



Village of South Russell

~Newsletter~



Fall 2023 Edition

From the Mayor

Hiring contractors who register and secure permits with the Village Building Department can help protect you and your property from shoddy work and/or unscrupulous contractors. It is always advisable to call the Building Department to confirm the contractor is registered and has secured permits.

An Erosion Special Improvement District (ESID) is a newly created financial way for individuals or groups of homeowners to band together to improve their properties. For example, a local neighborhood needs to repair its dam and the cost is in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Instead of the homeowners having to divide the total cost upfront, they could instead form an ESID. The ESID provides funding for the project and the homeowners are assessed through their real estate taxes for the cost of the repairs over a certain number of years. The process is similar to the assessments associated with the installation of sewers, work on private roads, addressing storm water problems, etc.

The third annual Veterans' Luncheon will be held on Monday, November 13, 11:30 A.M. at The Sleepy Rooster. RSVP to mayor@southrussell.com.

South Russell Village has two cemeteries. The Rarick Cemetery, located at 1070 Bell Road, is named after Adam Rarick who was buried on what was then his family's farm. Adam was born on March 11, 1779, in Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York. He fought in the War of 1812 and died on March 11, 1851. The second cemetery is the South Russell Village Cemetery located on Chillicothe Road which was dedicated in 2015.

On the Council meeting agenda for Monday, November 13, 7:00 p.m., Council will hear from residents interested in crosswalks and sidewalks along Village streets.

Celebrating the Centennial with Ruth Cavanagh



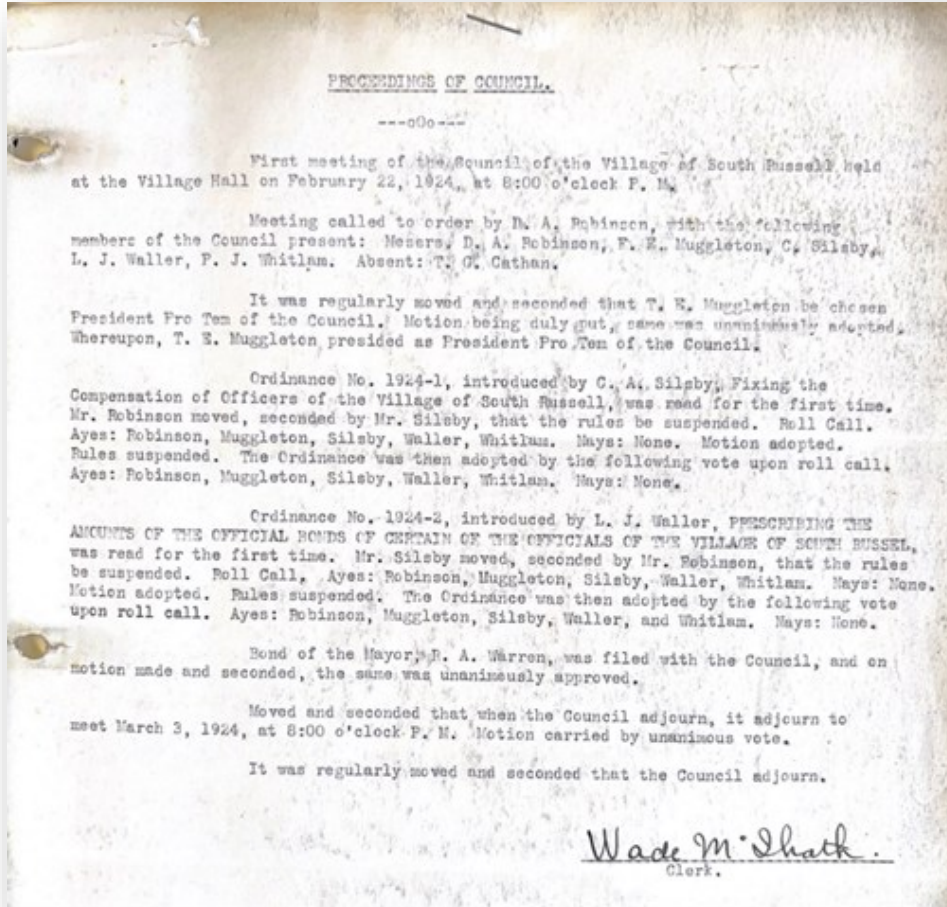
Some century homes are foolers; they've been so well tended, that one would never expect they've been around that long. Such is the case for several at Paw Paw Lake. Even though she is old, she looks great! Built by Wade & Pearl Martin McIlrath in 1921, this was the 1st subdivision house. Built on this particular lot, in order to be neighbors with elderly, next-door farmers, Dave & Jennie Mathews Robinson, they became devoted friends. The Robinson home was razed and replaced in 1998.

In 1921, Paw Paw was one solitary, quiet place to be, especially in winter. Summer brought out all the cousins & kin, never lonely then. After Wade built the lake, the road and the water system, he and Pearl stayed til retirement in the late 1940's. They gifted their only child, David, with the lot to the left of their home. David and wife, Betty Moody McIlrath lived out their lives at 50 Paw Paw Lake. Our own Gust Stern expanded and remodeled this home into the beauty it is today, in 1965. There are very few homes at Paw Paw that Gust's skilled carpenter's hands haven't improved. Unfortunately, pictures of the original home cottage shape haven't survived. Safe to say, Gust made some very necessary changes.

46 Paw Paw bears significance to this writer; The McIlraths were my grandparents. This location, these homes, are the reason I still reside at Paw Paw and have loyalty to South Russell. There is no place I'd rather be in the summer.

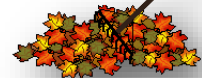
Village of South Russell 100th Anniversary

Pictured below are the minutes of the first Council Meeting on February 22, 1924. These minutes and those of all Council meetings since are located in Village Hall along with the Ordinances and Resolutions passed by Council over the years.



Fall Leaves

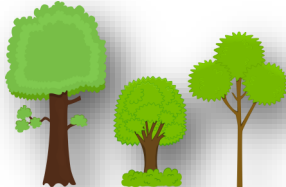
The Village of South Russell does not offer curbside leaf collection service. If you see leaves at the street in your neighborhood, they were most likely put there by a privately hired landscaping company that will be back to pick them up. Leaves brought to the roadside by residents or landscapers must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



Need to find a registered contractor? Call or email the Building Department for a current list!
440-338-1312
building@southerussell.com

Village Campus News

On May 31, 2023, the Village of South Russell became the titled owner of the property on the southeast corner of Bell Rd. and Chillicothe Rd. A decision was made to demolish the buildings. Ultimately, the remaining paved surfaces will also be removed, and grass will be planted. Discussions continue about what, if anything, will be done with the property in the immediate future.



Fall Festival Update

Fingers were crossed to keep the rain away, and happily, the 2023 Fall Festival went off without a hitch! The weather was warm and perfect, and the smell of roasting hotdogs filled the air. Face painters transformed darling children into mythical creatures who happily jumped their energy away in the bounce houses, visited the animal displays, went on pony rides, sampled cider, and toured a fire engine. Families were also treated to live music, chainsaw art demonstrations, Life Flight, and hayrides through the park. By the end of the festival, not one of the 800 hotdogs remained!



Election Day is November 7, 2023

The Village of South Russell will have a renewal levy on the November 7th ballot. A levy renewal maintains but does not increase taxes. The Safety Levy is a renewal of a 2.0 mill levy for 5 years and is used for current operating expenses of the Police Department. It brings in approximately \$140,000 per year to the Village and costs the taxpayers about \$22 per \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value.



News from the South Russell Police Department Halloween Safety Tips



Halloween will be observed in the Village on October 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It is a special time of year when kids get to dress up in costumes and trick-or-treat for candy and other goodies. For South Russell Police Department, the safety and wellbeing of our residents are the most important considerations of the holiday. Here are some tips for families to stay safe while trick-or-treating this Halloween season!

For Costumes

1. **Costumes should not impair vision** - Any masks or wigs should not impair vision. And don't just take your kid's word for it. Test their vision by asking them questions about their surroundings.
2. **Incorporate reflective material into your costume design** - Reflective material will bounce light from headlights or flashlights helping motorists and parents see our Trick-Or-Treaters and keep them out of harm's way.



For Kids

1. **Always trick-or-treat with friends** - Children should never trick-or-treat alone and parent monitors are always preferred.
2. **NEVER enter a stranger's home or vehicle** - If a stranger asks you to enter his/her home or vehicle for any reason at all (for candy, to see a spooky scene, etc.) immediately run to the nearest adult for help.
3. **Street Safety** - With the streets in South Russell not having sidewalks, children are encouraged to walk along the street's edge. Before crossing the street, stop and look in all directions to ensure there are no vehicles in the roadway and it is safe to cross.
4. **Don't eat your goodies until an adult has inspected them** - Have an adult check your treats to make sure they are safe to consume.



For Adults

1. **Go over the trick-or-treat route and safety rules before leaving for the evening** - Consider walking the route with the kids in the daytime and nighttime prior to Halloween so everybody is on the same page. Verify that kids know safety rules and have a plan in place in the event they get separated from their friends or adults.
2. **Have identified adult supervision to escort kids while trick-or-treating** - Don't forget to carry a flashlight with you, too. Smartphone flashlights are likely to be insufficient at longer ranges.
3. **Don't leave your home unattended and unsecured on Halloween night** - If the entire household will be out trick-or-treating, ensure the house is fully secured and family pets are inside.
4. **Take individual portraits of your kids on your smartphones before leaving for the evening** - In the event your kids become missing or separated, you can share a current photo with local police and neighbors in the area to help locate them as soon as possible!





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

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Village Council Meetings

Upcoming Village Council meetings:

Nov. 13th and 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 8th and 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to be added to the meeting agenda please contact fiscalofficer@southerussell.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 southerussell.com.

Village of South Russell Contact Numbers

Village Hall

440-338-6700 ext. 221

fiscalofficer@southerussell.com

Police Department

440-338-6700 ext. 2000 (non-emergency)

police@southerussell.com

Building Department

440-338-6700 ext 233

building@southerussell.com

Street Department

440 338-6700 ext. 236

streets@southerussell.com



**Village offices will be
CLOSED Friday,
November 10, 2023, to
observe Veterans Day.**

Stay in Touch

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

Attention HOAs!

Please help the Village update its records by providing current HOA Board info to adminassist@southerussell.com or call (440) 338-6700 ext. 222.
Thank you!