

# Village of South Russell

## ~Newsletter~



### From the Mayor:

Thanks to departing Council members Mike Carroll and Cindy Nairn for their years of service to the Village. Welcome to new council members Chris Bell and Ruth Cavanagh.

Thanks to the residents who went to the polls on November 2nd and passed the two levy renewals by over 75%. These levy renewals maintain services for the residents while not raising taxes.

Thanks also go to representatives from state and local government and Veterans Service organizations who participated in the Veterans' Luncheon event.

**Your input is needed: Do you see a need for the Village to create legislation to control/regulate short-term home rentals, Airbnb situations, etc. Please email the [mayor@southrussell.com](mailto:mayor@southrussell.com) to give your comments on this and/or any issue.**

Residents are invited to attend the February 28, 2022 Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. to provide input for a South Russell Village Park Master Plan. Items that will possibly be included in the plan are a restroom, rain garden, and a controlled burn of the park hay field to promote ecological well-being.

The long-awaited Lake Louise bridge replacement has made steady progress. Thanks to the residents for their patience during construction.

Paving of Bel Meadow Ln., Chelsea Ct., and Fernwood Dr. was completed just as the snow began to fall. Paving was delayed due to the requirements of grants received for the project. During 2022, the Geauga County Engineer plans to pave East Washington St. from Chillicothe Road west to South Russell. It is estimated the Village will pay \$115,000 to pave its section of East Washington St.

The Village's annual shredding event resulted in the recycling of 6,000 pounds of paper.

Due to inclement weather, the Fall Festival was cancelled. Food from the event was donated to the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center.

The Village is in the process of designing a detention pond to be built on Village property south of Village Hall. This detention pond should prevent stormwater from overtopping Chillicothe Road during heavy rain events.

Since 2000, the Village has employed the United States Geological Survey to monitor the **quantity** of groundwater levels in the Village. To determine water quality, the Village will employ BioSolutions to test twenty different water samples from various areas around the Village. Storm **Sewer** Outfall is also monitored through a yearly inspection of fifty-two properties in the Village. With most residents utilizing well water, it is important to monitor this valuable asset.



Village Hall can be reserved for South Russell Village HOA meetings. Please first check the website calendar for availability and then call 440-338-6700 ext. 222 to make the reservation. **It is the responsibility of the HOA to leave the premises in the same condition it was when they arrived (including stacking chairs).**



## Winter Reminders

- ♦ Check that address numbers are clearly marked on the mailbox to aid safety forces in locating your residence in case of an emergency. If your mailbox is located across the street from your home, please be sure to have numbers visible on your house.
- ♦ Snow Removal: Privately contracted snowplow drivers should keep the snow on the customer's property and should not push snow onto properties across the street or into roadways.
- ♦ Snow Emergency Parking Ban is in effect from November 15th through April 15th for all streets in the Village when there is a prediction or accumulation of two or more inches of snow.
- ♦ Do your part to help the Service Department staff keep roads clear and safe by placing your trash and recycling containers on your driveway apron and **NOT** on the paved surface of the road.



## Municipal Income Taxes




Municipal income tax returns for the Village of South Russell are due **April 15, 2022**. 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.

**Individual Estimates are due April 15th, June 15th, September 15th and January 15th.** For the tax year 2021, 90% of the tax due must be paid by **January 15, 2022** to avoid penalty and interest (subject to municipal ordinance).

### New South Russell Village Website

The Village has launched its new website! It will now be accessible through mobile devices and has improved features which include links to important documents and forms. It provides an improved experience in retrieving Village information!

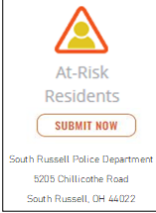
**E-blast Sign-up**  
\* Indicates required  
Email Address \*  
  
First Name  
  
Last Name

Through the new website, please sign up for the Village E-blasts for timely notification of important events.

[www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com)



## South Russell Police Department At-Risk Resident Platform



The At-Risk Resident Platform is a *voluntary* registry to provide detailed information about family members experiencing physical, mental, and emotional diseases, conditions, or impairments. Our officers can access these personal profiles in real-time, becoming aware of unique specifics to deliver better service during regular contacts and crisis events.

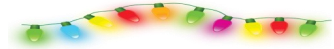
Common examples of At-Risk members are people who are hearing-impaired/deaf, visually impaired/blind, as well as persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

It's important to stress that diseases, conditions, and impairments are not what classify persons as At-Risk. Rather, it's the information gap between these residents and first responders that creates opportunity for ineffective communication.

This cooperative effort between South Russell Police Department and our residents helps ensure every person receives service considerate of his or her needs.

### How to Sign Up!

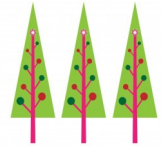
- \* Go to the Village of South Russell's website, at [www.southerussell.com](http://www.southerussell.com).
- \* Scroll down on the homepage and select the At Risk Resident icon.
- \* You will be redirected to the Front-line PSS webpage for South Russell Police. Click the "Submit Now" button.
- \* Fill out the profile entry. Helpful tips /FAQ's can be found on the Police page of the Village website.
- \* That's it! A South Russell Police Officer will contact you to welcome you to the program.



### Reminders from the Building Department

When considering contractors for home repairs, feel free to contact the Building Department to obtain a list of contractors registered with the Village. While the Village cannot make recommendations, utilizing a contractor who complies with Village rules is a plus!

On another note, please be aware that the Village Zoning Code only allows for the parking of any vehicle, camper, truck, etc. in front of a home for a maximum of 72 hours.



### Village Boards and Committee Members

In addition to work performed by the South Russell elected officials and employees, many residents volunteer their time serving on various boards and committees to help oversee the business of the Village.

Village meetings are open to the public. Take an interest in your local government and attend any or all of the following meetings:

**Council** – Meets the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Meetings in June, July, August and December will be held on the second Monday of the month only at 7:30 p.m.

**Architectural Review Board** – Meets the first and third Tuesday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

**Planning Commission** – Meets the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

**Zoning Board of Appeals**— Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Finance, Streets, Building, Safety, Human Resources, Parks, and Public Utilities Committee meetings can be found on the Village calendar once a schedule is established for the year.

**All meetings are posted on the home page of the Village's website at [www.southerussell.com](http://www.southerussell.com)**



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

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Ohio 44022  
Permit #202

### Village Council Meetings

Upcoming Village Council meetings:

**January 10th & 24th** at 7:30 p.m.

**February 14th & 28th** at 7:30 p.m.

**March 14th & 28th** at 7:30 p.m.

**April 11th & 25th** at 7:30 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 Wednesday before a meeting. There is a 5-minute limit to address Council.

Council meetings take place in Village Hall but can also be viewed online at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC16bphl4tgSSR7CO8AVTIRQ>.

Participants who wish to address Council must appear in person. The meeting agenda can be found on the Village calendar link at [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com)

### 2021-2022 Village Business Hours and Holiday Schedule

#### Village Hall

Monday—Friday 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

#### Building Department

Monday—Thursday 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.—noon

#### Service Department

Monday—Friday 7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

#### Closed:

Christmas, December 24, 2021/New Years, December 31, 2021

Martin Luther King Day, January 17, 2022

Presidents' Day, February 21, 2022

### South Russell Village Contact Information

#### Village Hall

440-338-6700 ext. 222

[fiscalofficer@southrussell.com](mailto:fiscalofficer@southrussell.com)

#### Police Department

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

[police@southrussell.com](mailto:police@southrussell.com)

#### Building Department

440-338-6700 ext 233

[building@southrussell.com](mailto:building@southrussell.com)

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[streets@southrussell.com](mailto:streets@southrussell.com)





# Village of South Russell ~Newsletter~

Fall 2021 Edition

## PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

**Saturday, October 16th  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Village Hall Parking Lot**



This service is offered to South Russell residents at no charge! Protect your identity and dispose of your records securely!

## SOUTH RUSSELL VILLAGE FALL FESTIVAL

The annual Fall Festival will take place Sunday, October 17th from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at South Russell Village Park. There will be free food, drink, and family friendly entertainment.



## **Election Day Tuesday, November 2nd**

The Village of South Russell will have two renewal levies on the November 2nd ballot. A levy renewal maintains but does not increase taxes. The Operating Levy is a renewal of a 4.2 mill levy for 5 years. It brings in approximately \$184,149 per year to the Village and costs the taxpayers approximately \$.42 per \$100 of property valuation when first voted on in 1976. The Road Levy is a 1.5 mill levy for 5 years. It brings in approximately \$242,458 for general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, and repairs of streets, roads, and bridges. It would cost taxpayers approximately \$.15 for each \$100 of property valuation when first voted on in 2017.

## FROM THE MAYOR

The recognition luncheon for Village military veterans will be held Monday, November 8, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. at the Sleepy Rooster. We have thirty-five confirmed registrations. Reply to [mayor@southrussell.com](mailto:mayor@southrussell.com) to register if you have not done so.

The annual inspection of our park by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy was held in August. All is well in the park.

The first-year evaluation of the stream enhancement south of Village Hall and the wetlands created in the park saw a need for three trees under warranty to be replaced, removal of invasive species, and other minor maintenance items.

The long-awaited Lake Louise Bridge replacement is one step closer to construction with the relocation of the gas line that was attached to the bridge. Paving of Louise Dr., Ridgecrest Dr., and Garden Park Dr. is proposed for 2022.

The Village Council meeting on Monday, October 25th at 7:30 p.m. will feature a presentation from NOPEC to explain their Green Community Choice program. The program gives residents the opportunity to enroll into a 100% renewable energy program.



## Stormwater Project Update

The Village of South Russell commissioned our Village Engineer this past Spring to complete a Stormwater Study update. The primary number one project identified by our Village Engineer was installation of a stormwater retention pond south of Village Hall. When the area south of Village Hall floods, water runs over Chillicothe Road shutting down the road and creating a safety hazard. In addition, the flooding continues into Chagrin Lakes downstream threatening other properties. For this reason the Engineer indicated that addressing this area should be the first priority of the almost \$1.5 million identified projects. Village Council has already started the engineering phase of this project. Furthermore, Council passed a resolution committing to the Geauga County Budget Commission that the project will be completed in 2022. While this is only the first project of several needed, completion of this stormwater retention pond will have a definite positive impact on flooding and associated downstream damage affecting many residents in that area of our community.

### 2021 Road Program

Paving of East and West Bel Meadow Lane, Chelsea Court and Fernwood Road will occur in early fall. If you need to replace your culvert pipe, please do this now before the repaving begins.

### Keep Your Ditches Clear!



In a cooperative effort to alleviate stormwater issues, please keep driveway culverts as well as front and backyard ditches and swales on your property free of fall debris like sticks, leaves, twigs, grass clippings, trash, etc.

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

You may have noticed an increase in the Village of new home construction as well as a variety of remodeling projects. Please remember that permits are required before construction of driveways, roofs, sheds, room additions, etc. Permits can be obtained through the Building Department, which also handles the scheduling of inspections to protect your property.

Please note, if your Homeowner's Association (HOA) requires approval before construction may occur, please let the Village Building Department know of this requirement. The Architectural Review Board requires the homeowner to bring a signed HOA approval before any decision is made about a proposed building project.

### PART-TIME ZONING INSPECTOR WANTED

The Village of South Russell is seeking a qualified candidate to serve as the part-time Zoning Inspector. A full description of the position and application process can be found on the homepage of [www.southerussell.com](http://www.southerussell.com)

### Reserve the Pavilion for Fall and Winter Get-togethers!

Enjoy a picnic by a cozy fire with friends or family this fall and winter at the South Russell Village Park pavilion! The pavilion is available to rent for \$25. See the Parks page at [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com) for availability, information, and instructions.



### BACK TO SCHOOL



With schools back in session, please be observant of the School Zone Speed Limit. When flashing, the speed limit is 20 mph. Likewise, note that it is ILLEGAL to go around a stopped school bus. Please keep our children safe by adhering to these rules!

### Save the Date

Halloween Trick-or-Treat  
Sunday, October 31, 2021  
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.





## South Russell Village Police Department

### Residents of Daisy Lane and Maple Springs Drive:

The Rolling Ridge and Chagrin Lakes communities are experiencing an increase in traffic complaints such as cut-through traffic not yielding to pedestrian traffic and operating in an unsafe manner. To address residents' concerns, the Police Department is considering the placement of an additional stop sign on Daisy Lane at Deerfield and one on Maple Springs Dr. at Parkland. Feedback is requested from the residents regarding this proposed plan. Please email your feedback to: [policechief@southrussell.com](mailto:policechief@southrussell.com)

## SOUTH RUSSELL VILLAGE PARK NEWS

### BAT HOUSES OF SOUTH RUSSELL PARK

#### WHY BUILD BAT HOUSES??

Bat houses provide an alternate roosting habit for bats and assist in controlling the bat population. Six identical bat houses have been installed throughout the Park to help prevent existing bats from using attics or chimneys as a home for nursing their young. Although bats can carry disease, bat houses provide a remote home so that bats can co-exist with the South Russell community.



#### BAT SPECIES IN NE OHIO

- 1.) Big Brown Bat,
- 2.) Big-Eared Bat,
- 3.) Eastern Small-Footed Bat,
- 4.) Northern Myotis Long-Eared Bat,
- 5.) Red Bat,
- 6.) Eastern Pipistrelle Bat,
- 7.) Evening Bat,
- 8.) Indiana Bat,
- 9.) Silver-Haired Bat, and
- 10.) Little-Brown Bat.

#### Big Brown Bat



#### FACTS ABOUT BATS!

- ❖ Critical factor in the preservation of the park's ecosystem – without bats, there could be significant changes in the park.
- ❖ One bat can eat 600 - 1,000 mosquitoes or flying pests in just 1 hour!
- ❖ Bats distribute plant seeds & pollinate various plants throughout the park
- ❖ Bats are the only mammal naturally capable of true and sustained flight.
- ❖ Bat droppings (guano) are excellent fertilizer for local plants

Eagle Scout Project  
Avery K. Shinkawa – Troop 177  
August 2021

### Tom Harvey Memorial Butterfly Garden

The Tom Harvey Memorial Butterfly Garden has been installed between the South Russell Village Park pavilion and the Girl Scout Butterfly Garden. Thanks to Judy Harvey and her committee for this wonderful addition to the park!



### South Russell Village Cemetery

South Russell Village Cemetery is located at 5230 Chillicothe Road. The Cemetery map can be viewed in Village Hall or on the Cemetery page at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com)



#### Full Size Lots

Village Resident: \$1,000

Prior Resident: \$2,000

#### Cremation Lots

Village Resident: \$1,000

Prior Resident: \$2,000

#### Scattering/Memorial Garden

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

For more information, contact Danielle Romanowski, [fiscalofficer@southrussell.com](mailto:fiscalofficer@southrussell.com) or (440) 338-6700 x 221



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### **Village Council Meetings**

Upcoming Village Council meetings:

**October 11th and 25th** at 7:30 p.m.

**November 8th and 22nd** at 7:30 p.m.

**December 13th** at 7:30 p.m.

**January 10th and 24th** at 7:30 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

Wednesday before a meeting. There is a 5-minute limit to address Council.

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[fiscalofficer@southrussell.com](mailto:fiscalofficer@southrussell.com)

#### **Street Department**

440 338-6700 ext. 236

[streets@southrussell.com](mailto:streets@southrussell.com)

#### **Police Department**

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

[police@southrussell.com](mailto:police@southrussell.com)

#### **Building Department**

440-338-6700 ext 233

[building@southrussell.com](mailto:building@southrussell.com)



### **Don't miss out on the latest Village news!**

Sign up for our Village E-Blasts on the Services page at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com)



Follow us on Facebook and check out our website at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com) for Village news, meetings and event information.





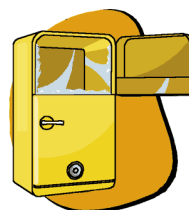
# Village of South Russell

## ~Newsletter~

Spring 2021 Edition



**Village of South Russell**  
**SPRING TRASH DAY**  
**May 1st, 2021 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)

### Attention South Russell Seniors!

**WEST END OF VILLAGE**  
(INCLUDES HOMES ON CHILLICOTHE RD.)  
**APRIL 28, 2021**

**EAST END OF VILLAGE**  
**APRIL 29, 2021**

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- Seniors, 60 years of age or older and living in South Russell Village **AND**
- Seniors must be **registered** with the **Gauga County Department on Aging** prior to pick-up. To register call (440) 279-2130.

#### 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).**

## FROM MAYOR KOONS

### CALLING ALL VETERANS

Thanks to the over twenty veterans and their families who responded to our request to provide data on those who served in the military. There is still time if you or a family member served or are presently serving. Please send your contact information to [mayor@southrussell.com](mailto:mayor@southrussell.com) along with a phone number, address, email, dates of service, branch, etc. If you have a picture of your veteran please include it if possible. Our plan is to create a database of veterans so we can honor our veterans at a future event.

### Grass and Property Maintenance

Before you know it, it will be time to mow your lawn. Village regulations require grass to be maintained at a height lower than 8". Residents in violation receive two letters of warning. If the yard is not mowed, a landscaper is hired to mow the lawn. The landscaper cost is placed on the property's real estate taxes. Thank you for keeping your property maintained.



### EMERGENCIES

This past year saw four major storms ravage our Village with power outages, storm water flooding, and property damage. In the future, we will work with the school district to open Gurney as a warming area. At the rear of the Service Garage in a lighted area marked with signs, we will provide access to a water hose to provide non-potable water for the residents. Simply bring your buckets and help yourself, day or night.

### Home Improvements May Require a Permit

Do you often wonder when and why you are required to get a permit from the Building Department? You are not alone. Permits are required for a number of construction projects, driveway maintenance, hot water tank installation, all plumbing and electrical work, removing walls, etc. Questions? Call Ruth Griswold at 338-1312 for the answer. It is the homeowner's responsibility, not the contractor, to secure the proper permit.

### Septic Cleaning

During 2020, Council eased septic tank cleaning requirements from every two years to every three-years. If your septic was required to be cleaned in 2020, it still must be cleaned. If your septic was cleaned in 2019 and was scheduled for cleaning in 2021, you must have it cleaned in 2022.

### Time for a Clean Sweep!



The South Russell Service Department will be conducting street sweeping this spring. All Village streets, cul-de-sacs, and turnarounds will be swept to remove winter debris. To prepare, residents may rake remaining plowed materials like stone or gravel to the road's edge. Streets with a current gravel berm should not place this material on the asphalt road surface.

Spring is also a good time to inspect ditch lines and driveway culvert pipes. Maintenance of both are the responsibility of each homeowner and should be kept clear of leaves, limbs, and tall grasses. Leaf piles and debris can cause blockages and should not be in the Village right-of-way. No standing water should be present and may be resolved with ditch or culvert cleaning.

### South Russell Village Park, Pavilion, and Playground



Spring is upon us and it is anticipated that residents are anxious to use the Village Park. With an increase in more temperate weather, periodic sanitization of the park and playground equipment has resumed.

The Park Committee will be meeting in early April to discuss re-opening of the park pavilion to reservations/rentals. Use of the pavilion currently remains on a first come, first served basis.

Inquiries have been received about whether the Village will have a Fall Festival this year. We are monitoring State mandated COVID restrictions and as the guidance on public gatherings evolves, information will be posted on the Village website.



## REMINDERS FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Please lock your cars and homes at all times!



### ATTENTION BICYCLISTS!

- State law requires bicyclists to ride no more than two abreast
- Ride with the flow of traffic
- Always wear a helmet



## MUNICIPAL TAX DEADLINE UPDATE



The tax deadline for **individual** Municipal income tax returns has been extended to **May 17, 2021**. Net Profit returns are still due April 15th. The extension also **does not** impact the deadline for first quarter estimated tax payments for tax year 2021. This deadline remains at April 15th.

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.

### ***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 matter. 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.ccatax.ci.cleveland.oh.us](http://www.ccatax.ci.cleveland.oh.us)**

This fall, the Lake Louise Bridge will be replaced. Thanks in advance to the Lake Louise residents who will be inconvenienced during the project with one-lane traffic over the bridge.

The Village will host a meeting via Zoom on April 27th at 7:00 p.m. to educate residents on the regulations required to maintain a dam on private property and to discuss the pros and cons, costs, spoils, etc. of dredging a lake or pond. Please see the Village website calendar for meeting access details.

## South Russell Village Cemetery

South Russell Village Cemetery is located at 5230 Chillicothe Road. The Cemetery map can be viewed in Village Hall or on the Cemetery page at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.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 Danielle Romanowski,

[fiscalofficer@southrussell.com](mailto:fiscalofficer@southrussell.com)

(440) 338-6700 x 221



**DON'T MISS THE BUZZ!**



To keep up with Village news, meetings, and events, follow us on Facebook and check out our website at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com). To receive Eblasts with important time sensitive information, visit the Services page at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com) and sign up!



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Upcoming Village Council meetings:

**April 12th & 26th** at 7:30 p.m.

**May 10th & 24th** at 7:30 p.m.

**June 14th** at 7:30 p.m.

**July 12th** at 7:30 p.m.

**August 9th** at 7:30 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 Wednesday before a meeting. There is a 5-minute limit to address Council.

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#### **Building Department**

440-338-6700 ext. 233

[building@southrussell.com](mailto:building@southrussell.com)

Village Offices will be Closed on Monday, May 31, 2021 for Memorial Day.







# Village of South Russell

## ~Newsletter~

Summer 2021 Edition

### From the Mayor

#### American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

The Village will potentially receive ARPA funds that can be used for limited infrastructure projects. The final amount is not known at the time of publication but the Village will be exploring qualified projects in the coming months.

#### Resident Input Requested!

The Mayor has compiled a list of potential Village projects and is requesting feedback regarding the order of importance to residents:

- Stormwater issues
- Build a restroom at the park
- Expand the parking lot at the park
- Fund a study of the 23 privately owned lakes and ponds in the Village to determine needed repairs
- Make a donation to the Chagrin Falls Suburban Fire Department for building expansion
- Update Building Department software
- Update the Village website

Email responses to  
[mayor@southrussell.com](mailto:mayor@southrussell.com)



#### Veterans Event

Over 30 veterans living in the Village have been identified. Now that COVID concerns are easing, look for an in-person event in the fall to recognize these individuals.

#### Road Paving

East and West Bel Meadow Ln., Fernwood Dr., and Chelsea Ct. have been proposed for resurfacing as part of the 2021 South Russell Village Road Program. If you live on one of these streets and need culvert/ditch repairs, please contact the Street Commissioner at (440) 338-3891 or [streets@southrussell.com](mailto:streets@southrussell.com).



#### Public Hearing

On Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., there will be a Public Hearing to discuss the following:

- Proposed change to the Village ordinance which requires fences to be installed three feet off the property line
- Proposed change to the Village ordinance which does not allow food trucks to operate in the Village.
- Rezoning of the Augies/Sals shopping plaza which currently does not allow restaurants



The Parks Committee is busy planning the 2021 Fall Festival! Please watch for details on the Village website at [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com) and through eblast.

#### Reserve the Pavilion

You can rent the South Russell Park pavilion for your next Homeowners' Association picnic, graduation party, birthday party, or class reunion! The park pavilion is available to rent for \$25. See the Parks page at [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com) for information and instructions.





### Register Your Pet

Log on to [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com) and scroll to "Register your Pet." Provide us with the details of your pet. Once added to our database, your pet information will be available to the police department in case it is lost or stolen.



### Vacation Watch Program

The South Russell Police Department encourages you to take advantage of the **Vacation Watch Program!** Contact the Police Department at (440) 338-7611 or use the online form on the home page of [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com) to request your residence be placed on the watch list. Officers will visually and physically check your doors and windows to ensure security and inspect for damage, tampering, or signs of unusual activity. On your return, a log of the officers' checks and any activity noted can be emailed to you or picked up at the Police Department.

### A Friendly Reminder from South Russell Police Department...



As the warm weather moves in, the police department would like to inform pet owners of the law regarding **Animals Running at Large**. No person shall allow animals to run at large upon any public way, unenclosed land, or upon any private property where notice is posted that animals must be on a leash, other than private property owned by the person having control of such animal. Dogs must be kept under control as defined in **Section 618.19(b)(1), (2), and (3) of the South Russell Codified Ordinances**. No person shall **fail to remove and properly dispose of fecal matter** that may be deposited on the ground in any Village Park or on private property not owned by the person having control of such animal.

If you have any questions, please contact **Police Chief Rizzo at 440-338-7611**.

### Retired Flag Drop Off

Properly dispose of your used, worn flags! South Russell 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.



### South Russell Village Park Butterfly Garden Coming This Fall

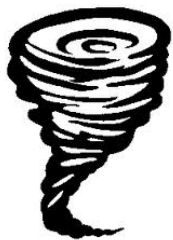
Great weather is here to enjoy the South Russell Village Park! The park offers the pavilion, playground, trails, and more for the enjoyment of residents. Additionally, the park is home to Bob-o-links, which are ground nesting birds that live in the tall grasses of the park. The playground and park are open from 8:00 a.m. until dusk daily.

In fall of 2021, a new butterfly garden will be installed in the park. The garden has been donated in memory of former Councilman and Mayor Tom Harvey by Judy Harvey and the Harvey Family. The butterfly garden has been designed to be expandable, educational, and interesting. It will contain both perennials and annuals as well as benches for visitors. The garden will preliminarily be maintained by a garden group created by Mrs. Harvey.



## Important Severe Weather Information

Tornado warnings are issued by the local National Weather Service Office. As severe weather develops this season, keep in mind that a tornado warning means that a tornado is



imminent, occurring, or expected to develop.

If a tornado warning is issued in Cuyahoga County OR an adjacent county, the Chagrin Valley Dispatch Center will activate our tornado siren. The siren will sound for a 3-minute cycle and repeat

every 15 minutes while the tornado warning is in effect. Although local weather conditions may not indicate severe weather, the siren may activate as a storm event approaches our area.

Please do not call the dispatch center to inquire why the siren was activated. The dispatchers may be handling emergency telephone and radio traffic as a storm passes through other communities in its path.

Questions may be directed to Police Chief Mike Rizzo at 440-557-5535.

## Power in Numbers!

In the event of a power outage, it is important for EVERYONE to report the outage to First Energy! The Utility Company gauges outages based on the number of reports received, and prioritizes accordingly!

Outages can be reported by calling **1-888-544-4877**, through the website, [www.firstenergycorp.com/outages\\_help.html](http://www.firstenergycorp.com/outages_help.html), or by using the First Energy App.

## Permits

The average home in the Village is valued at \$307,000. To keep houses up to the Village standards, permits are required. No building or other structure shall be added to, altered, demolished, erected, or moved, nor shall any building, structure, or land be established or changed in use without a permit. This includes, but is not limited to additions, decks, fences, garages, patios, pools, porches, and sheds.



## Yard Maintenance



Summer and the growing season are 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 South Russell Village beautiful!

## Save the date

**Shredding Day**  
**Saturday, October 16, 2021**  
**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

2021											
JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH			
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	9	10	11	12	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	17	18	19	20	17	18	19	20
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APRIL				MAY				JUNE			
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JULY				AUGUST				SEPTEMBER			
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OCTOBER				NOVEMBER				DECEMBER			
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## Did You Know?

An "E-Commerce Safe Exchange Zone" is available to residents in the Visitor parking area of the South Russell Village Police Station. It provides a safe place with high visibility and a security monitoring system for residents to make purchases or exchanges after conducting online transactions. No police notification is necessary for this service. More information can be found on the Police Department page of the Village website.





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

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### **Village Council Meetings**

Upcoming Village Council meetings:

**July 12th** at 7:30 p.m.

**August 9th** at 7:30 p.m.

**September 13th and 27th** at 7:30 p.m.

**October 11th and 25th** at 7:30 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 Wednesday before a meeting.

There is a 5-minute limit to address Council.

The meeting agenda can be found on the Village calendar link at [southrussell.com](http://southrussell.com)

### **Village of South Russell Contact Numbers**

#### **Village Hall**

440-338-6700 ext. 221

[fiscalofficer@southrussell.com](mailto:fiscalofficer@southrussell.com)

#### **Street Department**

440 338-6700 ext. 236

[streets@southrussell.com](mailto:streets@southrussell.com)

#### **Police Department**

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

[police@southrussell.com](mailto:police@southrussell.com)

#### **Building Department**

440-338-6700 ext 233

[building@southrussell.com](mailto:building@southrussell.com)



### **Don't miss out on the latest Village news!**

Sign up for our Village E-Blasts on the **Services** page at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com)



Follow us on Facebook and check out our website at [www.southrussell.com](http://www.southrussell.com) for Village news, meetings and event information.