



# Village of South Russell

## ~Newsletter~



Residents of South Russell Village will have the opportunity to vote on a proposed road levy this election day, Tuesday, November 7, 2017. This 1.5 mill levy will expire in five years. The cost to residents will be \$53 per \$100,000 of property value.

Each year South Russell Village budgets over \$300,000 for road repairs. We have been able to maintain our smaller, less traveled roads and cul-de-sacs. However, we need to make repairs on our five, over one-half mile, residential roads of Lake Louise, Bel Meadow, Ashleigh, Kensington Circle and Sheerbrook. Each one of these roads will require at least \$300,000 to repair and repave. Once resurfaced, these roads will last 15-20 years. That is why this 1.5 mill levy is only for five years.

Residents with questions about the upcoming levy are encouraged to attend the council meeting on Monday, November 6, 7:30 p.m. at South Russell Village Hall.

Sincerely,  
Bill Koons, Mayor

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The Village of South Russell encourages you to register for our new Mass Notification Service and App called "Your 911." This FREE App can be accessed on the South Russell Village Website at: [www.southernrussell.com/911app](http://www.southernrussell.com/911app)

Once downloaded to your smart phone, complete your profile to get started. "Your 911" provides a one-button emergency link to Chagrin Valley Dispatch or, if you are outside the Village of South Russell, to the appropriate 911 answering point. "Your 911" will immediately provide dispatchers with your location information if you are within the Village boundaries and update that location during an emergency.

The App also provides us with a new Mass Notification System similar to Reverse 911 which allows us to target specific areas of the Village by setting a "geofence" around target areas. Notifications can be received via text or email and a web page has been set up for users without smart phones.

The App also has a handy reporting system which will allow residents / users to report (via email) directly to:

**Police (Non-emergency)**  
**Village Hall**  
**Service Department**  
**Building Department**



A drop down box will allow you to select one of the above options along with an option to send a photograph or video. When the report is received by Village officials, the report displays the person's contact information, a description of the report, and a Google map of the location the report was sent from.

If you have any questions about the App, contact Chief Rizzo at [440-557-5535](tel:440-557-5535).



**Here is a Spotlight on the new businesses in the “Downtown” area of South Russell Village, the corner of Bell Road and Chillicothe Road.**

Augie’s Pizza and Ribs  
5210 Chillicothe Road  
Danny Jenks

**How did you get your idea/concept for your business?** This business has been in my family for 55 years, in the South Russell location for 35 years. I bought the business 3 years ago. It is a family business that I grew up in, working with my parents, and my uncle, Brian. My grandmother worked at the store until the day she died. My grandfather was the original “Augie”.

**What made you choose South Russell?** The original Augie’s was in Warrensville Heights. 30 years ago, the developer for the strip mall called my Dad (Dan) and Uncle (Brian) to tell them about this up and coming new area, South Russell. He asked them if they would want to put in another location, and the rest is history.

**How did you make your first sale?** I don’t quite remember that, but I do remember growing up in Augie’s – I have photos of myself in my playpen, while my parents worked.

**What habits helped make you successful?** Customer Service, customer connection – putting customers first. Working hard, stepping out of the traditional pizza shop mold to include offerings of chef-prepared food featuring quality and freshness. I know my customers and their families.

**How many employees do you have?** Currently 15

**How does your company help the community (South Russell)?** By being part of the community of South Russell, I know my customers and their families. Generations of families. The grandparents have been customers of Augie’s and now the grandchildren are also. I love the relationship I have with South Russell, the police and the mayor. I feel the community is very hands on and are supportive of small business. There are customers that ride their bikes here, and customers who walk here. When customers do sit in the restaurant, more than half of the customers know their neighbors. It is a very close-knit, family atmosphere.

**Explain yourself in one word.** Busy.

Dr. Brian Hivick  
Chagrin Family Dental Care  
5189 Chillicothe Road

**How did you get your idea/concept for your business?** I started thinking seriously about what I wanted to do in my junior year in high school. I always liked working with my hands and fixing things. Shadowing another dentist who truly loved his job, and who encouraged me, helped solidify my decision to become a dentist.

**What made you choose South Russell?** I live in Auburn Township and really love this area. I purchased the original dental practice from Dr. Gary Holtz in 2013, who had been at the corner location for about 30 years. After purchasing the practice, I knew my new and expanding dental practice needed more space. I started looking for another facility, and after having several deals not work out, I bought the current space and couldn’t be happier.

**How did you make your first sale?** I remember very clearly, my very first patients were a family - with numerous kids and both parents, all in one visit.

**What habits helped make you successful?** Time Management. College and Dental School were very competitive. As soon as I came home from school, high school and college, I did my homework. I also participated in sports, but homework was always a priority. I learned to juggle multiple tasks.

**How many employees do you have?** 5

**How does your company help the community (South Russell)?** I see myself in South Russell forever; I have invested a lot of time and money here. I want people to feel comfortable and proud of this South Russell dental practice.

**Explain yourself in one word.** Trustworthy/Easy-going.

Ken Ashba  
Bell Market Express, LLC  
5196 Chillicothe Road

**How did you get your idea/concept for your business?** I am a contractor by trade, and bought my first gas station for my middle-aged parents, to give them a business to run. It evolved from being a gas/mechanic station to a gas station/convenience store. It turned out not to be a bad business to be in. My wife and I then decided to get into the business. We design, build and operate gas stations/convenience stores. We designed our own brand, "Market Express". This station will be called "Bell Market Express".

**What made you choose South Russell?** Demographics and location. I like to build and run these stores in smaller, more rural towns, that are based around community - not in bigger, more urban, cities.

**How did you make your first sale?** I have always been a salesperson. When I was 5 years old, I was cleaning the driveway for my grandfather who lived in Chardon. I cleaned up and bagged the dirt and stones into brown grocery bags that were at the end of the driveway. I then put a "For Sale" sign at the end of the driveway. Later that evening, at the dinner table, everyone made fun of me for selling my bagged mix of dirt and stones. After dinner, a man stopped and he bought my bags of stones and used them for fill he needed in his yard. I not only sold the stones, I also charged .25 for delivery.

**What habits helped make you successful?** Work, dedication and perseverance. I do not like to take "No" for an answer. I pursue my goals, no matter how many times I am told "No." When someone puts up a roadblock, I keep my head down and keep moving forward.

**How many employees do you have?** Anywhere from 12 to 15 people per station.

**How does your company help the community (South Russell)?** The Mayor and the various Boards and Building Department I have dealt with have been very gracious, and more than welcoming. I think the residents of SRV will like this new gas station/convenience store. I think the old station was antiquated and was restrictive in the ability to get fuel, and get in and out. It didn't have the correct or proper offerings for the community like fresh food. People have a stigma about gas station food, but Bell Market Express will surpass that with fresh, nice quality food made daily.

The corner is getting completely revitalized, business owners are putting a lot of money into this downtown area. Myself and the other business owners are taking a risk and spending their money and investing in South Russell. I feel it is a compliment to a community to have different people come in here and spend their money. We are not "big shots", but small business owners who contribute to the actual community. We are bringing development into the modern era, while at the same time maintaining that wonderful setting.

DRY Insurance Group  
5197 Chillicothe Road  
Donald R Yert

**How did you get your idea/concept for your business?** Right after I graduated from college, I worked for an insurance agency for a couple of years. Then I decided to start my own insurance agency. DRY = my name, Donald R Yert. My son Brad, also works in the family owned and operated business, and we now have offices in Chardon, Willoughby, Cuyahoga Falls and South Russell.

**What made you choose South Russell?** I liked the location for the exposure. I would not want to be in downtown Cleveland on the 36<sup>th</sup> floor. I frequently drove by the white house on the corner and always liked it; I was interested in it before it was for sale. I love the area of South Russell, Bainbridge and Chagrin Falls.

**How did you make your first sale?** I don't remember.

**What habits helped make you successful?** Patience. Hustle. Getting back to people right away. Having personal contacts with clients. Work hard every day.

**How many employees do you have?** 17.

**How does your company help the community (South Russell)?** Biggest impact is by putting money into not only keeping, but preserving the white house and the red barn. I have a huge investment in these buildings. I have found that people identify with the red barn; as it is an icon in the Village. People have come up to me and thanked me for keeping the house and the red barn. With the help of Ann Dunning, architect, I will preserve and keep the barn intact. Also, by offering residents a local, dependable insurance company that is not a 1-800 number.

**Explain yourself in one word.** Competitive.



**Village of South Russell**  
**5205 Chillicothe Road**  
**South Russell, OH 44022**

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
South Russell  
Ohio 44022  
Permit #202

### **South Russell Village Flags**

The “Show Your Colors Flag” program for flags has been in effect for 28 years. The idea was to display the Stars and Stripes on national holidays. Each year in April SRV Council decides on two specialty flags that are flown at the two corners of Bell Road/306 Intersection, both Village cemeteries and the Armory. In 2017, the Army & Navy flags were selected to be flown at the four locations.

Currently, SRV flies over 300 flags and over time flags get worn and have to be replaced. Weather conditions of heat, wind, cold and rain take a toll on the conditions of the flags and hardware. Replacement funds are required to maintain the program and donations are always needed and welcome.

Donations can be made to: “**South Russell Village**”, memo line to read: *flag donation*.  
South Russell Village Hall  
5205 Chillicothe Road  
South Russell, OH 44022

South Russell Village is proud to be able to continue this program and honor our Nation.

### **Fall and Winter Reminders**

The Village of South Russell does not offer a curbside leaf collection service. If you see leaves at the street in your neighborhood, they were most likely put there by a privately hired landscaping company that should be back to pick them up. Leaves brought to the roadside by residents or landscapers must remain on tree lawns and off the roadway. Residents should make sure that leaves are cleared off and not blocking storm drains, driveway culvert pipes and ditches that could cause backups and flooding issues during heavy rains.

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***The Village takes pride in keeping our roadways safe and clear during the winter months. Please keep a few things in mind this winter:***

A snow Parking Ban will be declared between November 15th through April 15th whenever there are two or more inches of snow on any village street or the National Weather Service forecasts a severe snowstorm warning. Parking is **NOT** allowed on any street in the Village during a ban to make sure the streets are open for plowing.

When having social events over the holiday season, all vehicles should be parked on the same side of the road and **NOT** in the cul-de-sacs. All overnight parking without previous approval from the Police Department is prohibited and may result in early morning towing.

Weekly trash pickup containers must be placed off the road surface and to one side of your driveway apron. Do not place containers in the roadway. When plowing or shoveling snow from driveways or sidewalks, do not push or blow snow across Village streets. All hydrants must be free of snow as well. For more details, please visit [www.southernrussell.com](http://www.southernrussell.com).

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The American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive on Wednesday, December 27, 2017 from 1:00—6:00 pm, at Gurney Elementary School.