Elected in November, 2011, new Fiscal Officer Greg Ruwe assumed his duties on April 1, 2012. He has more than 30 years experience working with the Internal Revenue Service, including many years as a criminal investigator dealing with white-collar crime, income tax fraud, securities fraud, bankruptcy fraud, and money laundering.

A graduate of Thomas More College in Fort Thomas, Kentucky, Fiscal Officer Ruwe is a certified financial planner and operates a consulting business.

His hobbies include health and fitness as well as travel, particularly to historic sites.

Fiscal Officer Ruwe and his wife, Gayle, have lived in Brown Township since 1986 and have two adult daughters—Emily, 25, is an environmental scientist and lives in Arlington, Virginia and Holly, 23, works for Ohio Health and lives in Grandview Heights. Gayle works in the membership office of the Hilliard YMCA.

Township Office Staffed to Improve Service

At the April 16 meeting, the Brown Township Trustees voted to hire a new employee in the interest of providing improved customer service to township residents, including staffing of the Township Office on a regular schedule, easily accessible scheduling for rental of the Township Hall, and prompt return of telephone calls.

Township resident Barbara Hoover assumed her duties as Assistant to the Fiscal Officer shortly afterward. Mrs. Hoover will be available by phone or in person in the offices on the second floor of the Firehouse at 2491 Walker Road on the following schedule:

- Mondays between 5 and 7 p.m.
- Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- Beginning July 7, Saturdays between 10 a.m. and noon

Other duties will involve providing assistance to the Fiscal Officer.

The Township Office telephone number is 614-876-2133.

As always, the Trustees welcome residents’ calls or emails at any time. Contact information for the Trustees is available on the Brown Township website at www.brown.twp.franklin.oh.us
Did You Know???

The Franklin County Zoning Resolution contains a wide variety of requirements applicable to property within Brown Township (and other Franklin County townships without their own zoning resolutions.) Other regulations apply, as well, including those of the Board of Health.

The following information is provided in the interest of education for township residents.

Did you know...

...that a property owner is required to get a permit for any fence and the fence must meet height and material restrictions? (Section 501, Fence Regulations, of the Franklin County Zoning Resolution)

...no more than four garage sales are permitted in a year at one property? (Section 503.011, Garage Sales)

...no more than two vehicles may be offered for sale in a 12-month period on a particular property? (Section 503.012, Vehicle Sales)

...a property is permitted only two accessory structures (detached garages, sheds, etc.), meeting setback requirements associated with the size of the property? (Section 512, Accessory Structures)

...there is a distinction between above-ground and below-ground swimming pools and there are fencing and setback requirements for below-ground pools? (Section 513, Swimming Pools)

...parking must be on a sealed hard surface, not gravel? (Section 531.011, Parking)

...recreational vehicles (boats, trailers, RV’s, etc.) must be parked to the side or rear of the main structure and the number and size allowed depend on the size of the property? (Section 531.052, Recreational Vehicles)

...only one inoperable vehicle may be on the property and must be completely screened from view or inside a garage? (Section 531.054, Inoperable Vehicles)

...it is necessary to get a conditional use permit to board animals? (Section 302.035, Boarding of Animals)

...Section 551 provides a good overview of requirements associated with the regulation of public nuisances?

The Franklin County Zoning Resolution may be viewed at http://tinyurl.com/browntwp-zoning and questions on Zoning Enforcement may be directed to 614-525-3094.

Dumpsters Misused

The Brown Township Trustees provide two recycling dumpsters near the Township Hall for use by township residents to dispose of household recyclable material. Recently, general household trash has been found in the dumpsters. Residents are reminded to place only household recyclable materials in the dumpsters. These dumpsters are not intended for trash disposal or for collection of recyclables by anyone other than township residents. If the problem continues, the recycling dumpster program may have to be discontinued.

Near the recycling dumpsters is a trash dumpster for the sole use of the Firehouse and the Township Hall. Individuals may not place trash in this dumpster. Improper disposal is subject to a fine.

Signs on all three dumpsters guide residents on their use.

Fire/EMS Runs Comparison

Brown Township’s service needs for Fire and Emergency Medical Service in 2011 were fairly consistent with totals from previous years. Emergency Medical Services runs in 2011 totaled 129 and Fire runs totaled 52 for a grand total of 181.

Response according to jurisdiction for 2011 is below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Fire Runs</th>
<th>EMS Runs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Norwich</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilliard</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>2888</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>129</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mutual Aid</td>
<td>361</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Based on information provided by Norwich Township
Big Darby Accord Town Center Master Plan Published

The Big Darby Accord Town Center Master Plan, adopted by Brown Township, Prairie Township, City of Columbus, and Franklin County in December 2011, has been published.

A copy of the Plan may be reviewed at the Hilliard Branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library at 4772 Cemetery Road, Hilliard or by contacting the Brown Township Office at 876-2133 to make an appointment. The plan may also be viewed online at the Brown Township website, www.brown.twp.franklin.oh.us.

New Norwich Township Fire Chief Appointed

Robert Kaufman was appointed Fire Chief of the Norwich Township Fire Department in early 2012. Chief Kaufman has served as a lieutenant, captain, and assistant fire chief and began his career with Norwich Township as a part-time firefighter in 1985.

Chief Kaufman was raised on the family farm in Brown Township and he and his wife later lived on Patterson Road for 12 years. He is a graduate of Hilliard High School.

A certified paramedic, an emergency medical services and fire instructor, and a fire inspector, Chief Kaufman is a member of the Franklin County Fire Chiefs’ Association, and the International Association of Fire Chiefs. He serves on the Board of the Central Ohio Trauma System, representing other Central Ohio fire chiefs.

Chief Kaufman is married and has two daughters, a stepson, five grandsons, and two granddaughters.

Township Hall Available for Rent

The Brown Township Trustees make available a community meeting facility for use by township residents. Available for rent, the facility includes a meeting room, kitchen, and restrooms. It is located in the Township Hall, immediately north of the Firehouse at 2491 Walker Road. Tables and chairs are also available.

Those who wish to rent the facility must be Brown Township residents and must be willing to sign the rental agreement and abide by the policies and procedures outlined in the agreement.

Gambling is prohibited as are alcoholic beverages, smoking, and any open flame, except for decorative candles in containers. Renters must agree to clean the facility after use, using cleaning equipment and supplies available on-site. A $50 rental fee must be paid in advance. Service groups are exempt from paying the fee.

To make arrangements to rent the facility, township residents should call the Township Office at 876-2133 and ask for Barbara Hoover or email her at Barbara_Hoover@brown.twp.franklin.oh.us. A meeting will be required for the renter to sign the rental agreement and to allow the staff to review procedures for accessing the building.

Fire/EMS Runs Comparison

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Based on information provided by Norwich Township Fire Department
Want to be Added to Our Mailing List or Have a Change of Address?

Please use any of the following:

- Fill out the name, address, additions and corrections form on the Brown Township website under “Newsletters”
- Call the Township Fiscal Officer (614-876-2133)
- Via fax to the Township Office (614-876-2421)
- Or by mail to the return address above.