

BROWN TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1830

Spring 2020

Corona Virus Information

The best and most current information on the coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found on the Franklin County Public Health website at myfcph.org/covid-19.

Stop the spread of germs.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



Cover your cough or sneeze with your arm or inner elbow, NOT your hands.



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The Role of a Fiscal Officer

In a recent publication of the Ohio Township Association, State Auditor Keith Faber wrote, “Township fiscal officers have one of the most important jobs in government. They provide oversight of public funds and ensure that spending is done in accord with the law. Put simply, they are the front line for protecting township dollars.”

A changing of the guard has taken place recently in Brown Township. Greg Ruwe, the township’s fiscal officer for the past eight years, retired effective March 31 and newly elected township fiscal officer Becky Kent took office on April 1. Fortunately, the transition has been a smooth one, thanks to the efforts of both. They have worked together for several months to assure the transition was seamless. Additionally, Becky has attended training provided by both the Auditor of State’s office and the Ohio Township Association.

If you have questions about the role and responsibilities of Brown Township’s fiscal officer, please contact Fiscal Officer Becky Kent at 614-876-2133 or becky_kent@brownntp.org.

Greg Ruwe Retires from Fiscal Officer Position

Brown Township Fiscal Officer Greg Ruwe has retired from his position, effective March 31.

After a recent trip to Carlsbad, California that he dubbed “probably the best adventure trip we’ve ever taken,” Greg reflected on his eight years as fiscal officer.

“I had several goals,” he said. The first—and the result of which he is proudest—was to improve the township’s treasury management practices to increase earnings on investments. This would help offset a 25% reduction in Local Government Funds from the State of Ohio that took effect shortly after he took office. This goal was realized and exceeded by over a whopping 22,000% increase in yearly earnings over the eight-year period. Other goals included establishment



of an orderly bookkeeping system, development of a good working relationship with the Norwich Township fiscal officer, and passage of a fire levy in 2014.

Greg plans to do pro bono advocacy work with his additional

free time. He and his wife, Gayle, also have plans for more adventure travel.

Before joining Brown Township, Greg spent more than thirty years working with the Internal Revenue Service, primarily as a criminal investigator dealing with white-collar crime, income tax fraud, securities fraud, bankruptcy fraud, and money laundering.

The Ruwes have two daughters. Emily, of Montgomery, Alabama, is expecting their second grandchild soon. She is married to Major Jeffrey Kinard, an Air Force physician. Holly, of St. Augustine, Florida whose daughter, Sydney, is nearly two, is married to Matt Kensill, a project manager with Stellar Energy in Jacksonville.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY

Each issue of the Brown Township newsletter contains a quarterly wrap-up of public safety reports and calls in Brown Township.

Norwich Township Fire Department

Calls to addresses in both incorporated and unincorporated portions of Brown Township:

	Fire Calls		EMS Calls	
	Incorp.	Unincorp.	Incorp.	Unincorp.
Dec. 2019	3	1	3	15
Jan. 2020	1	2	5	17
Feb. 2020	3	3	4	15

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

Calls to addresses in unincorporated Brown Township:

December 2019

December 6 – violation of a protection order at an address on Cole Road.

December 30 – theft of funds from bank account of a victim at an address on Hardwood Drive.

January 2020

Reported January 16, occurred between January 15 and 16 – theft of music CDs and an umbrella from a vehicle at an address on Amity Road.
January 16 – theft of music CDs and a door frame and window from a vehicle at an address on Amity Road.

February 2020

Reported February 27, occurred February 26 – identity fraud at an address on Roberts Road.

Hilliard Division of Police

Non-routine calls to Brown Township addresses within the City of Hilliard:

December 2019
 No non-routine calls.

January 2020
 No non-routine calls.

February 2020
 No non-routine calls.

Becky Kent Assumes Fiscal Officer Duties

Elected in November, Brown Township's new Fiscal Officer Becky Kent assumed her duties on April 1.

Born in Wooster, Ohio, Becky has lived in the Hilliard community for 40 years and in Brown Township since eighth grade. She graduated from Hilliard High School and The Ohio State University with a computer science degree. She worked as a programmer for Huntington Banks and AOL and for the Cap City Half Marathon and M3SSports as a volunteer coordinator.

She also served as office manager for her church, Amlin United Methodist Church. Currently she operates a microgreen business supplying local restaurants. She and her mother sell heirloom tomatoes,



Becky Kent

garlic, and cut flowers at the Grove City Farmers Market. She has also served as mission chair for her church and has done mission work in Uganda. She has volunteered with Sole Hope, Community Refugee and Immigration Services, SON

Ministries, and Hackers for Charity.

Becky and her husband, Jason, have two sons. Conrad, 19, is studying aerospace engineering at the University of Cincinnati and is heavily involved in Engineers without Borders and its work in Tanzania. Rylan, 14, is a student at Hilliard Bradley High School and is a percussionist in the marching band.

With her children getting older freeing up her time, Becky said it was the perfect moment for this opportunity. She is grateful to former Fiscal Officer Greg Ruwe for his commitment to making the transition an easy one. "I really appreciate the amount of time he has spent making sure I can fulfill the role correctly. It is more complex than one might think."



Study reveals that 76% of the materials thrown away in Franklin County have the potential to be recycled or composted

SWACO has released a study documenting that up to 76% of the material currently being sent to the Franklin County Sanitary Landfill could be recycled or composted. The study also found that of those discarded materials, the items presenting the biggest opportunities for increasing diversion were food scraps and corrugated cardboard.

The study, known as a waste characterization, was completed last year and conducted over the course of four seasons by Cascadia Consulting Group and MSW Consultants. During the study period, 180 commercial and residential trash samples, weighing 39,000 pounds in total, were collected and analyzed. The materials were

sorted into 64 categories and evaluated based on their weight, material type, and recyclability to determine what's being thrown away and how much of it has the potential to be diverted from the landfill.

The Top 10 items most commonly found in Franklin County's waste stream are:

- Food Scrap—15%
- Corrugated Cardboard—10%
- Other Compostable Items and Fiber—9%
- Magazines, Newspaper, Office and other paper—8%
- Bulky & Durable Goods—7%
- Construction and Demolition—4%
- Plastic Containers—4%
- Wood Pallets—4%

- Textiles—4%
- Yard Waste—3%

Combined, these items make up 68% or 772,234 tons of the material being landfilled.

The three most prevalent items in Franklin County's waste stream are food scraps, corrugated cardboard and compostable items and fiber. All of these items can either be recovered through currently offered programs or have the potential to be captured and diverted if new programs and services were established..

To stay informed about SWACO's programs and services, follow us on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/SWACO.ORG> and <https://twitter.com/SWACOGreen>.



Brown Township
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Hilliard, Ohio 43026

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Brown Township Administration Office

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(614) 876-2133

Website

www.BrownTwp.org

Fiscal Officer

Becky Kent • (614) 446-2359

Trustees

Mr. Gary Dever • (614) 876-4768
Mrs. Pamela Sayre • (614) 878-0199
Mr. Joseph Martin • (614) 870-9601

Norwich Fire Department

Jeff Warren, Chief • (614) 876-7694

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

Emergency • 911
Non-Emergency • (614) 525-3333

Meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at 2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio.



*L-R: Trustees Pam Sayre,
Gary Dever and Joe Martin
Seated: Fiscal Officer Becky Kent*

New Fire Engine Arrives

Norwich Township Fire Department's Station 82 in Brown Township has recently taken delivery of a new fire truck for use in fire, EMS, and water rescue situations. It is a 2019 Sutphen pumper replacing a 2007 vehicle.

The new vehicle is 87 inches high and 33 feet long weighing nearly 40,000 pounds. It features a customized five-person cab, 450 horsepower, and 1000-gallon water tank capable of pumping 1500 gallons per minute, as well as drop tanks (a 2000-gallon portable pool area for drafting of extra water).

The vehicle cost \$532,499.

