



# EAST PALESTINE PROGRESS

Your source for Village news and information. | Volume 1, Issue 1 | [epohio.org](http://epohio.org)



Trent R. Conaway

## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:

Welcome to the first issue of East Palestine Progress. You asked for more frequent communication from the village. This monthly newsletter, along with our website, [epohio.org](http://epohio.org), and new social media channels will provide residents and business owners with the news and information they need to know about living and working in East Palestine. Look for it in your mailboxes and like and follow our new social platforms. Stay up-to-date on the good things happening in our town and the exciting upcoming economic revitalization efforts. It's news by and for the Village of East Palestine, and we hope you enjoy it.

– Trent Conaway, Mayor



## New Year, New Look

The Village of East Palestine will be sporting a new look as part of a recent rebranding campaign. More than just a logo, a brand encompasses identity, voice, reputation and image. The logo is a hand-illustrated depiction of some of our most recognizable buildings, in an elegant navy and gold color palette. The tagline, Pride. Tradition. Progress. is representative of our community's strength and resilience, our rich heritage and strong roots, and our aspirations for creating a better future.

# Parks and Recreation Department

This month's Park Board meeting will be held on **February 21st at 6:00pm** at the Municipal Building.

Get moving with Stick it to Fitness exercise classes held every week at the Park Community Center. All classes are SilverSneaker-approved, making them perfect for participants in the SilverSneaker fitness program.

## Stick It To Fitness Schedule:

- **Ladies Chair Volleyball**  
Monday  
9:00 a.m.
- **Chair Yoga**  
Monday and Wednesday  
10:30 a.m.
- **Brains & Balance**  
Wednesday  
9:00 a.m.
- **Cardio Drumming**  
Thursday  
4:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Barb Kliner **234-855-4777**.

# Police Department Highlights

As we reflect on the past year, we would like to share some highlights from the East Palestine Police Department's initiatives and community involvement.

- Our dedicated officers performed a total of 89 Welfare Checks on our residents throughout 2023. These checks are a testament to our commitment to ensuring the well-being and safety of everyone in our community.
- Once again, the members of our Police Department embraced the spirit of "No Shave November." Their efforts contributed to a great cause raising an impressive \$5,410 for our fourth annual "Shop with a Cop" event.
- Thanks to the generosity of those who donated, 25 children in our community experienced the joy of receiving gifts during this holiday season. Your contributions made a meaningful difference, and we are grateful for your support.

## LOCAL INCOME TAX



All residents in the village with earned income must file local income tax. Filing deadline is April 15, 2024, please contact the Regional Income Tax Agency at **1-800-860-7482** or visit [ritaohio.com](http://ritaohio.com).

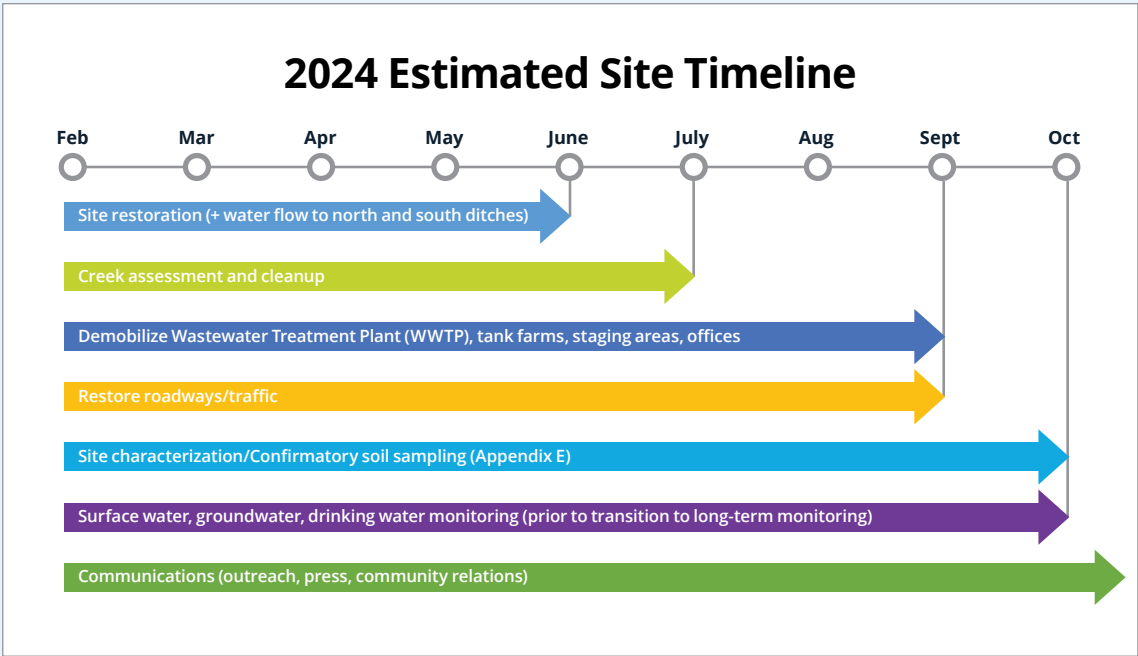
## Street and Utility Department

The East Palestine Street Department kindly reminds residents to refrain from parking on the streets during snowy conditions. This cooperation ensures efficient snow clearance by our plows.

For questions, feel free to contact us at **330-426-4367, ext. 20**.

# The EPA's Remediation Timeline for 2024

This Estimated Site Timeline was provided by the EPA and lists all the work that will be going on in relation to the derailment in the coming months. This schedule is an estimate and is subject to change based on several factors, including without limitation, obtaining required regulatory approvals, access, weather, equipment malfunction, receipt of laboratory results, etc.



## Sound the Alarm Campaign

The American Red Cross will install FREE smoke alarms for residents who are living in housing without adequate working smoke alarms (one per each level of the home). Please pick up a form from the East Palestine Fire Department or the East Palestine Administration Building. Alarm installations will be scheduled beginning 4/20/24 and be completed by your local fire department, CERT or Red Cross volunteers. Residents must sign an agreement form.



## Business Highlight

### NENE'S COLLECTIBLES & GIFTS

NeNe's Collectibles & Gifts offers unique finds to East Palestine. Whether you're shopping for yourself or a friend, this charming shop has it all. NeNe's offers a diverse selection of treasures from antique home decor, glassware, collectibles, locally sourced teas and more. Every item was curated with care by owner Rebecca Varley. The store's name itself is a heartfelt nod to the endearing nickname given by Rebecca's grandchildren. Support your local businesses and visit NeNe's Collectibles & Gifts. Follow them on Facebook!



[Nene's Collectibles & Gifts](#)

## COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## Students Shine in YSU Middle School Honors Band

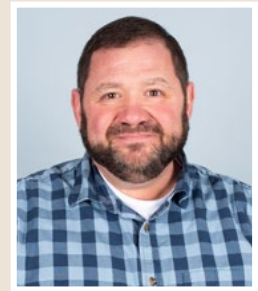
Youngstown State University hosted their first ever Middle School Honors Band bringing together exceptional young musicians from all over Northeast Ohio. Out of over 300 students nominated, 98 were selected to perform in the final concert. Among those selected, three students were from East Palestine Middle School. Rebecca Randolph, Deacon Norton, and Stevie Telischak emerged as standout performers, earning their spot in the band.

Congratulations to these talented young musicians!



*Left to right is Deacon Norton, Rebecca Randolph and Stevie Telischak.*

## Introducing Village Manager Chad Edwards



Chad Edwards

Welcome to the new year, East Palestine! I am the new village manager and I am really excited and grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the village's comeback. With all of us working together, the sky is limit and there is nothing we can't achieve. It may sound cliché, but in my past experiences I have seen some of the things that work and I am confident we can replicate those successes here. I know we can do it.

I originally came from Marietta, Ohio just south of East Palestine. I graduated from Ohio University and obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. I went back to OU later and attended the George Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs earning a Master of Public Administration degree. My family has owned a grocery store across the river in West Virginia since the 1970s and I took up residence there about 25 years ago. My first municipal position was in Sistersville, WV, a beautiful little town on the Ohio River. While I enjoyed my time in the Mountain State, it is good to be back in Appalachian Ohio.

I have worked for four cities in three different states and I am passionate about municipal government. It's one area of public management that can have a direct impact on the people you are serving. I love working with people and enjoy the progress that comes from that teamwork. It is not always easy, but it is always worth it which is why I would not want to do anything else.



# EAST PALESTINE PROGRESS

## Village Council

East Palestine Village Council convenes on the **second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 pm**, hosted at the Municipal Building, 85 N. Market St. Residents desiring to address the Council during a meeting are required to complete an "Agenda Request" available at the Clerk's office. Alternatively, submit a letter outlining your questions or concerns by noon on the Friday preceding the meeting.

- Trent Conaway, **Mayor**
- Doug Simpson, **Councilmember**
- Linda May, **Councilmember**
- Thomas Povenski, **Councilmember**
- Jessica Rocco, **Councilmember**
- Harry "Lenny" Glaven, **Councilmember**
- Tim Blythe, **Councilmember**



## Sharing the Progress We're Making

To keep residents and the wider public informed, the Village of East Palestine and the newly created non-profit organization: East Palestine Community Improvement Corporation have launched a new user-friendly website at [epohio.org](http://epohio.org). This website will focus on our progress forward. We want to proactively communicate to the world the good news that we are on the road to recovery with a resource for factual, consistent and easy-to-understand news and information specifically regarding the clean-up and economic development plans for the Village of East Palestine.

This site does not replace the current website, [eastpalestine-oh.gov](http://eastpalestine-oh.gov), which will continue to be the resource for the Village of East Palestine government and its various departments.

In addition, we have activated new social channels including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn. Please like and follow us.



@villageofepohio