

Village of South Russell

~Newsletter~

Spring 2023

From the Mayor

The Village of South Russell was created in 1923 when the southern part of Russell Township broke away from the township and created the Village of South Russell so our kids could attend the Chagrin Schools. The Village of South Russell is planning to celebrate its 100th birthday during 2023 with a Centennial Celebration. Activities during the Centennial Celebration include:

- Grand Marshal of the Blossom Time Parade, Sunday, May 28th, 2:00 p.m.
- A 1920s music concert on Tuesday, July 18, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
- A 100th birthday party on Sunday, July 23, 6-8 p.m. at the pavilion
- A kids' movie night on Friday, August 4 p.m. to dusk at the pavilion
- The annual Fall Festival on a Sunday in September, 1-5 p.m. at the park
- Publishing a history of the Village's first 100 years
- A tour of the historic Rarick Cemetery TBA
- A presentation about the Interurban Railway TBA



Residents are invited to bring their ideas and comments to planning meetings on Monday, May 1st & 15th, 7:00 P.M. at Village Hall.

Storm Water News



This spring will be the installation of four culverts under Chillicothe Road to move storm water from the east side of the road to the west. Water will eventually flow south out of the Village into the Chagrin River and Lake Erie. Traffic will be down to one lane during construction. Expect delays and backups. Thanks in advance for your patience.

The Central Retention Basin south of Village Hall and across from the Village Cemetery is functioning as designed. Water flowing west toward Chillicothe Road will be held and slowly released under Chillicothe to Chagrin Lakes.

Phase one of the Manor Brook project at the corner of Chillicothe Road and Manor Brook Dr. is complete. Water flowing under Chillicothe will be held and slowly released to Fox Run, Sugar Bush, and Chelsea Court before exiting the Village south into Bainbridge.

Thanks to volunteers and the Chagrin River Watershed Partners for installing a rain garden in the park to catch and hold water flowing down the park between the playground and parking lot.

NOPEC Information

The Village of South Russell is a member community of NOPEC which serves as its governmental aggregator for electricity. Last year, NOPEC voluntarily transitioned electric customers enrolled in its Standard Program Price option back to the utility default service, allowing its customers to take advantage of the lower rate. By now, you have received correspondence from NOPEC notifying you that you will be again **automatically enrolled in NOPEC's program and do not need to take any action** to receive exclusive member pricing through their chosen supplier, NEXTERA Energy Services Ohio, LLC. Through the Standard Program, the initial price from the June 2023 to December 2023 utility meter read dates will be \$.0645 per kWh. Additional details were provided in the NOPEC correspondence and are also available through the link on the homepage of southrussell.com.

Septic System Notice



The Village of South Russell requires property owners to have their septic tank(s) cleaned and inspected every three (3) years.

After the service is performed, a “**Septic Pumping Report Form**” **must be provided to the Building Department**. While most septic companies will email this form to the Village, it is the property owner’s responsibility to ensure that the company will be taking care of this. If in doubt, please contact the Building Department at 440-338-1312 or email building@southrussell.com.

Yard Maintenance

The growing season is here! The Village of South Russell **Ordinance 2001-31**, Section 1a, requires that residents keep property free and clear from all noxious weeds and rank vegetation and, where a grass lawn exists, keep the average height of the grasses of said lawn to no greater than eight inches at all times. Thank you for helping to keep the Village beautiful!

Questions may be directed to the Building Department, (440) 338-1312 or building@southrussell.com



South Russell Village Cemetery

South Russell Village Cemetery is located at 5230 Chillicothe Road. The Cemetery map can be viewed on the Cemetery page at southrussell.com

Full Size Lots

Village Resident: \$1,000

Prior Resident: \$2,000

Cremation Lots

Village Resident: \$800

Prior Resident: \$1,600

Scattering/Memorial Garden

\$350 ~\$450 (includes engraved paver)

For more information, contact adminassist@southrussell.com or (440) 338-6700 ext. 222



Park Rules



While enjoying the park, residents are reminded of the law regarding Animals Running at Large. Dogs must be kept on a leash and under control as defined in Section 618.19(b)(1), (2), and (3) of the South Russell Codified Ordinances.

Additionally, pet owners are required to remove and properly dispose of their pets’ waste. Dog waste bags are available at the park entrance adjacent to the parking lot as are garbage receptacles. Please think of the little feet running through the grass to the playground and pick up after your pet!



Questions may be directed to Police Chief Rizzo at 440-338-7611.

Rarick Cemetery

In 1849 land was set aside on the Rarick Farm for a cemetery. On November 10, 1849, a meeting was held for the purpose of making a burial ground in the area of the Township call South Russell. The members of the Committee were Myron Soule, Henry Isham, George Baker and Peter Kimball. It was their recommendation the site should be Elder S.R. Willard’s property. The site would be a half-acre at the south portion of the farm. Following further examination of the site, on November 15, 1849 the Committee approved the site and agreed to pay \$40 to Elder Willard. They wanted to add a tax in order to pay for fencing the plot.

The Committee voted as follows: That residents interested in the burial ground would pay in proportion to their tax of the present year on all property owned in Russell and Bainbridge Townships. This would be a one-third added value tax. It was voted that the deed be given to all jointly who pay according to the preceding action.

On November 22, 1849, the Committee recommendations were accepted. Appointed Cemetery Trustees for a one-year term were Jackson Gifford, N.J. Robinson and Myron Soule. The Cemetery Trustees were authorized to receive members into this Association. They also were authorized to construct a board fence as follows: The post being swamp oak sawed or hewed five inch thick boards 14 feet long. The Trustees were instructed to lay out the burial ground into lots and to assign his lot to each member.

On May 16, 1863, a meeting was held to increase the size of the burial ground. Mr. Rarick offered one lot and a strip two rods wide on the south side for \$10. His offer was approved.

The last burial in this cemetery occurred in 1975 when former South Russell Village Mayor Charles Reiss was interred. That year the Village Council officially closed the cemetery by ordinance. *Pictorial History of Russell Township © 2010 Russell Historical Society*

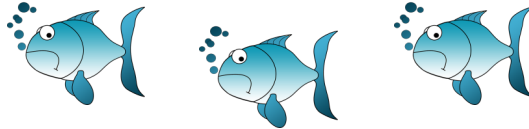
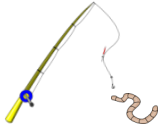




ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

South Russell Police Department is pleased to remind our residents of upcoming summer events and a fan-favorite safety initiative aimed at building community relations with our Village youth and their families! For our community events in June, please check our Facebook page along with the South Russell Village website for information on pre-registration.

Cops and Kids Fishing Event - Sunday, June 11, 2023 at Lake Louise



Our marquee Cops and Kids Fishing event will be happening the second Sunday in June at Lake Louise starting at 9 a.m.! We'll be surrounding the banks of the lake with fishing lines in the water until 1 p.m. Families and friends are all welcome to hang out, relax, and see which kids can take home awards like First Fish Caught and Biggest Fish!

Officer Kevin Spackman has caught a grand total of two fish in his life - one at each of the past two Cops and Kids Fishing Events (and has yet to unhook a fish without the help of a kid nearby). Seriously. So no prior experience or skill is required! We'll see if Officer Spackman can make it 3 for 3 this year!

Bait and lunch will be provided. We will have a limited number of poles available to be shared for those without - so if you have your own pole, please bring one! Attendees can park nearby around the lake.

Bike Rodeo Event - Sunday, June 25th at the South Russell Village Police Department



The Bike Rodeo event is coming back! Please join us at the South Russell Police Department (5205 Chillicothe Road) from 10am to 12pm on Sunday, June 25th for cycling skills courses, friendly contests, and safety tips! Please arrive by 9:30 a.m. for registration so all involved can make the most of our two-hour block. Stay with us for pizza and frozen treats afterwards!

Participants should bring their own bikes and, of course, helmets are required for all riders. Before the day's activities commence, our officers will go over a bike safety checklist and rules of the road with the kids. Last year, our group of riders ranged from 1-year-olds strolled on trikes by parents through 14-year-olds showing off some serious moves. The riding course is safe for those riders and every skill level in between. If you like to ride, you've got to be here!



Helmet Smart Program - Summer 2023



Summer in South Russell means kids riding their bikes around the neighborhoods hoping to be seen by a patrolling officer so they can be stopped and issued a ticket . . . for a free doughnut!

South Russell Police Department continues its partnership with Dunkin' Donuts to provide a coupon for one (1) free doughnut to riders who are seen wearing a helmet while riding their bicycles, tricycles, and scooters helping them get from A to B. Who knew following safe bicycle practices could ever taste so sweet!?

In addition to the coupon for a free doughnut from Dunkin', riders are given a sheet of some safe biking tips and a reminder they have been entered to win a brand new bike! Yes, at the end of summer, two lucky winners will be drawn to have a brand new bicycle delivered to their home by members of South Russell Police Department. Kids are limited to one free doughnut and one entry into the drawing for a new bike, but the props and kudos from officers for being safe by wearing a helmet are endless.

Thanks to all parents for requiring their kids to wear helmets when riding their bikes and for our kids who set positive examples to the rest of our community!





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

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Upcoming 2023 Village Council Meetings

May 8th & 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

June 12th at 7:00 p.m.

July 10th at 7:00 p.m.

August 14th at 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to be added to the meeting agenda please contact 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.

Village of South Russell Contact Numbers

Village Hall

440-338-6700 ext. 221

fiscalofficer@southrussell.com

Street Department

440 338-6700 ext. 236

streets@southrussell.com

Police Department

440-338-6700 ext. 2000

(non-emergency)

police@southrussell.com

Building Department

440-338-6700 ext. 233

building@southrussell.com



To keep up with the Village news, meetings, and events, follow us on **Facebook**, and check out our website at southrussell.com. Sign up to receive **Eblasts** with important time sensitive information! The link to do so is on southrussell.com.



Retired Flag Drop Off

The Village has a worn flag collection mailbox (painted with stars and stripes) located on the Village campus at the corner of the Service Department building. The flags collected throughout the year are gathered annually to be properly disposed of at a formal ceremony on Flag Day.