



Blendon Township

Franklin County Ohio

Office of Township Administrator

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Press Release

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Jan Heichel and Stew Flaherty Seek Re-Election

Blendon Township Trustees, Jan Heichel and Stew Flaherty are proud to announce a joint campaign as they run for re-election this year. Both trustees are extremely pleased with the community support and the positive direction Blendon has taken.

Jan Heichel was first elected as a trustee in 2009 and currently serves as of Chairman of the Board. She is a long time Blendon resident and believes her knowledge of the township is a major benefit to the residents. "I have meet with many residents and listened to their concerns. I understand our diverse neighborhoods and work to insure that the resident's needs are addressed," Heichel said. Some of her proud accomplishments include services offered to the residents such as their free document shredding and safe medication drop off. The free breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Santa bring a smile to see families together, and the educational programs such as the Heroin/ Prescription Drug Outreach Programs and Women's Self-Defense Classes add a much important awareness (to name a few). She is proud to work with WARM (Westerville Area Resource Ministry) to bring the free lunch program to Ridgewood Park to benefit the nutritional needs of children in the community. Heichel has a business background and retired from JP Morgan Chase Bank, after 16 years of service. She has been a Blendon resident for more than 40 years and has been involved in the community for equally as many years. "My late husband and I raised our family here and volunteered here. I would be honored to continue working to enhance our Blendon neighborhoods," added Heichel.

Flaherty and Heichel outlined some of their recent trustee accomplishments including park developments and improvements, road, landscaping and cemetery improvements. The Westerville Road corridor is currently in process and includes sidewalks, landscaping, lighting, and more. The expansion of community activities including the Memorial Day picnic, the addition of the Community Gardens and the popular free Concert in the Park series are other highlights. They have also solved numerous neighborhood problems, including remedying the water problem for Rolling Ridge. Flaherty and Heichel note that the future of Blendon Township is very bright and they want to continue to work to maximize the township resources to benefit the residents, and continue to enhance the property values of the neighborhoods.



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Flaherty has served as a trustee since 2007. In addition to serving Blendon Township, Flaherty was previously mayor and city council member in Westerville for 13 years. He resigned from Westerville council when he and his wife relocated to Blendon Township. Flaherty is CEO of FlahertyColvin, a financial consulting firm and is a graduate of Denison University. "I chose to live in Blendon Township. I believe my experience in Westerville and understanding of governmental policy has benefitted and enhanced the township," said Flaherty. "The township is in a state of transition and I would like to serve the residents another term in order to continue to work on ways to enhance the township." Flaherty cites the benefits of his relationship with Westerville for the development of the Joint Economic Development Partnership between the two governments. This allows Blendon to earn over \$1 million annually to enhance the township infrastructure, revitalize the neighborhoods, and build up financial reserves that have been hit by the effect of the loss of local government funds from the State.