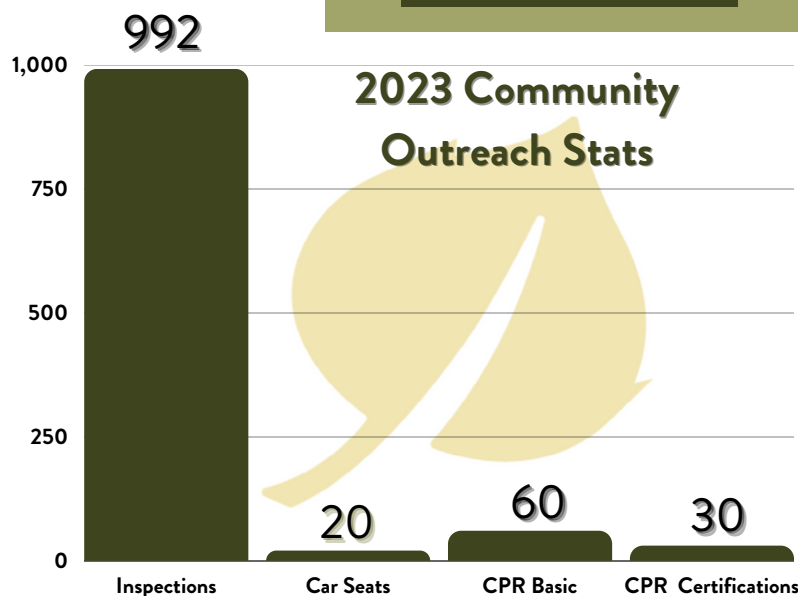
## More Than Just Putting Out Fires...

The Orange Township Fire Department responded to 2624 calls in 2022. Although, they do much more than putting out fires and responding to medical emergencies, check out how else they serve the Orange Township Community!

- Did you know they can also inspect car seats and teach you how to properly install them?
  - To schedule a car seat inspection, email [carseats@orangetwp.org](mailto:carseats@orangetwp.org).
- They also perform inspections to new buildings in the township and yearly inspections to existing buildings.
- The Fire Department can also teach you how to perform CPR and First Aid. They can even certify individuals in CPR.
  - To schedule a certification course email [cpr@orangetwp.org](mailto:cpr@orangetwp.org).
- For those unable to install smoke detectors, the Fire Department can be of assistance as well, call 740-548-6346 or 740-548-5315 to set up an installation appointment.

## Remembering Firefighter Jeffrey "Jeff" Mitchell

It is with great sorrow that we announce the untimely passing of retired Firefighter/Paramedic Jeffrey "Jeff" Paul Mitchell. Jeff became a full-time Firefighter with the Orange Township Fire Department in 2004, and had just retired in April of this year. He was a dedicated Firefighter who served this community with dedication and honor. Jeff had extensive mechanical and technical knowledge, which helped him excel in the emergency services arena. Armed with a unique sense of humor and encyclopedic knowledge of movie quotes, he was often the life of the party and brought joy and laughter to many family and work gatherings. Jeff has touched the lives of so many co-workers, and people in our community and he will be deeply missed. We take this opportunity to sincerely thank Jeff and his family for his unwavering dedication to the Fire Service and this community.





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Visit us at [orangetwp.org](https://www.orangetwp.org)



Orange Township, Delaware County, Ohio

Follow us on Facebook for more Township updates and news!



**Erica Fouss**

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**Lisa Knapp**

Vice Chair  
[lknap@orangetwp.org](mailto:lknap@orangetwp.org)



**Mike Ringle**

Trustee  
[maringle@orangetwp.org](mailto:maringle@orangetwp.org)



**Lisa Kraft**

Fiscal Officer  
[lkraft@orangetwp.org](mailto:lkraft@orangetwp.org)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mark your calendars for these 2023 events!

<b>Zoning Open House</b>	July 26   6:00p.m. - 8:00p.m.   Township Hall
<b>Election Day</b>	August 8   see <a href="https://vote.delawarecountyohio.gov">vote.delawarecountyohio.gov</a> for your voting location
<b>Night Swim with DJ</b>	August 11   8:30p.m.-10:30p.m.   NOAC
<b>CPR Basics Course</b>	August 12   9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.   Station 361
<b>Board of Trustees Regular Meeting</b>	August 2   3:00p.m.   Township Hall
<b>Board of Trustees Regular Meeting</b>	August 16   3:00p.m.   Township Hall
<b>Board of Trustees Regular Meeting</b>	September 6   3:00p.m.   Township Hall
<b>Board of Trustees Regular Meeting</b>	September 20   3:00p.m.   Township Hall
<b>Founders Festival</b>	September 30   2:00p.m. - 6:00p.m.   North Orange Park
<b>Holiday Light Fight</b>	Dates TBD
<b>Holiday Event</b>	December 3   4:30p.m.-6:30p.m.   North Orange Park

