

Village Administrator Jeff Slack: Seasoned leader looks to Roseville's legacy, MPP partnership

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Starting in 2004 as the Roseville Village Administrator, Jeff Slack oversees day-to-day operations. An active community member, Slack considers Roseville's future to be one of a vibrant and engaged community.

With a long history of public-service in his community, Slack joined the Crooksville Police Department in 1982, became part of the Roseville Police Department Auxiliary in 1983, and was Chief from 1985 to 2016.



While the Village of Roseville welcomed settlers in 1804, the village was officially established in 1840. The village currently has a population of around 1,750 residents. In the mid-1980s Roseville saw a boom in population surrounding pottery manufacturing, Slack says.

For this community settled along the "Clay Belt" of Ohio, deposits of clay reserves helped to make the production of stoneware and decorative art pottery a core opportunity for residents of the area. Today, Roseville still has one active pottery company.

One of Slack's greatest accomplishments during his tenure is the creation of a 40-acre park. Just off state Route 93, the park offers visitors multiple recreation opportunities.

"It has primitive camping, it has got a nice two-acre lake and a shelter house," Slack says.

The park was named "Jeff's Park" by his beloved community in order to honor the esteemed community leader.



"It was just strip mine land, the village had bought it to make a reservoir," Slack says.

Along with pottery and various recreation activities Roseville is also home to artist Leslie Cope. Cope moved to Roseville in 1929 to design tiles and work at the Nelson McCoy Pottery Company. His work is housed in the permanent collections of multiple national institutes and museums.

Cope painted a mural at Roseville's municipal building in 1952, highlighting the industry of the surrounding area, Slack says.

As for the Mayor's Partnership for Progress, Slack says after joining around two years ago, it has been a great help to the Village of Roseville.

"This is probably one of the greatest organizations I have ever belonged to," Slack says. "If you do not know something, they will get it to you."

Slack says for those not involved with the Mayors' Partnership; they should become members.

"They do not know what they are missing out on," Slack says. "I mean, it is amazing. There are things that they know that we do not know."

Looking to the future, Slack says he hopes the village can get more businesses back. After losing a school building and the pottery manufacturing companies, he hopes the village can focus on small businesses.