

# Village of Burton



## Winter Newsletter

*Mayor Ruth Spanos*

Greetings to All Residents of Burton Village,

I write this on the shortest day of the year, when we are already tired of the cold, grey days of winter. And yet, tomorrow there will be a little bit more daylight. We know that winter will pass. I have heard that the first doses of the vaccine for the COVID-19 virus are being given to health care workers. We remain in the midst of the pandemic, but we can begin to imagine one day gathering again, face to face. While we hope for that day, let us continue to follow safety precautions so that we can enjoy it together in good health.

I remain incredibly grateful for the privilege of living in the Village of Burton, in a community that is so warm and caring. Even though I haven't been able to see my extended family in person, it has been a special joy this year to be able to share that Burton spirit with them by sending gifts from our wonderful local shops.

There are many in our area who haven't been so fortunate. We all need help at times. Anyone in Geauga County needing assistance with housing, domestic violence, elder abuse, a mental health emergency, etc. can call the COPE 24 Hour hotline at (888) 285-5665.

Although it has been a difficult year for all of us, there is much to celebrate. I am grateful to all who voted in favor of the new Streets Levy. Construction and repairs to Goodwin, Hickox and Kirtland Streets have been completed, but there are many other roads that need attention. With the additional funds, we can establish a more regular schedule of road repairs.

The construction of the new school is well under way. It is a bittersweet time for everyone with fond memories of the current school buildings. I too will miss having the schools within the Village limits, but I hope that the establishment of the Joint Economic Development District among the School District, Kent State Geauga, Burton Township and Burton Village will point the way toward more collaborations that can benefit all entities. Strong local schools are a vital part of every thriving community.

Finally, I want to publicly thank the Village Employees who have worked together as a team over the past year. From the Village Office, to the Police Department, Streets Department and Water and Sewer, everyone has pulled together. I also want to thank the Village Council, the BPA and the many people who volunteer their time on our Boards and Commissions. If I have had a successful first year as Mayor, it has been due to their efforts.

May we all have a prosperous and healthy 2021.

## Tree Talk

### Burton Village Tree Commission

#### TREE TALK Winter 20 - 21

You may have noticed the article titled “Master Arborist Appraises Maples on Burton Square” in the November 26 edition of the Maple Leaf newspaper. Guy Meilleur who is a Board Certified Master Arborist and owner of Historic Tree Care based in Durham, North Carolina, worked on some of the historic trees in Burton Village back in November. Tree Commission recommended that Council hire him to prune these grand old trees to reduce their canopies, thereby making them safer as well as prolonging their lives.

Guy's approach is to make small cuts to reduce injury to the tree and encourage it to put on growth within the reduced canopy. He climbed the trees and worked primarily with a pole saw. Three of the largest trees in the park were targeted for his care, as well as a very large multi-stemmed Horsechestnut on South Chestnut that was slated for removal this year. Guy was confident that with his pruning prescription, this magnificent tree would provide beauty, benefits and safe shade for many years to come.



Friendly  
Reminder

#### Attention Burton Village Residents

#### Important Tax Information

**Due to the COVID-19, there will not be tax payer assistance in person for 2021.**

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, 2020** and the remainder of the tax due must be paid by April 15, of the following year (2021). 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 800-223-6317 or 216-664-2070.

*Police Department News*  
*Chief Rick Smigelski*

With the holiday season fully upon us, we know less people will be traveling during this unusual year. However, if you are going to be out of town, the Burton Police Department can provide house checks while you are away. This service is available year-round, but we just want to give you a friendly reminder during the holidays. If you are interested in this service, please give us a call at (440) 834-1234.

As of April 2019, the Burton Police Department has been a 24/7 full time department. We respond to all calls of service, from house checks and lost pets to much more serious matters. Year to date we are at 1192. We invite you to join us on Facebook @BurtonVillagePD for updates on village matters.

**ACH and eBill**

The Village of Burton offers automatic withdrawal for the Water/Sewer/Trash Bill. If you would like to sign up, please go to the Village of Burton Website under **Water and Sewer** and hit the tab **ACH Form**.

You can drop off the form in the water/sewer payment box, mail the form, or email the Deputy

Administrative Assistant at [1villageofburton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1villageofburton@sbcglobal.net).

The Village of Burton is also offering eBilling at **NO CHARGE**. Instead of receiving a paper copy, you can have your bill emailed to you each month. If you would like to sign up for eBill please contact the Deputy Administrative Assistant.

**Reminder for the Village Residents:**

Household chemicals such as paints, cleaners, automotive fluids, batteries, and pesticides contain hazardous and toxic chemicals. These chemicals that could be poured down drains, into a storm sewer, on the ground, or even in trash can pollute the environment and endanger our health.

Also, a reminder to **NOT** flush wipes and other things down the toilet that may be used in lieu of toilet paper.

**Village of Burton  
PO Box 408  
Burton, OH 44021**



**Christmas Tree Pick Up**

Place your Christmas trees on the curb by your driveway for pickup through Friday, February 12th. The Street Department will make several passes through the Village collecting trees. Residents in the apartments on Main Street (North Cheshire) are asked to please place trees on the island just south of Main Street.



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**SNOW PLOW DRIVERS**

**\*PERMIT REQUIRED FOR THE  
VILLAGE OF BURTON.\***

**5.00 FEE**

Valid through April 30th, 2021



The Village of Burton is seeking residents to serve on several of our volunteer boards. If you have interest in serving on the Council, Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, Historic District Review Board or Tree Commission, please email a letter of interest to [villageofburton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:villageofburton@sbcglobal.net)