

Community Connection

United in Service to our Community:

Butler Township, City of Vandalia, Vandalia-Butler City Schools

Fall 2023



BTPartyinthePark

Saturday, October 7 Party in the Park

Butler Township invites the entire Vandalia-Butler community to join us for our annual fall celebration, Party in the Park. This year's event will take place on Saturday, October 7, from noon to 6 p.m., at Art Van Atta Park, 3180 Benchwood Rd.

The Party has it all: food trucks, domestic and craft beers plus music by Ludlow Creek Band from noon to 2:30 p.m. and Bourbon Road Band from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The kids will love pumpkin picking and painting, tractor-pulled wagon rides, face painting, games and a petting zoo with camels.

Follow us on Facebook at **@BTPartyinthePark** or check **butlertownship.com** for updates and event information.



The Ludlow Creek Band will take the stage at noon.



Saturday, October 14

Fall Festival: Come Celebrate with Us

Bring the family out and enjoy the City of Vandalia Fall Festival at the Vandalia Art Park! The event features live music, food trucks, a pumpkin patch, corn pit, vendors, inflatables, games, arts and crafts and more!

Here are festival details:

When: Saturday, October 14, from noon to 6 p.m.

Where: Vandalia Art Park, 256 E. Alkaline Springs Rd.

Music by

Ryan Mundy

12:30 p.m.- 2:45 p.m.

Red Idle Rejects

3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Vandalia ohio
small city. big opportunity.



Sunday, December 3

Vandalia Christmas Tree Lighting and Holiday Market



Bundle up and come ring in the holiday season with family, neighbors and friends at the 2023 Vandalia Christmas Tree Lighting and Holiday Market, Sunday, December 3, at the Vandalia Rec Center, 1111 Stonequarry Rd.

Those attending can enjoy refreshments, music, activities and a special visit from Santa. At 6 p.m., all eyes will be on the grand Christmas tree in the west parking lot of the Recreation Center, when the tree will be illuminated.

The Holiday Market will offer plenty of options for people who want to get a head start on their holiday shopping. Vendors will be selling their goods in the Gymnasium, from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Be sure to bring cash and a credit card to the market to purchase items and raffle tickets.



New Playgrounds Offer Fun for All

New playgrounds at Helke Park and the Vandalia Sports Complex are being installed to usher in a new era of fun for kids.

Many community members were involved in the development of the new playgrounds. Vandalia residents, Parks and Recreation staff, representatives from the Montgomery County Board Developmental Disabilities, the Miami Valley Downs Syndrome Association and Vandalia Butler City Schools all came together to contemplate the features that should be included. The end result is two playgrounds built for both fun and inclusiveness.

Funding for both playground units came from the American Rescue Act, a \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant and the City of Vandalia's Capital Improvement Fund.

Citizens Invited Committee Forming to Update Township Plan

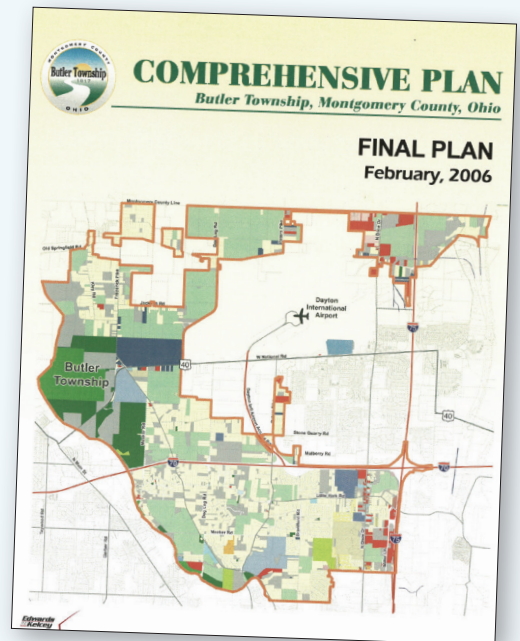
Butler Township leaders have announced plans to update the township's Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The plan will guide the township's future growth and development to align with vision and goals that will be determined by a community steering committee. The last plan was adopted in 2006.

Still being formed, the steering committee will comprise residents, township leaders, business owners and other stakeholders. Members will participate in several meetings to determine the community's needs, which in turn, will define the vision and goals of the updated plan.

Butler Township residents and business owners interested in serving on this committee are asked to contact Community Planner Nathan Farmer via email at nfarmer@butlertownship.com.

Information included should be name, address, years living in the township, a brief explanation of why you would like to participate and contact information. The deadline to submit interest is November 1.

The last Comprehensive Land Use Plan adopted by the Township was completed over 17 years ago. The plan can be found online at butlertownship.com/services/zoning-department.



Vandalia ohio
small city. big opportunity.

VANDALIA-BUTLER
CITY SCHOOLS

Stay in Touch. It's Easy.

Vandalia-Butler City School District is excited to offer an opportunity for even better communication with community members, particularly those who no longer have students in the district.

ParentSquare Community Groups is an opt-in communications platform allowing community members to sign up through email to receive monthly newsletters from the school district.

To sign up, visit the district's website at vbcsd.com/parents-students/parentsquare, and click on "Join our Community Group."

District Advocates for Funding

CFO/Treasurer Eric Beavers and Superintendent Rob O'Leary have been meeting with the county auditor's office and the state director of the Office of Budget and Management to advocate for proper school district funding.

The district continues to challenge the data presented in the Ohio Department of Education's District Profile Report as of FY2022, including:

1. VBCSD ranks 25th in lowest funded districts per pupil out of 25 districts in both Montgomery and Miami Counties.
2. VBCSD ranks 68th in lowest funded districts per pupil out of 69 in the entire Miami Valley region.
3. VBCSD ranks 36th in lowest funded districts per pupil out of all 613 public school districts in the state. This means 577 districts in the state receive more funding than ours.

"This quest continues to lead to more inquiries and fact finding, which the district is pursuing in the hopes of receiving more state funding," said O'Leary.



District Seeks Property Tax on November Ballot

In July, the Board of Education voted to place a 4-mill property tax levy on the November 7, 2023, ballot. This will cost a taxpayer who owns a \$100,000 home approximately \$140 per year.

CFO/Treasurer Eric Beavers and Superintendent Rob O'Leary will be hosting an informational meeting about the levy on Wednesday, October

11, at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Theatre at Butler High School.

Montgomery County Auditor Karl Keith and Montgomery County Treasurer John McManus will also be in attendance to provide updates from their offices and answer questions about this issue and other general property tax questions.

Levy Informational Meeting

Wednesday, October 11 at 6 p.m.
Performing Arts Theatre at Butler High School

Group Project: Award-Winning Program Teaches Kids Safety

In keeping with the proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child," Vandalia-Butler's award-winning Passport to Safety program exemplifies community collaboration for the well-being of students.

Passport, a joint effort involving teams of professionals and the school district, was introduced in the mid-1980s and continues to teach important lessons to every incoming kindergartner.

Led by city and township police, fire and EMS professionals; veterinarians; nurses and transportation professionals, Passport's curriculum features important lessons like "If You Don't Know, Don't Go," "Get Low, and Stay Low," "Get Out and Stay Out." Additional topics include bus safety, water safety, handwashing and safety around animals. Passport is a great opportunity to build relationships and trust among students and police and fire professionals.

Over the past year, the Vandalia-Butler Foundation has raised more than \$11,000 for Passport to Safety from generous individuals



and local businesses. A cornhole tournament sponsored by several businesses rounded out the total.

Contributions are tax deductible. Checks, payable to The Dayton Foundation, may be mailed to Vandalia-Butler Foundation Fund 9873, c/o The Dayton Foundation, 1401 S. Main St., Suite 100, Dayton, OH 45409. Please note "VANDALIA-BUTLER FOUNDATION Fund 9873" in the memo. Online contributions can be made at www.daytonfoundation.org/ccgift.html, designating Fund 9873, the VBF Community Health Fund.



butlertownship.com
(937) 898-6735

Butler Township Board of Trustees

Mike Thein, President
Bryson Jackson, Vice-President
Missy Pruszyński, Trustee
Gregory A. Brush, Fiscal Officer



vbcasd.com
(937) 415-6400

Vandalia-Butler Board of Education

Daniel Pierron, President
Rodney Washburn, Vice-President
Scott Fullam
Holly Herbst
Mary Kilsheimer



vandaliaohio.org
(937) 898-5891

Vandalia City Council

Richard Herbst, Mayor
David Lewis, Vice Mayor
Bob Ahlers
Mike Blakesly
Candice Farst
Corey M. Follick
Constance Woods

500 S. Dixie Dr.
Vandalia, OH 45377

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Dayton, Ohio
Permit #248

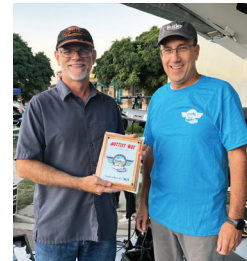
ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Cruise-In: The Votes are In

The annual Cruise-In to Butler Township was held September 15. Ever popular, the event attracted community members and car enthusiasts from around the area to enjoy food, drinks, live music and 86 beautiful cars. A highlight each year is the awards ceremony held at the event's conclusion. **Here are this year's winners:**



The Police Chief Award: "Most Likely to Get a Speeding Ticket" (Voted on by the Police Chief)
1969 Pontiac Firebird - **Bob Adams** of Tipp City



The Fire Chief Award: "Hottest Ride" (Voted on by the Fire Chief)
1963 Ford Falcon - **John Hubler** of Butler Township



The People's Choice: "Best in Show" (Voted on by the public)
1972 Oldsmobile Cutlass - **Darrell Bellar** of Butler Township



The Trustees Award: "Bragging Rights" (Voted on by township Trustees)
1966 Pontiac GTO - **Keith Miller** of Butler Township

Trick or Treat

Trick or treating will take place on Tuesday, October 31, from 6 to 8 p.m. Parents, be sure your youngsters are aware of all safety rules regarding walking from house to house and also checking over their treats. Residents, if you will be passing out treats, be sure to leave your porch light on so kids know they're welcome to come to your door.