



# Village of South Russell ~Newsletter~



Winter/Spring 2023



## Village Wide Yard Sale—April 22, 2023 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Clean out the closets, basement, and garage! Saturday, April 22nd has been designated as the Village Wide Yard Sale day. No registration is necessary. The Village will advertise the event, and HOAs that plan to participate are asked to place balloons at the neighborhood entrance. Likewise, participating residents should also place a balloon at the end of their driveways. The sale will run from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

**\*Please verify with your HOA that yard sales are permitted!**

## South Russell Senior Trash Pickup Days

**WEST END OF VILLAGE**  
(INCLUDES HOMES ON CHILLICOTHE RD.)  
**APRIL 26, 2023**

**EAST END OF VILLAGE**  
**APRIL 27, 2023**

### PLEASE NOTE:

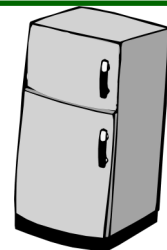
- Seniors, 60 years of age or older and living in South Russell Village **AND**
- Seniors must be **registered** with the **Geauga County Department on Aging for 2023 by April 19, 2023**. To register call (440) 279-2130. If you are already registered, simply call (440) 279-2130 by April 19th to be placed on the pick-up list.

### GUIDELINES:

- **NO liquids, paints, hazardous household chemicals, construction debris, rocks, yard waste, or household garbage.**
- **Mattresses and upholstered furniture must be wrapped in plastic and taped securely to prevent possible bed bug transfer.**
- **ONLY 10 household items per home.**
- **Limit of 4 tires (off rims) permitted as well as appliances, electronics, etc.**
- **Items should be consolidated (in boxes), and placed outside in the driveway (NOT Curbside).**



**Village of South Russell**  
**SPRING TRASH DAY**  
**April 29, 2023 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**  
**Proof of Residency REQUIRED**



**Accepted items:** General trash and debris, items containing freon (refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, and air conditioners), scrap metal, white metal (appliances), computer and electronic equipment, batteries, and **TIRES!**

**NO** Yard waste, hazardous household chemicals, or containers with liquified products accepted. For special Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste collection dates and locations, see [www.gottagogreen.org](http://www.gottagogreen.org)

## FROM THE MAYOR

The January 17<sup>th</sup> storm water meeting saw over twenty residents come to express their concerns about water quantity and quality. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 18th 7:00 P.M.** at Village Hall when an update on the following topics will be presented:

- Acquisition of property to build additional retention basins
- Hydro Flo device information
- Installation of the recommended bio-swale area in the northeast corner of the park
- Manor Brook Phase Two
- Silt removal
- Status of the two Erosion Special Improvement Districts
- The quality of our present septic systems
- Timeline of the installation of four culverts across Chillicothe Road
- Water testing at twenty-five locations across the Village

Under the leadership of Council member Ruth Cavanagh, the following events are being considered for the Village of South Russell 2023 100th Birthday celebration:

- Band concert at the pavilion
- Creation of a new logo
- Participation in the Blossom Time Parade
- A 100th birthday party with cake and ice cream, etc.
- A guided lecture tour of the Rarick Cemetery
- A tea party with local historian
- Expansion of the annual Fall Festival to include 1920s crafts and historic activities

If you would like to be involved in the planning, please contact [rcavanagh@southerussell.com](mailto:rcavanagh@southerussell.com)



### South Russell Village Hall History

South Russell Village Hall has a varied history. It was originally built as the Disciples Church in 1848 by Ambrose Soule. In 1923 after the Disciples Church combined with the Chagrin Falls Congregationalists (Federated Church), the building was taken over by the new Village of South Russell. In the 1920's it housed public meetings, but only in the warmer weather as the reach of even a large pot bellied stove did not extend much past 10 feet. However, when electricity came to Bell Road in the mid to late 1920's, thermostats and furnaces installed in the plaster/lathe insulated building were a welcome addition! Further improvements crept in little by little after this.

The organization known as the Grange held meetings at all townships and villages. South Russell's was very active from 1920 to the 1950s. Men who farmed and worked from dawn to dark somehow found time to meet with State agriculture representatives to learn about crops and pests before the use of pesticides. State extension offices grew out of the Grange. Women met as well and worked on projects together and individually to include copper etchings and chair embroidery. Children participated in 4-H and learned animal care, sewing, and other skills. The Grange decreased in size as the farms were sold. It served a great purpose to the rural population in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, all across the country as well as in South Russell.

Council member Ruth Cavanagh remembered attending Grange meetings in the 1950's with her mother and women from the Paw Paw Lake community. While the women worked, Cavanagh recalled the children running freely through Village Hall and pounding on the ancient piano since there was nothing to break or wreck in the old building. Cavanagh still has two of her mother's projects, which remain as a testament to the efforts of the women who met.

*If you have any personal memories of growing up and/or residing in South Russell that you would consider sharing, please submit this information to [rcavanagh@southerussell.com](mailto:rcavanagh@southerussell.com). We would enjoy hearing about you!*



## UPDATE FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Vacation Watch Program

As Spring Break nears, we want to remind our residents of the Vacation Watch program provided by our police department. If your home will be left unattended for a period of time, we encourage you to sign up through our web portal at <https://www.frontlinepss.com/soutrussell>. Please provide us details of the property and date range for which you will be gone. Once added to our database, our officers will check on your home throughout your time away. Safe travels!



### Scams Targeting Seniors

The South Russell Police Department will be hosting an information session focused on “Scams Targeting Seniors” at the **South Russell Village Hall on Monday, April 17th from 10:00am to 12:00pm**. Presentation topics will include the types of scams senior citizens may be faced with, why senior citizens are targeted by scammers, common scam warning signs, and what to do if you have become the victim of a scam.

Coffee, donuts, and other refreshments will be provided. All are welcome! Registration for this event is **not required**. Please contact Officer John Zippay at [SRPDzippay@gmail.com](mailto:SRPDzippay@gmail.com) for more information.

### Missing packages from Amazon? FedEx? UPS?

Have you or your family members received notification of successfully delivered packages by Amazon, FedEx, UPS, or other shipping companies but the items are nowhere to be found? It’s possible the packages were misdelivered - not lost or stolen.

Local mail carriers for the United States Postal Service (USPS) have seen an increase in private delivery companies placing packages in your mailbox. This is against federal law. Accordingly, the mail carriers remove these items from your mailbox and they are later “returned to sender.” In rare cases when the original sender does not accept these returns, the packages may be at the post office.

Still, our local USPS location on East Washington Street in Chagrin Falls would request our residents not contact their office about missing packages delivered by any agency or business other than the United States Postal Service. It’s recommended you contact these delivery companies directly. Generally, package carriers for private delivery companies know not to place their packages in your mailboxes - but it happens from time to time.

Some residents of South Russell Village have placed bins near their mailbox or on their front porch marked and dedicated for private company deliveries. Amazon, FedEx, UPS, and other private delivery companies allow customers to add delivery instructions with their purchases to include specific locations, such as the garage or side door. Consider using either of these methods to help reduce the likelihood of an improper delivery, while also setting safe and easy package pickups for your family.



### MUNICIPAL TAX DEADLINE UPDATE



The tax deadline for individual Municipal income tax returns is April 18, 2023. All residents 18 years of age and older are required to file an annual return with the Central Collection Agency (CCA). Local income tax withheld by your employer does NOT fulfill your obligation to file a tax return.

Retired residents are required to file the Annual Exemption Certificate each year. This form is available online through [ccatx.ci.cleveland.oh.us](http://ccatx.ci.cleveland.oh.us) as well as at South Russell Village Hall and on the homepage of the Village website, [soutrussell.com](http://soutrussell.com).

Need assistance with your South Russell Municipal Tax Return?

CCA – Division of Taxation has designated specific Auditors to assist you with any South Russell municipal income tax matters. For personalized service, please contact: Daniel DiVincenzo 216-664-2070 ext. 6714 or call the main office at 216-664-2070 to reach any CCA auditor. For tax forms or to file electronically, please go to [www.ccatx.ci.cleveland.oh.us](http://www.ccatx.ci.cleveland.oh.us)



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

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Ohio 44022  
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### Upcoming 2023 Village Council Meetings

- March 13th & 27th** at 7:00 p.m.
- April 10th & 24th** at 7:00 p.m.
- May 8th & 22nd** at 7:00 p.m.
- June 12th** at 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to be added to the meeting agenda please contact [fiscalofficer@southrussell.com](mailto:fiscalofficer@southrussell.com) or call 440-338-6700 ext. 221 no later than the Thursday before a meeting. There is a 5-minute limit to address Council.

The meeting agenda, location details, and links to the Village YouTube Channel can be found on the homepage of [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com).

### Village of South Russell Contact Numbers

<b>Village Hall</b> 440-338-6700 ext. 221 <a href="mailto:fiscalofficer@southrussell.com">fiscalofficer@southrussell.com</a>	<b>Street Department</b> 440 338-6700 ext. 236 <a href="mailto:streets@southrussell.com">streets@southrussell.com</a>
<b>Police Department</b> 440-338-6700 ext. 2000 (non-emergency) <a href="mailto:police@southrussell.com">police@southrussell.com</a>	<b>Building Department</b> 440-338-6700 ext. 233 <a href="mailto:building@southrussell.com">building@southrussell.com</a>



### Announcements



We need your help in identifying the **longest living** and **longest residing** South Russell residents. As part of the Village's centennial celebration, it has been proposed that the oldest living resident ride in the Blossom Time Parade on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Please submit name and date of birth to [rcavanagh@southrussell.com](mailto:rcavanagh@southrussell.com)

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As a part of our storm water program, the Village is seeking 25 to 30 homeowners to allow a Village representative to take a water sample for free water testing. If interested, contact [mayor@southrussell.com](mailto:mayor@southrussell.com)