2015 marks Jackson Township’s bicentennial

Jackson Township is celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2015 with a local history play, fire station open house and partnership with local businesses to share in the promotion of the township’s bicentennial by offering discounts to residents.

Founded on March 6, 1815, Jackson Township was originally part of Franklin Township and has grown to a population of 41,500 making it the most populated of the 17 townships in Franklin County.

Bicentennial play in May

The Little Theatre Off Broadway is producing a performance written by Playwright Jeremy Sony entitled “The Century Box” that will weave an entertaining story of the founding of the City of Grove City and early years of Jackson Township. Characters in the play will portray William Foster Breck and Hugh Grant who were among the other early pioneer settlers of Jackson Township and founders of the City of Grove City.

The bicentennial play will be performed at 8 p.m. May 29, 2015; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. May 30, 2015; and 2 p.m. May 31, 2015 at the auditorium at Central Crossing High School, 4500 Big Run South Road in Grove City, Ohio.

All performances are free, but donations to the Little Theatre Off Broadway would be greatly appreciated.

Redeem wooden nickels for discounts

Residents and visitors throughout 2015 can receive souvenir wooden nickels at local community events including “The Century Box” and May 2, 2015 Community Environmental Day redeemable for preferred customer discounts at local business partners that have a bicentennial window cling displayed. Send an e-mail to 200years@jacksontwp.org for more information.

Safety Day at Station 202

Bring the whole family for a bicentennial Safety Day celebration in conjunction with Fire Prevention Month at Jackson Township Division of Fire Station 202 off Hoover Road from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 3, 2015.

Details forthcoming at www.jacksontwp.org and in the fall issue of Jackson Township News and Updates.

2015 Safety Town registration open

Safety Town will be held June 11-12, 2015 and June 15-19, 2015. Location is yet to be confirmed. There will be morning and afternoon sessions, and every pre-kindergarten child registered will be guaranteed a spot.

Safety Town is a free program of the Jackson Township Professional Firefighters Local 2672, and is presented in cooperation with the Jackson Township Division of Fire, Grove City Division of Police and South-Western City Schools.

The most up-to-date information including location and registration will be posted to the Jackson Township and Safety Town websites (www.gcfsafetytown.org), and Jackson Township Division of Fire, Grove City Division of Police, and Safety Town Facebook pages.

www.facebook.com/gcsafetytown
www.facebook.com/jacksonfire
www.facebook.com/GroveCityOhioPolice

Three plow almost 500 hours

The Jackson Township service department crew plowed and spread 500 tons of salt and drove a combined 5,486 miles for the 2014-2015 winter season. (For comparison: Anchorage, Alaska is 3,110 miles from Grove City, Ohio.)

Three service department employees spent 486 hours plowing and salting township roads. This spring, the crew used six tons of patch mix filling potholes caused by winter weather.

Station 204 receives green building award

Jackson Township’s newest Fire Station 204 on Buckeye Parkway was awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design gold-certified plaque from the U.S. Green Building Council. The LEED green building certification program recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices.

“I applaud the township for making responsible decisions when it came to the selection of high-quality, durable, low-maintenance materials,” said Joe Weithman, president, Mull & Weithman Architects.

Only dump water in catch basins

Reminder: Catch basins run to creeks.


Learn more at www.respectourwaters.org.

Pictured is Brad Mull of Mull & Weithman Architects at Station 204 off Buckeye Parkway.
Fire Chief’s corner
Jackson Township is celebrating its 200th anniversary in 2015. It is hard to imagine how different life was in 1815, just a dozen years after Ohio became a state. The fire department has changed a great deal since its founding in 1936 as the Grove City-Jackson Township Fire Department with Olen Rumsfeld as chief.

Back then, our fire department was the only one operating west of the Scioto River outside the Columbus city limits. There was one fire station located on the current site of the Grove City Library where firefighters would meet when called to a fire and respond on a 1922 Reo-Seagrave pumper.

The Jackson Township Fire Department was formed in May 1945, and 11 years later, a new engine house was opened on South Broadway. In 1957, the department put its first emergency squad into service staffed solely by volunteers.

As the City of Grove City, Village of Urbancrest and Jackson Township continued to grow, the fire department constantly adjusted to the shifting population by ensuring fire stations were as accessible as possible to the population. Jackson Township’s grand opening of Station 204 on Buckeye Parkway was May 3, 2014, and firefighter/paramedics have taken about 50 emergency runs per week since it opened.

This much-needed station was the first additional fire station for the fire department since 1978 when Station 203 was added. In our business, response time is critical, and we are now able to better serve our residents. A breakdown of the 2,079 Station 204 emergency responses through Feb. 28, 2015 follows.

- Fire: 228 (11 percent)
- Fire/EMS: 379 (18 percent)
- EMS: 1,472 (71 percent)

Station 204 also was instrumental in helping the fire department achieve an improved (Level 2) ISO rating putting us in the top 1.5 percent of all fire departments in the United States. This rating helps insurance companies establish appropriate premiums for residential and commercial properties, and benefits Jackson Township residents because insurance companies know that we are able to quickly respond to emergencies throughout the township.

We are proud of our long history of service to our residents and look forward to continuing to exceed your expectations for years to come.

Fire Division names new Deputy Fire Chief, Captain, Lieutenant

The Jackson Township Board of Trustees promoted the following firefighter/paramedics since the publication of the Jackson Township Fall News and Updates (from left) Deputy Fire Chief Randy Little, Capt. Shawn Quincel, Lt. Luke Smith, and full-time firefighter/paramedics Jason Adams and Josh Mollohan.
Director unveils plans for new metro park

Metro Parks Executive Director Tim Moloney met with Jackson Township Trustees and presented a rendering of the proposed Scioto Grove Metro Park off State Route 104. Trustees and township officials are looking forward to the new 600-acre park and partnership with Metro Parks.

Learn more at http://bit.ly/SciotoGroveMP.

Road projects include Borror and Zuber

Jackson Township in partnership with the Franklin County Engineer has a number of road projects including resurfacing of south Borror Road and sections of Zuber Road scheduled for 2015.

Go to www.jacksontwp.org/current-road-projects/ for road project updates.

Community Environmental Day in May

Bring documents for free shredding, electronics for recycling and up to four tires to the Jackson Township Community Environmental Day set for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 2, 2015 at the Jackson Township Administration Building at 3756 Hoover Road in Grove City, Ohio.

Habitat for Humanity workers will be on site accepting household items and building materials. More information is available at http://bit.ly/5-15cleanup.