

BROWN TOWNSHIP

ESTABLISHED 1830

Winter 2024

Blockwatch Update

An Update provided by
Mr. Stan Rozdeba

On October 30, Brown Township Blockwatch members gathered at the township hall for a community meeting. Deputy Burton Haren - Brown Township Liaison from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office - shared best practices for organizing blockwatch groups and how to report suspicious activity in the township. He also shared tips on keeping safe during the holidays, and advised residents to keep vehicle doors locked and any items stored in the vehicle out of sight. Additionally, there has been a recent report of mail theft in the township. **Please do not leave any mail in your mailbox overnight.**

The Brown Township Blockwatch is also moving communications to a private group on [NextDoor.com](https://www.NextDoor.com) on the advice of Deputy Haren. This will allow for faster communication regarding suspicious activity in the township. If you live in Brown Township, please take a minute to join this group (see box to the right).



A Note from
Deputy Haren 1078

I wanted to recognize Deputy J. Anderson, Deputy C. Williams and Detective S. Floyd for their hard work investigating thefts from mailboxes in Brown and Prairie Townships.

Deputy Williams responded to a call of stolen mail at an address in Brown Township. Then less than two hours later Deputy Anderson responded to a similar call of stolen mail from mailboxes in multiple locations in Prairie.

Deputy Anderson was able to locate a possible suspect regarding the thefts. He was also able to locate some of the stolen mail and return it to the victims.

Detective Floyd was able to link the thefts in the two townships and corroborate the suspect information that Deputy Anderson was able to get. This incident is still an open investigation.

I wanted to remind residents of the importance of contacting the Franklin County Sheriff's Office of suspicious activity in your neighborhoods.

Call 911 for emergency situations.

Call 614-525-3333 for non-emergency situations.

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office has a House Watch List that you can put your address on when you are not going to be home for a long period of time.

Call 614-525-3365 for house watch and inform the records tech of your address and the time period that you would like to have your home on the list.

Three Ways to Sign Up For Brown Township Blockwatch Communications

Visit [BrownTwp.org](https://www.BrownTwp.org) and use the link just left of "Popular Links".

SCAN ME



Type this URL into your browser
<https://www.NextDoor.com/g/fspquga>

Brown Township

HISTORY PART 5

History by
Sandy Andromeda

Hayden had a store, a Baptist Church, the West Hayden Post Office, and the only railroad station in Brown Township. The name Hayden is taken from the Hayden family. At its peak, the population of this town was around 25.

The Hayden Store and West Hayden Post Office are long gone. The Baptist congregation relocated their church because of the close proximity to the railroad. The then busy railroad, with trains on two sets of tracks and three sets next to the church traveling in both directions, was very annoying when the noise frequently interrupted their services. Today an automotive repair shop is making use of the Hayden Baptist Church building. Prior to this, the structure functioned as a granary for the Linworth Fertilizer Exchange, a telephone soliciting company, and an automotive body shop.

The Columbus, Piqua and Indiana Railroad laid tracks through West Hayden where they constructed a train station and named it Brownson Station. This name was taken from Oren Brownson who previously had owned the land where the station was built. The station was located about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of Hayden Run Road on the east side of the tracks. This was the first railroad station in western Franklin County. The first train passed through West Hayden on the 4th of July in 1853. Eventually the westbound train made one regular stop here daily at 5:23 p.m.

Any unscheduled stops were called "flag stops" and occurred only when



A replica of Brownson Station, which is named Bradley Station.

Located at:
Homestead Park
4675 Cosgray Road,
a mere 1.25 miles
south of where
Brownson Station
existed.

Take a visit and go
back in time.

a flag was put up to signal a passing train. Extending out from this station in both directions were three miles of siding tracks for freight-handling cars. Passenger service ended here in 1944 and then freight traffic was curtailed in 1962. The last train passed through Hayden on May 18, 1984. Today the tracks are gone and the railroad bed has been converted into the Heritage Rail Trail for recreational walking and bicycling.

Two Brown Township towns no longer exist. They are the Union Seminary Settlement, which was developed by African-Americans, and the Darby Creek Settlement, which was the first white settlement in this area.

At one time, there was a park in the township. It was privately owned and operated by a farmer, Robert Reece. This was located at some distance west of Amity Road midway between

Carter and Scioto & Darby Creek Roads. This former quarry had a swimming hole in Big Darby Creek and a picnic grounds. During the history of Brown Township, most of the road names have changed at least once, and some names are different for different locations on the same road. Probably due to frequent lowland flooding at this location, the north end of Amity Road was relocated to higher ground. At one time, it made an abrupt turn west just north of the Robert Reece Park. It then turned north and followed Big Darby Creek. At its intersection with the Scioto & Darby Creek Road, Amity Road connected with and was part of the road now named Creek (recently changed to Hayden Run). Also in this area were two bridges across Big Darby Creek. One was on Scioto & Darby Creek Road and the other on Hayden Run Road.

Brown Township Regional Greenways

VISIONING STUDY WRAPPING UP

During 2023, the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) worked with the Township to complete a trail study (see Fall 2022 and Summer 2023 issues of this Newsletter). The objective of this process, referred to as the Brown Township Regional Greenways Visioning Study, is to tie Brown Township into the regional trails network, as well as provide an important east-west trail connection between the Hilliard area and Prairie Oaks Metro Park. The study has identified possible routes for such a trail addition; analyzed technical challenges for each route; incorporated the ideas and reactions of our residents and community partners; and, is finalizing recommendations and next steps to take once the study and its recommendations are complete. A stakeholder meeting in May and a public meeting in July were conducted as part of the information gathering process.

In identifying possible routes, two possible approaches were considered: an off-road route through undeveloped, preferably large, parcels and, alternatively, wide public rights-of-way that could accommodate a side trail separated from the roadway. The general area north of Patterson Road (option 1) stands out as a possibility under the first approach, since it is relatively undeveloped and includes large parcels. In addition to reducing the challenge of right-of-way acquisition and allowing for an off-road route, this option would provide a direct route from Hilliard to Prairie Oaks Metro Park. Other options, along Amity/Morris (option 2) and Amity/Walker/Roberts roads (option 3)

OPTION 1

North of
Patterson Rd.
Relatively
few land-
owners.
Direct
connectivity



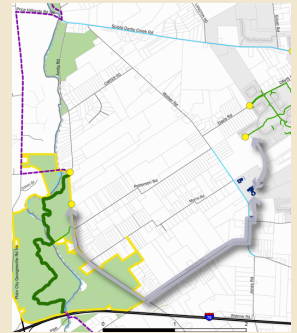
OPTION 2

South of
Morris Rd.
Utilizes
Metro Parks
property
School
connectivity



OPTION 3

Walker Rd. to
Roberts Rd. to
Amity Rd.
Uses existing
Right of Way
School
connectivity



OPTION 4

Scioto Darby to
SR 142 to
Lucas/Beach Rd.
Uses existing
Right of Way



to the south, as well as along Scioto Darby Creek Road (option 4) to the north, were analyzed as possible separated trails within a road right-of-way.

As 2024 begins, the study is wrapping up and the recommendations are being finalized. Given that public input has leaned toward a trail that is away from a roadway, the relatively few parcels that would be involved, and the direct route from the Hilliard area to the Prairie Oaks Metro Park, the area north of Patterson Road appears to be the most likely route to be recommended. Scioto-Darby Creek Road's wide right-of-way (80 feet) makes the northern route attractive as a second priority. The southern routes are along roads with relatively narrow rights-of-way, deep road ditches and other impediments that make them unlikely to be recommended.

The study will also include recommendations for next steps that

Brown Township should take. Seeking funding for the trail is central, and the first step to doing this is to include the trail recommendations in relevant planning documents. These include the Regional Greenways map and other Regional Greenways planning documents. The Township also plans to update its comprehensive plan in 2024 and expects that these recommendations will be incorporated into that effort, resulting in formal policies regarding the implementation of new trails and trail access. In addition, the Township and its partners can begin reaching out to landowners in the relevant areas regarding right-of-way acquisition opportunities, as well as coordinating its efforts with local partners. Finally, as a follow-up to what is anticipated to be the number two priority, the Township will contact the Franklin County Engineer's office regarding the possibility of using the Scioto Darby Road right-of-way for a trail alignment.



Brown Township
2491 Walker Road
Hilliard, OH 43026

Brown Township Administration Office

2491 Walker Road, Hilliard, Ohio 43026
(614) 876-2133

Website

www.BrownTwp.org

Fiscal Officer

Becky Kent • (614) 446-2359

Trustees

Mr. Gary Dever • (614) 876-4768

Mrs. Pamela Sayre • (614) 582-0191

Mr. Joseph Martin • (614) 309-8879

Norwich Fire Department

Dave Baird, Chief • (614) 876-7694

Franklin County Sheriff's Department

Emergency • 911

Non-Emergency • (614) 525-3333

Meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at 2491 Walker Rd., Hilliard, Ohio



L-R: Trustees Pam Sayre, Gary Dever and Joe Martin
Seated: Fiscal Officer Becky Kent

Medication Disposal

Dispose of unused medication in the red disposal station inside main entrance of the Joint Safety Services Building located at 5181 Northwest Parkway, which is next to the Franklin County Fairgrounds.

PRSRT STD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

COLUMBUS OH

PERMIT# 5964

PUBLIC SAFETY SUMMARY

Each issue of the Brown Township newsletter contains a quarterly wrap-up of public safety reports and calls in Brown Township.

Norwich Township Fire Department

Calls to addresses in both incorporated and unincorporated portions of Brown Township.

Fire Calls

EMS Calls

Incorp Unincorp Incorp Unincorp

SEPT 2023	3	4	2	13
OCT 2023	1	5	1	13
NOV 2023	6	3	5	7

Franklin County Sheriff

Calls to addresses in both incorporated and unincorporated portions of Brown Township:

September 2023

Sept 14 – Identity fraud at an address on Walker Rd. (occurred Sept 13th or 14th).

Sept 27 - Items stolen from porch at an address on Davis Rd.

Sept 30 - Vehicle vandalism from gunfire at an address on Roberts Rd.

October 2023

Oct 3 – Unauthorized charges on a credit card at an address on Amity Rd. (occurred Sept 5th or 6th).

Oct 23 - Misdemeanor theft at an address on Patterson Rd.

November 2023

Nov 3 - Theft of a motorcycle at an address on Amity Rd.

Nov 16 - Criminal damaging or endangering at an address on Jones Rd.

Nov 20 - Theft of mail at an address on Feder Rd.

Hilliard Division of Police

Non-routine calls to Brown Township addresses within the City of Hilliard:

September 2023

No non-routine calls

October 2023

No non-routine calls

November 2023

No non-routine calls