



# Village of Burton Newsletter



BURTON VILLAGE  
MAYOR JIM KOSTER

## Village of Burton

I would like to take this time to wish everyone a “Happy Holiday Season”. It has been a long year, but I am happy to say it was a successful year. We lost a few long time employees, promoted, hired, and replaced others. Most of all we are financially sound and look forward to a great 2018 year.

I would like to thank Council President Charles “Skip” Boehnlein and Councilperson Roberta “Bobbie” Dobay, for their long and thankless job in representing the Village of Burton, serving as committee chairs as well as working and supporting the Village as a whole. They decided not to seek re-election to another term. My sincere gratefulness for their service, friendship, and leadership.

Along with this departure, two new councilpersons will come aboard: Bonnie Richards and Ruth Spanos. They, along with reelected councilmen Tom Blair and Craig Ronyak as well as current council members, Joe Hernandez and Nick Tromba will, over the next four-year term, set standards and directions for Burton’s future. To the two other candidates in the race, Vicki Blair and Terri Bullard — thank you for your interest and love of Burton. I hope you will remain interested and become an active participant in Village committees.

Next year is building up to be exciting. The Board of Public Affairs hopes to finalize everything to update our 40+ year old sewer plant to Ohio EPA standards. The Berkshire Board of Education hopes to finalize and possibly go forward with their “PRIDE” initiative (new school facilities on the KSU Geauga Campus). The Village of Burton will attempt to put money in needed infrastructure, streets, water and sewer lines. An attempt will also be made to get one hauler for discount garbage pickup and curbside recyclables.

In addition, should Council agree with the Planning Commission, a new Strategic Plan will result for our future and address issues of growth, building, infrastructures, annexation, the repurpose of state and school properties, etc. We would like to do this over the course of the next 6 to 8 months. As residents, your input would be most appreciated. Focus meetings will be established...this is your home...please plan on participating in person, through your councilperson, mail, email, or through a friend. We will notify you in various ways: follow our web page, Facebook page, or local newspapers for updates on information. Get emergency information and other items of interest by logging onto our website at [www.villageofburton.org](http://www.villageofburton.org). To be placed on the Emergency Alert Notification list, please email your name, street address, phone number, email, and whether you wish to be notified by via phone call or text message to [1villageofburton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1villageofburton@sbcglobal.net).

REMEMBER: Those using ambulance service within the Village and who are residents of the Village are not responsible for “soft billing”. Our privately owned and contracted Burton Fire Department bills your insurance company. The difference between what is billed and what is paid by the insurance company is what makes up the “soft billing”. The Fire Department’s billing service will bill you 4 times for your “soft bill” portion and then stop. This is their procedure, and not the Village of Burton. As a resident taxpayer your “soft bill” is covered through your fire levy support.

Sincerely,

Mayor  
Village of Burton



HISTORIC DISTRICT  
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD  
ALISON WEEKS, BOARD MEMBER

The century Italianate property that my husband and I own in the Village is not ours alone.

The home on North Cheshire Street that we live in and love belongs to the community. We have the privilege of stewarding and preserving a unique piece of history so that it may inspire, and be inhabited by, future generations — and this is a responsibility we take very seriously.

I often think about the nearly century-and-a-half of history that unfolded as this house stood firmly in its place. I imagine the laughter and tears, conversations and debates, celebrations and mourning that occurred in the rooms my family so gratefully inhabits. I wonder which of my home's former residents may have marched off to war, and if they returned. I listen to music on my record player in my historic front parlor, and wonder what past owners thought of Billie Holiday, Elvis Presley or The Beatles. What conversations unfolded in this home the day of the Great Stock Market Crash, or the day President Kennedy was assassinated, or when the moon landing was broadcast? I have found amazingly in-tact objects from the past buried in my garden: an aspirin jar from the 1920s; a shard of a Victorian china plate; a Kemps Balsam bottle from the early 1900s (I've learned this "medicine" was essentially poison packaged as lung tonic!); in these moments, I have a deeper connection with the history that is, literally, in my backyard, my walls, and in the roof above my head.

I fell in love with and purchased my home not just for its historic charm and integrity, but also for the beautifully preserved, charming Village that surrounds it. I saw an advertisement for it not long after relocating to Northeast Ohio from New York City, where I was born and raised. I knew nothing of Burton, but was enchanted by the photos of the house, and subsequently, made a long and unfamiliar journey here on a sunny summer day in 2016. Driving around the Park, I was immediately in awe of Burton Village's beauty and charm. After a short walk through the house, I knew I had to live here.

From Century Village to the Fairgrounds; from the Library to the shopping district on Main Street; this Village is a beloved destination for those in the greater Cleveland area and beyond. They come for the Great Geauga County Fair, the Apple Butter Festival, or for a famous pancake breakfast with real Burton Maple Syrup — but they come back — and stay, dine, and shop because of the unique character and warm nostalgia of our conscientiously protected historic district.

Time is a powerful agent of change. It is especially unkind to historic buildings. Their character falls in and out of style, and without proper protections, these unique structures can fall into disrepair, can become irrevocably altered to lose the features that make them unique, or worst of all, can be demolished entirely for reasons that seem trivial in the long view of history.

I feel profound gratitude that the Village Historic District had champions that helped it become part of the National Register of Historic Places in 1974, and that the Village Council created the Historic District Architectural Review Board in 1983 to provide oversight and support in maintaining the Village's historic aesthetic. As a current, and proud, member of this Review Board, I take seriously our mission to "safeguard the architectural integrity of the Village by preserving areas, places, sites, buildings, structures, and objects which reflect elements of Burton's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural heritage."

In other words, the Review Board exists to protect the irreplaceable historic character of the Village we all love — for the cultural and social benefit of our community, to protect the value of our homes and businesses, and to give future generations the opportunity to live amongst history as we all have the privilege of doing now.

On behalf of the Review Board, and as a new resident of this remarkable community: thank you, fellow Burtonites, for preserving the historical treasures that you inhabit, which make the Village of Burton such a wonderful place to live, work, and visit. The Review Board exists to guide and support you in this endeavor, and we look forward to doing so.

TREE TALK  
BURTON VILLAGE TREE COMMISSION

Thanks in part to a generous donation from Councilman Tom Blair and his wife Vicki, ten trees will be planted in the Village this fall. Eight Sugar maples will be planted in the Park, and a Red maple and a Stewartia will be planted to replace trees that were previously removed on North Cheshire and Hickox Streets. If you desire a tree be planted in the Village right of way in front of your home, let me or a member of Tree Commission know so that we can try to fulfill that wish. Please be advised that in most cases, the type of tree planted will be in accordance with what is specified in the Master Tree Planting Plan. As always, feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

Submitted by Debbie Palmisano, Burton Village Arborist, 440-834-0820.

## UTILITIES NEWS MARK RHOADES

### The “How” and “Why” Of a Precautionary Boil Advisory

During early November, the Village experienced a water main break in the Village Park, which led to a Precautionary Boil Alert being issued. I would like to explain to residents “how” and “why” this happens:

In the Park incident, there are 2 lines that are 5 feet apart that run parallel through the Park to our tank. One of them is the line that is used to fill the tank, and comes up from the water plant. The other line is the feed line to the entire Village water system. If the break were on the line that fills the tank, you would have never known that we had an issue. It would have been isolated and repaired with no disruption in service. Unfortunately, the break was on the main line that feeds the Village. No matter what we did at this point, there was going to be a depressurization of our system, which ultimately means a loss of service to you. The goal at this point is to repair the break and to pressurize the system as quickly as possible. We were able to fix the break in a little less than 3 hours.

Everyone worked together to put into place the plan that is required by the EPA to notify the public of the situation, shut down the line and begin repairs. When a major distribution line is shut down, there is still usage going on. There is no way around that. That usage pulls a vacuum on the line and can pull in dirt and impurities containing bacteria into the system. That amount is determined by the amount of time that it takes to fully isolate the break. With this in mind, it is customary to preemptively increase the chlorine feed to the system to enhance the disinfection of the system. Once the repair is made we begin to pressurize the system. This is done slowly, in order to protect our 100 year old lines from cracking and causing more breaks. After the pressure is up, we flush lines throughout the system to clear as much air as possible out of the lines, as well as remove any dirt or debris that may have made its way into the system. This also brings the fresh chlorine throughout the system to ensure disinfection. We are then required to take bacteria samples, in our case 10, at points representative of all legs of our system. The samples are taken to an Ohio EPA certified lab for testing. The bacteria test takes the lab 24 hours to complete from the time that the samples are delivered to the lab. That is why a precautionary boil advisory goes on for so long. It protects you from the possibility of getting sick. When we put a precautionary boil advisory into effect, we tell you that it is in effect until further notice. This is to give you notice that if any of the samples were to come back positive, the advisory will continue while another set of samples is taken and submitted to the lab. If you make the adjustment to the chlorine, as is done in the Village, the possibility of this happening is remote. Thank you for your patience and understanding when situations like this arise.

**REMINDER**

Water/Sewer bills were mailed out at the end of November, and are due by December 21, 2017. Quarterly water/sewer bills are mailed out in February (due by March 21), May (due by June 21), August (due by September 21), and November (due by December 21). Payments not received by the due date incur a 10% late fee.

### Attention Burton Village Residents Important Tax Information

With the new year comes the often unpleasant task of thinking about taxes. As a reminder, the Village of Burton has a municipal income tax of 1%. **Ninety (90 %) percent of the current year's tax is due on, or before, December 15, 2017** and the remainder of the tax due must be paid by April 15, of the following year (2018). In most cases, if you have this deduction in your paycheck, this is already being taken care of.

Anyone who lives or works in the Village is required to file a tax return with the Central Collection Agency (CCA). For further information or to download CCA tax forms, please visit CCA's website at <http://ccatax.ci.cleveland.oh.us/>. You can also call them at 1-800-223-6317.

As a resident of the Berkshire School District, you are required to pay a 1% Berkshire School District Tax. Visit [www.state.oh.us](http://www.state.oh.us) or call 1-800-282-1780 for more information.

VILLAGE OF BURTON  
PO BOX 408  
BURTON, OH 44021

PRESORT STD.

*Happy Holidays!*



**Burton Alert Sign Up**

If you would like to sign up for BurtonAlert, please email the Office with your name, street address, phone number, and email. Please specify whether you wish to receive a phone call or text message. The email address is: [1villageofburton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1villageofburton@sbcglobal.net). You can also drop this information off in the payment mailbox, in the Office, or send it in with your next water/sewer bill. This is a free service, although subject to any data charges your carrier may apply.

**Offices Closed**



**Burton Village Offices will be closed on December 25 in observance of Christmas. The Office will reopen on Tuesday, December 26. The offices will also be closed on January 1, 2018, in observance of New Year's Day. Regular office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. May you enjoy the Holidays with your friends and family!**

**SNOW EMERGENCY**

**Burton Village Ordinance: Sec: 351.13**

In order to facilitate the cleaning of certain streets and to expedite free flow of vehicular traffic, motor vehicles shall not be parked on the streets within the Village at such times that the U.S. Weather Bureau records indicate that three inches (3") of snow has fallen.