

**Board of Trustees**

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**Township Offices**

*8735 S. Second Street (Brandt)*

*Tipp City, Ohio 45371*

*937.845.8472*

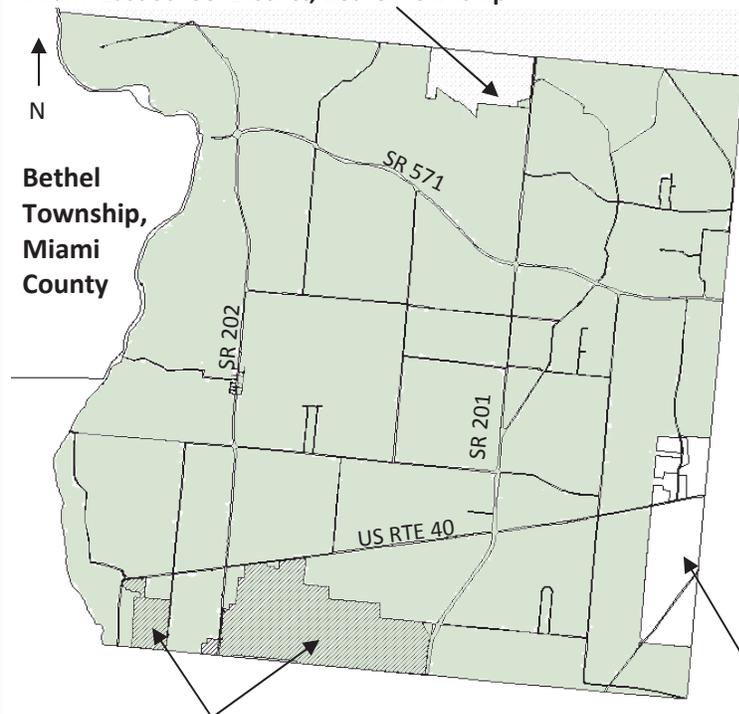
## Bethel Township or Bethel School District?

What is the difference in Bethel Township and Bethel School District? Until 1998, almost nothing. But in 1998, Huber Heights annexed approximately 300 acres off of SR 202. Annexations are governed by the Ohio Revised Code. A significant change in annexation law and school district lines came into effect in 1986. The Ohio Revised Code (3311.06 C.1-2) states that IF an entire school district is annexed to a city then that school district becomes part of the annexing city's school district. If only part, but not all of the territory of a school district is annexed then school district lines do NOT change unless the school district is part of the annexation agreement or the state board of education approves the change in school district boundaries. This initial annexation, followed by 700 acres off of SR 201 in 2000, represents less than 5% of the township. (The area of Bethel Township is approximately 34.8 square miles which equals roughly 22,000 acres).

The annexation of various parcels over the years makes things a little complicated for services and taxes for the residents of Parktowne, Windbrooke and Carriage Trails. Residents of these communities pay NO taxes to Bethel Township. However, they do pay Miami County taxes. They pay Bethel SCHOOL taxes and they pay Huber Heights Income Tax and the portion of Huber Heights property taxes that do not go to the school. Their fire and EMS service comes from Huber Heights, although Bethel Township does respond on Mutual Aid calls. Their roads are maintained by the city of Huber Heights. They vote on Huber Heights issues, but NOT on Huber Heights school issues. They do NOT vote on Township issues, but they do vote on Bethel School issues as well as Miami County issues. They cast their ballots in Bethel Township, currently their precinct votes at the fire station in Brandt.

To confuse the school district issue a little more, there are several properties on Scarff Road and Bellefontaine Road which are in the Tecumseh School District - they pay Tecumseh School taxes

**Miami East School District, Bethel Township**



and vote on Tecumseh School issues, but they are part of Bethel Township and vote on Bethel Township and Miami County issues and pay Bethel Township and Miami County taxes. Additionally, several properties on the south side of Bethel-Elizabeth Road are in Bethel Township but Miami East School district. They do not pay Bethel School taxes or vote on Bethel School issues, but they vote on Bethel Township and Miami County issues and pay those taxes.

Since 2003, there have been no additional annexations of Bethel Township.

April—June 2014

**Bethel School District, City of Huber Heights**

**Tecumseh School District, Bethel Township**

## Zoning Update

### Zoning Certificates Issued:

ZC-01-14	6840 Bethelville	30x40 Pole Barn
ZC-02-14	6605 Scarff	30x40 Pole Barn
ZC-03-14	6575 Walnut	40x50 Barn
ZC-04-14	8870 E St. RT. 571	30x36 Barn
ZC-05-14	6840 Bethelville	12x20 Addition
ZC-06-14	7785 Ross	New Residence

### **BETHEL TOWNSHIP ZONING COMMISSION (ZC):**

The Bethel Township Zoning Commission (ZC) did not meet for the month of January. The Zoning Commission met in regular session in February to hear the following case:

**Case ZA-06-13:** A request From Greg Davis, 7730 Staley Rd to rezone the property directly west of the of 7730 Staley Rd. from A-2 General Agriculture to A-1 Domestic Agriculture for a lot split on ground used for agricultural and residential purposes. This case passed, 5-0.

The Zoning Commission met in a workshop session in March to discuss the definition on road frontage and Article 20: Planned Development. The ZC meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Bethel Township Meeting Room.

### **BETHEL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS (BZA):**

The Bethel Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) did not meet for the month of January or March. The Bethel Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) met in February to hear the following case:

**Case V-01-14:** A request from George Hardy of PO Box 24482 Dayton, Ohio 45424. The applicant requests a variance to increase the maximum size of permitted accessory structure from the required Nine Hundred (900) square feet to approximately Two Thousand (2000) square feet located at 6575 Walnut Tipp City Ohio 45371 zoned as R-1AAA. This case passed, 4-0.

The BZA meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Bethel Township Meeting Room.

Public notice for both the Zoning Commission and the Board of Zoning Appeals meetings are posted in the news section of the Township web site at [www.betheltownship.org](http://www.betheltownship.org), and in the Troy Daily News. Additionally, residents within 300' of the requesting property are notified by first class mail as per the Bethel Township Zoning Resolution and the Ohio Revised Code.

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## Cemetery Cleanup

Spring clean up in all Township Cemeteries will start on April 16<sup>th</sup>. All decorations must be removed by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Decorations may be replaced in the cemeteries after May 15<sup>th</sup>. Fall Cleanup will begin mid October, all decorations must be removed by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Any live flowers, artificial flowers or decorations may be removed by the Cemetery Crews when deemed unsightly, at anytime during the year or if they cause a problem with mowing and maintenance of the Cemetery.

If you have any questions on the cemeteries or the spring clean up, please call the township at 845.8472

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## Fire and EMS Runs to Date:

**Runs from 01/01/14-03/31/14: EMS 109 Fire 45 Total 154**



## May 6th Primary Election

Tuesday, May 6th, voters in Bethel Township will head to the polls. The only issue on the ballot for Bethel Township residents is the Bethel Local Schools Bond issue to generate funds to construct and renovate school facilities. Just a reminder on voting locations:

- **Bethel West and South Central** vote at the new West Charleston Church of the Brethren - 4817 SR 202.
- **Bethel South East and East** vote at the First Baptist Church 8870 SR 571.
- **Bethel Huber Heights** votes at the Fire Station in Brandt. This precinct does not vote on township issues, but does vote on Bethel School issues.

If you have additional questions about your precinct, your voting location or ballot language, please contact the Miami County Board of Elections at 440-3900 during normal business hours.

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## Shrinking State Funding Affects Township Finances

Over the past few years, the governor and the state legislature, faced with budget deficits, have made significant cuts to many sources of revenue to township governments. Townships, as well as other local government entities, have relied on these funds to finance services to the public. Township governments have been affected more severely than municipal or county governments since we have no taxing authority other than real estate taxes levied by the vote of our constituents. Municipalities have the additional revenue stream from income tax revenue and county governments benefit from sales tax revenue.

One source of revenue for townships has been state taxes, which generally make up the majority of a township's "General Fund". The last three biannual state budgets resulted in drastic cuts to this funding. In 2012, Bethel Township received \$60,004 from this funding. In 2014, we will receive \$25,672, an over 40% reduction of funds. The General Fund in Bethel Township is used to pay for electricity, phones, salaries, vehicle maintenance, fuel oil, etc.

Another source of funding that was completely eliminated was the Inheritance Tax. The township received anywhere from \$1,000 to \$90,000 per year from this type of tax. Because usage of these funds was unrestricted, this money could be used for repaving projects, maintenance on snow plows, crack sealing, tree trimming or many other areas to improve the township.

All these factors have placed financial pressure on the township to trim our budget. We continue to strive to provide the best services to the community in the most efficient manner possible. However, continued cuts by the state legislature will eventually be felt by all communities.

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## Bethel Business Spotlight

31 years ago, mini-van's made their driving debut and Duty Automotive opened for business. Jack Duty has been maintaining, repairing and tuning all kinds of cars, mini-vans and light trucks ever since. Duty Automotive is a local business with strong community involvement. Jack, a Bethel High School graduate, started the complete automotive repair business and was joined a few years later by his brother. His father, Jack, also worked with him for several years after his retirement. Currently, Duty Automotive has six mechanics to handle all types of automotive service needs. Jack says, "We can do everything to keep your car or light truck running." They have just expanded to sell and service tires as well.

Jack and his staff are "old school" mechanics who are comfortable with everything from a simple brake job to a complete engine overhaul. He has seen the industry change from the common tune-up of the old ignition systems to complex computer diagnostics. Today his shop is equipped with the diagnostic equipment, the knowledge and the experience to handle any type of repair or tune-up in a price competitive and timely manner. Duty Automotive is located at 4360 Lisa Drive in the Wiley Industrial Park off of SR 202. Their phone number is 667.4186.





PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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## Bethel Township Trustees

Miami County  
8735 South Second Street—Brandt  
Tipp City, Ohio 45371

Phone: 937-845-8472  
Fax: 937-845-7316  
Email: [www.betheltownship.org](http://www.betheltownship.org)

**Trustee Jerry Hirt**  
ph. 667.1083  
[jerry.hirt@betheltownship.org](mailto:jerry.hirt@betheltownship.org)

**Trustee Beth van Haaren**  
ph. 477.0289  
[beth.vanhaaren@betheltownship.org](mailto:beth.vanhaaren@betheltownship.org)

**Trustee Cliff Wray**  
ph. 604.2377  
[cliff.wray@betheltownship.org](mailto:cliff.wray@betheltownship.org)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT [WWW.BETHELTONNSHIP.ORG](http://WWW.BETHELTONNSHIP.ORG)

### April

- 2 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 8 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 15 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 22 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 24 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM  
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM

### May

- 7 Historical Society
- 13 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 20 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 22 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM  
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM
- 27 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM

Please note:

The Board of Trustees meets in Workshop Session on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month @ 8:30AM in the Township Building in Brandt. Please check the Township's website at [www.betheltownship.org](http://www.betheltownship.org) for Workshop Session cancellations.

### June

- 4 Historical Society Meeting, 7 PM
- 10 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 17 Co. Planning Commission Mtg. in Troy, 7:30 PM
- 24 Trustees Regular Business Meeting, 7 PM
- 26 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 6:30 PM  
Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:30 PM

### Community Meeting

Bethel Local Schools will hold a Community Meeting in the High School Gym to discuss student growth, the facility plan and the bond issue. The meetings are scheduled for:



Wednesday, April 9 @ 7 PM

Wednesday, May 14 @ 7PM

All meetings are held in the Bethel Township Community Room, 8735 S. Second Street-Brandt unless otherwise noted.  
All meetings are subject to cancellation.