

MADISON TOWNSHIP

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By Sarah Wolfe

Modern Day

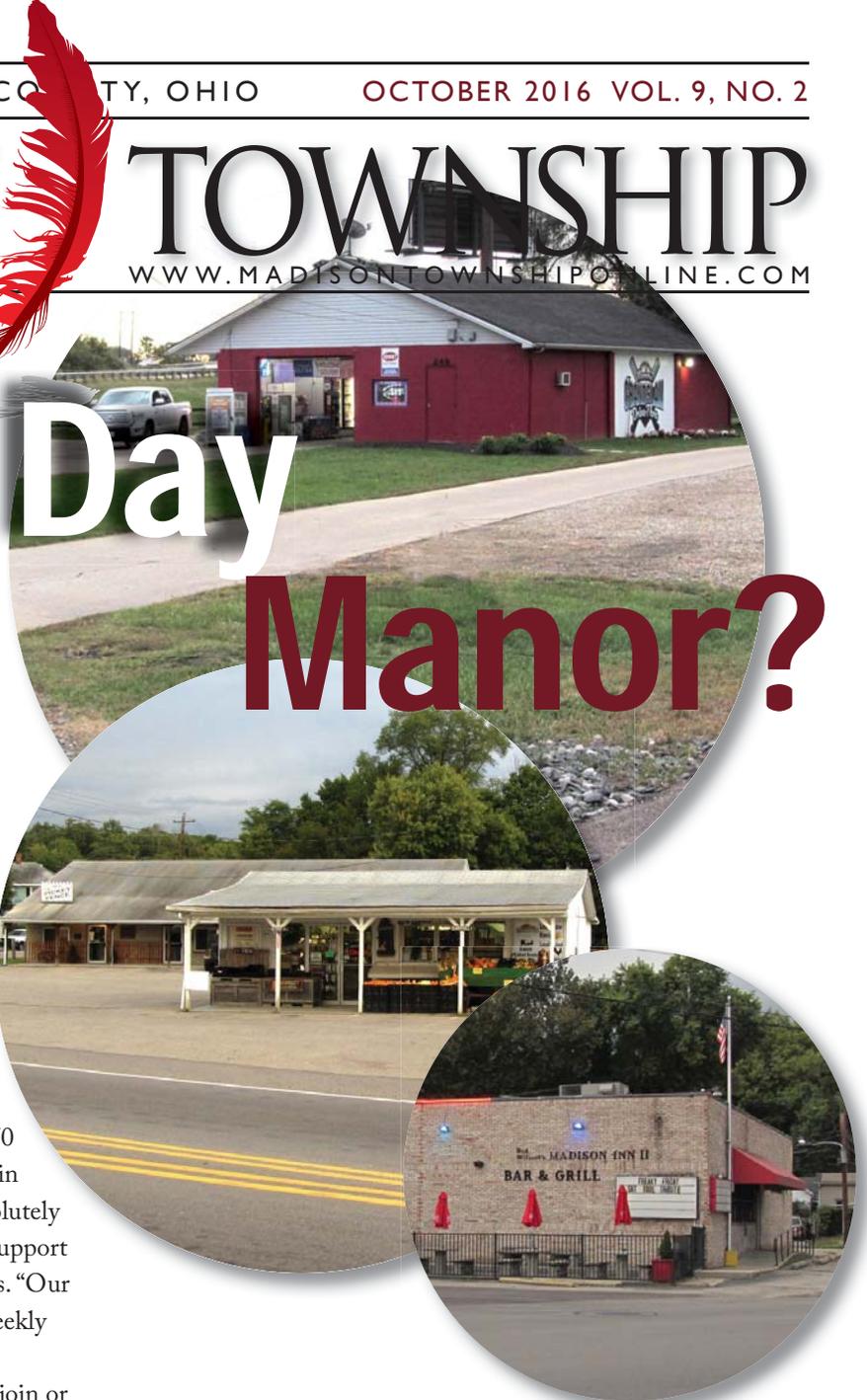
In the middle ages, manor systems were our “small towns”. They were built around a lord’s castle with vassals and serfs helping to create this self-sustaining community. Pretty much like a tiny town within a city. Hey! Kind of like us. Madison Township is often associated as being a part of Middletown. We are, and proud to be, but we are also our own entity in this world. With the idea that we are a manor system, we also are building our own economy.

In Middletown over the last few years, you may have noticed a rise in small businesses. Some of these businesses are growing within our own little manor. Places like The Madison Inn and Madison Feed, which have been here longer than I can remember, set the foundation for the steady small business in Madison. The Madison Inn, for example, has been a part of our community for 170 years, and the new ownership will be celebrating 40 years in October. Charlie Wilmot, the owner, told me that he absolutely loves the atmosphere in Madison. He appreciates all the support the township gives them and especially loves their regulars. “Our regulars are the backbone of our business. Without our weekly customers, we are all out of jobs.”

These customers have also inspired other businesses to join or expand our community, like Picket Fence, a store in our “West Middletown Mall” across from Madison Inn that sells home décor and accents, and Peggy’s Produce, the fruit stand on the corner of Route 122 and Trenton Franklin Road. We can’t forget Madison Feed just down Trenton Franklin and Go Fish bait shop on the other corner. Not to mention Marion’s Drive Thru that carries all types of necessities without having to head across the bridge. We even have our own “food truck”, CW BBQ, that is making a run at serving some yummy food “to go” on selected weekends. These places are creating a hometown charm that is differentiating Madison Township from the businesses across the river in Middletown.

Much like the Poasttown area at Route 4 and Trenton Franklin Road, where our local businesses like Madison Auto Care and the

Manor?



summer season J&E Root Beer Stand have prospered for many years, the entrepreneurial spirit is still thriving among in many areas of Madison Township. There are many small businesses popping up in homes and empty storefronts. There are many more than I have mentioned here.

As I drive around the township, I find my eyes catching colorful logos of establishments I had not noticed before. I hope these businesses, new and old, find much success for many years to come. Their success, like the manor system, is dependent upon the contributions of the people who live within it. We are Madison Township, each one of us, and are the contributors to our community success. Personally, I have loved growing up here. I hope we continue to grow economically, but in a “manor” that keeps our small town feeling. **MT**

YOUR Township Administrator...

By Todd Farler,

Madison Township Administrator



Madison Township moves towards energy aggregation: Issue 8 on November 8th ballot will potentially save resident dollars.

Energy costs almost always seem to go up, never down; but up or down, most local utility companies own the infrastructures that deliver our energy, so they have us over a proverbial barrel – we have to buy their product at their price. Right?

Not anymore. In 1999 the State of Ohio General Assembly passed legislation allowing Ohio to become a deregulated state, and at least when it comes to electricity and natural gas, Ohio consumers can now purchase electric and natural gas from providers other than a traditional utility company.

But purchasing an energy commodity from an alternative supplier can be confusing for the average homeowner. Letters come in the mail seeking a homeowner’s business, sales reps knock at the door, each offering different promises; each guaranteeing savings. But without an intimate knowledge of the energy market and a crystal ball that would predict next month’s or next year’s energy prices, most homeowners are in the dark and at the mercy of marketer’s promises.

That confusion is about to end for Madison Township residents. On November 8th, voters will have the opportunity to vote in favor of creating a blanket opt-out municipal aggregation program designed to save money for the township’s residential and small business electric consumers.

At the June 15th, 2016 Madison Township Board of Trustees meeting, the trustees approved resolutions that were then filed with the Butler County Board of Elections, to place electricity and aggregation issues before voters on the November 8th ballot.

ALL registered voters will be able to vote on this issue, regardless if you plan to enter in to the aggregation. By passing this issue, it allows the township to move forward with trying to secure the best possible pricing for electric rates for our resident.

It’s called governmental aggregation, but what is governmental aggregation? How is it different from that salesman knocking at the individual homeowner’s door promising savings but without a guarantee?

According to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) website, Ohio’s laws allow for communities – political subdivisions such as townships, villages, cities, and counties – to form aggregated buying groups on behalf of their citizens. The governmental aggregator chooses an outside supplier for all of the customer-members in its group; and aggregations can be formed to buy natural gas, electricity or both. In our case, we will only be seeking electric aggregation for our residents. We have selected Trebel LLC as our aggregator and will be working with them to get the best pricing for electric that will be available to our residents.

Continued on page 5.

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VICE PRESIDENT

Brian McGuire 513-429-8710

TRUSTEE

Thomas Hall 513-254-5204

FISCAL OFFICER

Amy Schenck..... 513-464-0730

ADMINISTRATOR

Todd Farler 513-424-0821

WEBSITE

www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

TOWNSHIP CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES ALWAYS CALL911
 Madison Township Admin. Building.....513-424-0821
 Fire Station 151 (Elk Creek Road).....513-988-9124
 Fire Station 152 (Germantown Road).....513-424-3384

Fire Station 153 (Mosiman Road).....	513-425-9009
Madison Board of Education	513-420-4750
Butler County Sheriff	513-424-2456
Butler County Auditor	513-887-3154
Butler County Engineer.....	513-424-9144
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Butler County Zoning.....	513-424-5351
Butler County Health Department.....	513-863-1770
Butler Rural Electric Cooperative.....	513-867-4400
Southwest Regional Water.....	800-232-5330
Duke Energy.....	800-634-4300
Dayton Power and Light.....	937-224-6000
Middletown Public Library.....	513-424-1251

MISSION STATEMENT OF MADISON TOWNSHIP

The mission of Madison Township is to serve the best interests of our residents by providing and maintaining a safe, healthy, and enjoyable community in which to live, work and play. To protect the general welfare of our rural community by utilizing efficient and effective public services and being dedicated to increasing the quality of life for our residents.

TRUSTEE News...

Alan Daniel
Trustee



HOPE everyone had a good summer as we approach the fall season again. It is nice to go to the park in the mornings and see the many walkers utilizing our walking paths, and the athletic fields full of soccer and football players in the evening. The park has truly been an asset for the community as well as for other communities who continue to use our facility.

Since taking over the Miltonville Cemetery in March, the township has made many improvements to the grounds. I have heard numerous comments as to the overall better condition of the cemetery. I would like to thank the road crew for this, as I know they have spent a significant amount of time and energy to make this happen.

Our firemen and EMS personnel continue to do an outstanding job serving the people of Madison Township. I would also like to thank them for their continued service to our community.

In closing I would like to thank the people of Madison Township for their support in passing our road levy. The passage of this levy was vital in bringing our budget back where it needed to be to provide good safe roads to our township.

Have a great fall and a safe winter. **MT**

A BIG special THANK YOU to Servpro of Middletown for their donation to the Madison Township Fire Department, which allowed us to purchase body armor gear for our EMS crews to use in volatile situations.

Thank you Servpro for helping to keep our EMS personnel safe!



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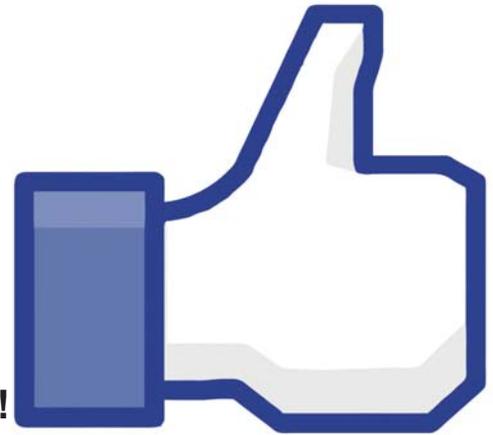
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Don Roberson, NRA Certified Instructor



By the end of the year, Madison Township will have its own Facebook page!



Keep your ears and phones open to follow us and see what's happening in your township!

“Madison Township Recycling Event 2017”



Madison Township will be hosting a recycling event for Madison Township Residents in the Spring of 2017.

We are trying to secure funding and work on the logistics that will allow you to bring latex paint, paper, motor oil and MAYBE tires, to be recycled.

Look for information on our website in the spring, or follow us on our soon to be released Facebook page!

Continued from page 2.

All governmental aggregators, such as Trebel, must be certified by the PUCO. If an aggregator is going to provide natural gas and/or electric buying services, it must be certified separately for each industry. Certification by the PUCO means aggregation firms like Trebel have met strict requirements for doing business in Ohio.

For blanket opt-out residential electricity programs to exist, political subdivisions must put the issues on the ballot (Opt-in aggregation programs do not have to be approved by voters). However, the Madison Township Trustees decided to give the ultimate decision to the residents, by allowing them to vote on the issue. Residents must approve the issues by at least 50 percent of the voter turnout in political subdivision precincts.

Voter approval does not obligate the township to proceed with aggregation; but it does give the Madison Township Trustees the authority to negotiate aggregation on behalf of their residential constituents. Additionally, voting yes for the approval of an aggregation program does not obligate residents to participate on an individual basis, but allows for your neighbors to still benefit.

If the issue passes, letters will be sent to eligible residents, who then have 21 days to notify the energy supplier if they want to opt-out and not participate in the program. If any residents or small businesses are already in a contract with another alternative supplier, they would not be included in the opt-out plan; and those who do opt-out would have the opportunity to opt-in when the contract is renewed. There is NO early termination fee's with this program. You can enter and leave the aggregation at any time. As a note: members of Butler Rural Electric Co-Op and residents on the HEAP program are not eligible to enter the aggregation, but they are allowed to vote on the issue.

It should also be noted that Madison Township does not receive ANY type of compensation from Trebel LLC or the aggregation. This is simply something that the Board of Trustees is trying to put in place to help save our residents money.

Trebel, LLC, is the certified aggregator that the township chose to utilize for our aggregation. They have worked closely with us over the last several months and are helping us to put together an aggregation that we believe will be beneficial for the majority of our residents. The company was founded in 2010 to bring alternative energy providers directly to consumers and businesses.

For additional information about Trebel LLC and energy aggregation services, or if you simply have more questions about the aggregation, you can directly contact Scott Belcastro via email at scott@electricsuppliers.org, or phone 877-861-2772. Trebel LLC, is based in Westerville, Ohio. **MT**



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OutdoorCorner By Alan Cady

SPIDERS IN YOUR HOUSE

As the days grow shorter and temperatures drop, the six and eight-legged creatures sharing our surroundings begin to seek warmer areas for overwintering spots. This is one reason why people seem to see more spiders and other arthropods in their house than at other times of the year. Also, this is when a number of spider species attain maturity, and the males are out searching for mates. This time of year people also see large orb-weaving spiders occupying various spaces outside their homes. These spiders actually were around all summer, but now is the time that females mature to full-size and move into the larger websites conveniently provided by us by building window frames, porches, eaves, and stairways. This is a good time to observe and appreciate these interesting animals, and I thought this is an opportunity to share some information about a few spiders commonly found in our houses and how to return them to the outdoors.

FAMILIAR FRIENDS

There are a half dozen (or so) spider species which often appear in our houses. They usually are females looking for food. I like to remind folks that spiders usually don't stay where there is nothing to eat, so if a web-building spider has set up housekeeping in your home, there are other arthropods there too. Moreover, that spider is serving you as an agent of biological control, and since many of them place their webs in out-of-the-way places, it is easy for us to coexist with them. I'd also like to point out that since a vast majority of spider species are very small, and spider are very common, you probably aren't more than a dozen feet away from a spider. You see them only when they reveal themselves.

The **Common House Spider** (*Parasteatoda tepidariorum*) is probably the single most common spider denizen of human structures, both inside and out (Fig. 1). They build a 'tangled web' with amazing mechanical properties enabling them to capture prey many times their size and strength. This makes them very good at catching just about any insect that may enter your house. They hang upside down in their webs, usually accompanied by a number of egg sacs, which are about the color of a paper grocery bag (Fig. 1). They usually don't build inside the houses, but prefer garages and porches where structure affords places to hang their web.

Funnel Weaver or Grass Spiders (genera *Agelena*, *Agelenopsis*, *Tegenaria*) build the familiar dense sheet web on vegetation or in a corner, narrowing down to a funnel going into a crack or crevice (Fig. 2). The web is not sticky (like an orb

web). It serves to slow the prey's escape and signal the spider, which rushes out of their retreat in the funnel and then pulls the prey back into the funnel. These spiders usually don't build in the houses, but in the Fall the long-legged males often enter homes while looking for females.

The **Parson Spider** (*Herpyllus ecclesiasticus*) gets its name from the markings on the abdomen resembling an old-style cravat worn by clergy in the 18th century (Fig. 3). They do not build webs and run very quickly. I have seen them only in houses, usually in kitchens (where most of their prey could be found).

The **Longbodied or Longlegged Cellar Spider** (*Pholcus phalangioides*) hangs upside down from its long, thin legs on a flimsy, filmy web, mostly in cellars and garages (Fig. 4).

They sometimes will build in the corners of ceilings, and their abandoned webs form the classic 'cobweb'. This spider depends on humans to provide sheltered places to live, but will be found in caves and hollow trees. They are a weak spider, but still capture flies and mosquitoes. When disturbed they sometimes will 'whirl' (swinging on their legs in a horizontal circle) so fast they become a blur. Sometimes you'll see a female holding

their egg mass in their palps.

The **Dock or Fishing Spiders** (genus *Dolomedes*) are large, robust, very impressive spiders (Fig. 5). I get many calls about this spider in the Spring when people are starting to use outdoor sheds and garages. They do not build webs, but hide in dark, often moist places during the day, coming out at night to eat beetles, crickets, and cockroaches. Although they look fierce, they are quite docile, and will run away when disturbed.

Wolf Spiders (genera *Lycosa*, *Rabidoso*, *Tigrosa*, *Schizocosa*) are a common guest in houses. These wandering spiders can be large, and so attract attention when they romp across your kitchen floor (Figs. 6 & 7). They are good mothers, carrying their egg sac with them (attached to their spinnerets), and after it hatches their spiderlings ride on top of on

Continued on page 10.

FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2



FIGURE 3



FIGURE 4



FIGURE 5



FIGURE 6



FIGURE 7





MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Achieving Excellence One Student at a Time

M.A.S.K. *Resurrection*

A HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY FOR DRAMA CLUB STUDENTS, FAMILY, AND ALUMNI

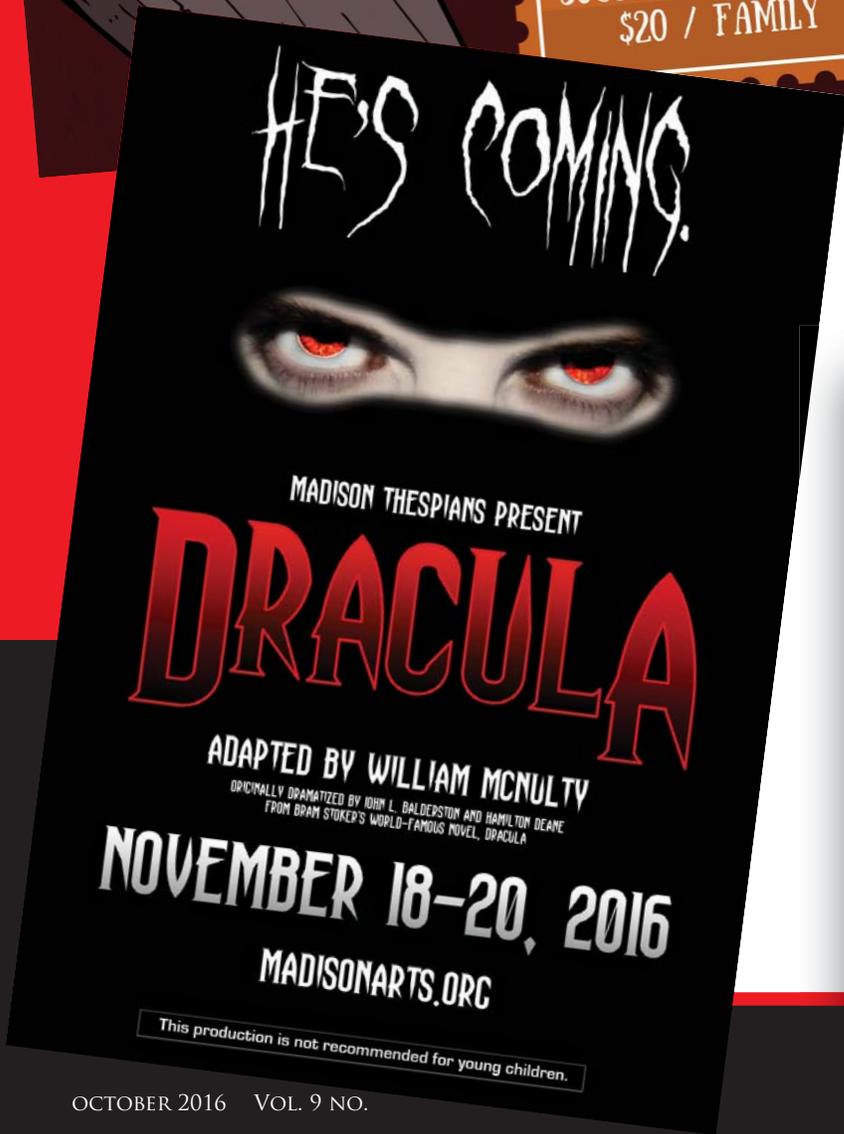
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1931 'DRACULA' SCREENING

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Drama Club

MASK RESURRECTION:

Madison's Drama booster organization, MASK, is hosting the MASK Resurrection Halloween Party. Drama club members (including all cast and crew in the show), their families, and Madison drama alumni are invited to dress up, eat pizza and watch the most famous Dracula of all: Bela Lugosi. Donations to MASK are requested. RSVP at: bit.ly/MaskHalloween

DRACULA:

The Madison Drama Club will present its fall production, Dracula, on November 18 and 19 at 7:30 pm, and November 20 at 2:30 pm. This adaptation of the infamous vampire tale is an intense story of good versus evil, full of action and surprises, even for the experienced vampire hunter. This production is not recommended for young children. Ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens, and can be ordered in advance at MadisonArts.org.

Upcoming Dates

OCTOBER 17, 2016

Conference Exchange Day – NO SCHOOL

OCTOBER 18, 2016

Fall Choir Concert, Grades 7-12

OCTOBER 20, 2016

MES Fall Family Night

NOVEMBER 8, 2016

Staff Professional Development –
NO SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 18-20, 2016

Fall Play, "Dracula"

NOVEMBER 23-25, 2016

Thanksgiving Break – NO SCHOOL



MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Achieving Excellence One Student at a Time

Homecoming 2016



SENIORS:

(left to right) Dyllan Cole, Katie Layne, Eric Trent, Madison Martin, John Cox, Sammy Creekbaum, Bailey Durnil, Taylor Phelps, Kevin Myles, Ally Hoskins, Collin Osterday, Jaelin Vangrimbergen, Danny Sturgis, Sarah Wolfe



FRESHMEN:

(left to right)
Grant Whisman, Lillian Corder,
Mallory Getz, Quincy Brown



SOPHOMORES:

(left to right) Cameron Svarda, Acasia McGuire,
Tara Price, Ryan Duritsch

QUEEN AND KING:
Ally Hoskins & Kevin Myles



JUNIORS:
(left to right)
Stephen Watts,
Patience Schenck,
Ana Sulentic,
Clayton Asher

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**MES FALL FAMILY FUN
NIGHT**

October 20th 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Don't miss Fall Family Fun Night at Madison Elementary School! This year the Madison Elementary TRIBE will host all students and families in grades PK-6 for hayrides, teach-or-treat, face painting, family photos and more. Even bring your own materials from home to build a scarecrow! Food and drink concessions will be available as well.

Continued from page 6.

her abdomen (Fig. 7). As with the other spiders previously mentioned, they eat many insects that invade your home.

HOW TO MOVE SPIDERS OUTSIDE

However beneficial spiders may be many folks prefer not to have them in their home. Many spiders who unfortunately find themselves in a dwelling come to a bad end, and the homeowner has a mess to clean up. Perhaps it would be better for everyone if unwanted spiders were ushered out of the house and released back outside where they may realize their biological potential. With a little knowledge of their behavior and a readily available container, most spiders may be excused outside with little fuss.

Most wandering spiders (e.g. wolf spiders, Parson spider, Funnel Weaving spider) will readily run into a jar, glass, or small box. They usually run straight forward when prompted. Just place the container about 4-5 inches in front of the spider and blow a small puff of air on their backside and they usually will run

straight into the container. Be quick to close it since they might run rapidly back out. Web building spiders (e.g. Common House spider, Longbodied Cellar spider) that hang upside down in their web usually drop when disturbed. Thus, place the container under them and then blow a puff of air on them to encourage dropping down. Please be aware that they will have a dragline connected to the web that could pull them back out of the container. If a harvestman (Grand-daddy Longlegs) needs to be moved, please remember that they are not spiders, and are harmless. Just carefully pick them up with a cupped hand and move them outside.

I hope you know more about the spiders who could visit your home, and that you might let some of them stay (perhaps in garages, sheds, and cellars) to serve a biological control service and perhaps give you some pleasure observing these very interesting animals. **MT**

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Road Department:

By Todd Daniel

I would like to give a little bit of an overview on our road situation. As many of you are aware in 2010 the State of Ohio decided it needed to cut or reappropriate some funding. In doing so they decided to take the Local Government Fund from the Townships in Ohio. To us this meant \$250,000.00 annually. Because of this the Trustees decided they must take measures to ensure that one of our core responsibilities is funded and secure. In the fall of 2014 the people of Madison Township also decided that road conditions are a priority and passed the levy by one vote. Since the passage of our road levy we are now on track to bringing our roads back up to the condition we all expect. From 1999-2013 we were treating an avg. of 1.84 miles per year. From 2014-2016 we have treated an avg. of 3.63 miles per year doubling our old output which puts us at a 14.6 years per treatment avg. Which is about exactly where we need to be putting us on a sustainable track.



2017 PAVING SCHEDULE:

Thomas Rd. – Sloebig Rd. to Middletown Germantown Rd.
Dickey Rd.- West Alexandria Rd. to Kalbfleisch Rd.
Howe Rd. – Wayne Madison Rd. to Elk Creek Rd.
Pleasant Hill Cemetery

Base repair, crack fill and culvert replacements on various other roads.

The Butler County Engineers office will also be doing a bridge replacement on the north end of Browns Run Rd. right at the Hetzler Rd. intersection in 2017 at a cost of around \$300,000.00

Note: These roads and projects are tentative and can change.

CEMETERIES

Since our last newsletter we have now taken over full responsibilities of the Miltonville Cemetery. This now puts us at 5 cemeteries that are in our care. Since March we have made some significant improvements to the grounds. Which include 700' of new chain link fence across the front of the property, base repair work on the driveway, a new cemetery sign designed, built and installed by our road crew. Also the removal of various large dead trees and the installation of a flag pole that was donated by one of our residents. Mr. Terry Knott.

In the next several months we will also be hiring a contractor to restore the receiving tomb to its original condition as well as removal and replacement of the roof on the storage building.

I would also like for everyone to know that with the transfer of responsibility of the Miltonville Cemetery comes the transfer of our policies to this property. As with our other cemeteries there is a large sign attached to the fence to the left of the entrance describing what is allowable in our cemetery. If you have any questions or concerns about this please contact our office. We

will continue to pour footers on a quarterly basis for the installation of headstones.

RECYCLE PROGRAM

We continue to provide recycle bins at 3 locations in our Township. One at the Administration building. One at station 152 in Poasttown and the last one at the community park. Please take advantage of this when using recyclables in the park as this will cut down on our trash pick up and help the environment.

WINTER

As winter approaches here are a few reminders

- * If approaching or following a plow truck do so with caution as visibility can be a issue.
- * Do not pass a plow truck unless absolutely necessary.
- * When removing snow from your driveway do not push the snow into the road as this will create a hazard for motorist. When pushing it from your driveway place it to the right side of your apron to prevent the plow truck from pushing it back into your driveway.

I would just like to once again say thank you to the people of Madison Township for caring about this community. I believe after dealing with the recession of 2008-09 and the salt shortage in 2013-14 and the high oil prices during that time that things appear to be tapering off a bit. We have seen blacktop prices stabilize. Fuel prices fall and salt prices as well. As we just received word on our 2017 contract there will be an 8% decrease from last year. Overall I believe we are in a good position and moving in the right direction. Drive safely and enjoy the beautiful fall weather here in our Township! **MT**

MADISON TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS NEEDED TO SERVE ON THE BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Here's a great way to serve your township at the county level!!

The Board of County Commissioners is currently seeking Butler County residents to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals is for a voluntary, Five-year term. Interested candidates must reside in the unincorporated portion of Butler County and must be able to attend meeting on Tuesday evenings in Hamilton.

County residents who are looking for an opportunity to serve their community as part of the Board of Zoning Appeals should send a letter of interest, including a brief biography or resume, to: Jim Fox, Zoning and Floodplain Manager, 130 High Street, Hamilton Ohio 45011

Questions should be directed to the
Building and Zoning Department.

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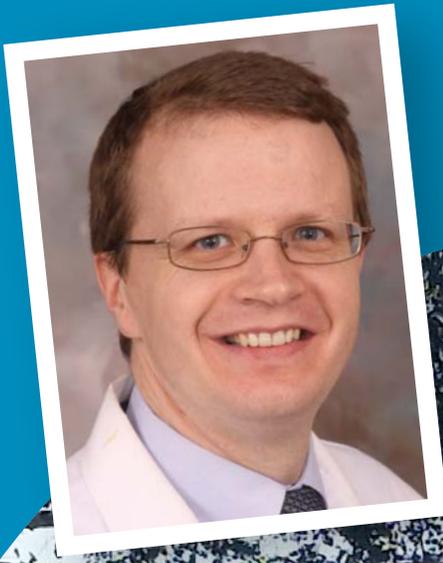
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Township History

By J. Larry Helton, Jr.



SHAWNEE CHIEF TOM KILLBUCK

It was not Mohawk Indians that inhabited the land on which we live, but those of the Miami and later the Shawnee tribes. Between the 1660s and the early 1700s, French traders along the Great Miami River encountered the Miami Indians, thus the river's name. The Miami Nation's chief town was Pickawillany, now Piqua, but their land claims were vast. At one time the Miamis were one of the largest and most powerful tribes in the nation. They cleared large areas for raising corn and farmed the prairie lands along the Great Miami River. The Miamis were found to be of a peaceful nature towards the explorers and traders, yet brave defenders of their lands. They lived longer in the Ohio Lands than any of the other Indians of modern times.

In 1763, after the French and Indian Wars, the Miamis gave up their stronghold below Pickawillany and settled in areas around the Maumee River. The Miamis had been pushed out by "the most savage of Indian nations", the Shawnees. The Shawnees had migrated to the Ohio Lands from the Southeast, were nomadic, first settling in the Scioto River Valley, before moving westward for better hunting grounds.

With the defeat of the Shawnees at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794 and the signing of the Treaty of Greenville in

1795, the Shawnees and other Indian tribes were being forced from this area, from their homelands in what would later become Darke and Greene Counties, from the Ohio Lands, and into the Indiana Territory.

By the time the early pioneers of 1799-1806 were coming to settle in what would become Madison Township, there were only a few Shawnees that remained in the area. Early pioneer children were playmates of the Shawnee children. The adults of each group were friendly, yet cautious. As settlements progressed in the county the Shawnees continued to migrate to the northern townships where a few elk, deer, and bear could be hunted. Bread, milk, meat, and whiskey were often asked of the pioneers, but just as often hogs and horses were stolen. The Shawnees would sometimes approach wearing full war dress, painted, and with their scalping knives and at other times be dressed in a uniform of a "killed or robbed officer or soldier", so the story goes.

The legendary Shawnee Chief Tom Killbuck is the most noted and remembered in these township lands of Madison and Wayne. Tom Killbuck had a brother named Bill Killbuck, and lived with

Continued on page 16.



"A special thank you to CUB Scout Pack 28 for putting out the US Flags on our veterans graves throughout our township cemeteries for Memorial Day."

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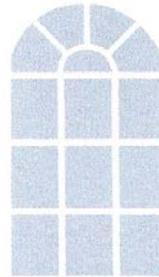
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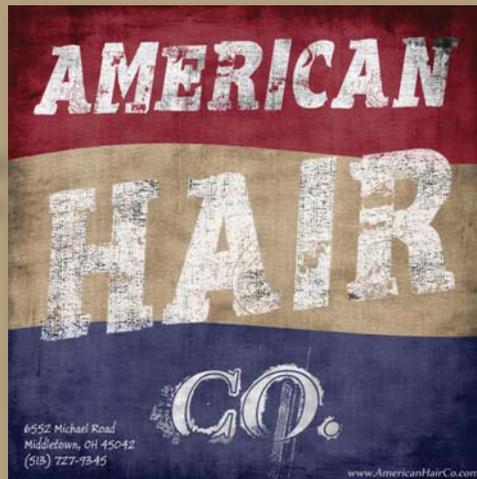
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other Shawnees in wigwams along a branch of Elk Creek, north of Flag Run, now named in the chief's honor – Killbuck. Tom and Bill were their chosen English names and Killbuck from an event, following Indian tradition.

Early county historian, James McBride writes of Elk Creek, Section 7, "Tom Killbuck was the Indian chief. After two years, three families came from Kentucky and settled in adjoining sections making too many white people for the red men. Then they moved their wigwams three miles northeast on a branch of Elk Creek, now called Killbuck Run, after the name of the Indian chief." Today this second camp is found down a private drive along Stubbs Road in Wayne Township. It was during this time c1799 that the first pioneer family was of Samuel M. Dickey, whose children's only playmates for two years were Shawnee children, before the other two families arrived from Kentucky. A hundred years later, a descendant of the Dickey family wrote, "Tom Killbuck, an Indian Chief had his tribe in the area my ancestors settled on Elk Creek. They were a friendly tribe and the Chief was sort of a religious person."

There were two other early pioneer families in the area that made mention of Tom Killbuck. The first being, "Mr. Daniel Pottenger who entered the western half of Section 2 of Milford Township in 1804 at the time Indians remained upon their hunting-grounds, one of whom was called Tom Killbuck, who assisted Mr. Pottenger to raise his log cabin." The second in 1807, Wayne Township pioneer James Leslie stated, "He refused to leave his ancient land and died along the Run being buried at the Mount Pleasant Cemetery at Poasttown. Others say he went west to Indiana to join his tribe. I would say he died here; he was too old to travel and he took up with pioneer ways."

In the same area that Tom Killbuck lived was Shawnee Chief Mishawa, believed to have been killed at the Battle of the Thames in Canada in 1813, during the War of 1812. He had fought under the great Shawnee Chief Tecumseh, who was also killed during

this battle. With the end of Indian resistance and most of the Shawnees now out of Ohio, the population along Killbuck had dwindled down to but a few old Indians, including Tom Killbuck, who remained on their ancestral lands.

Stories of Chief Tom Killbuck and his clan being friendly, religious, helping erect a cabin, and even being visited by the "boys of Madison" is overshadowed by early Wayne Township reports of Tom only being half-civilized, often entering the Shiloh Schoolhouse in the winter time to get warm, and the rumor of, "the Indians once surprised a party while intrerring one of their number, and scalped one or two," at the Shiloh Church Burial Grounds along Middletown-Eaton Pike in the early 1800s.

Whether Shawnee Chief Tom Killbuck went on to the Indiana Territory or died upon his ancestral lands, there is a grave at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Cemetery on Thomas Road that claims to be his. The grave is in the first row of the old section, to the right of the church building. The original, simple, creek-bed memorial, flat-stone rock is gone, being replaced by a small boulder that at one time had his name painted upon. Directly in front of Tom's grave is a modern gravestone of "Chief Johnnie Killbuck 1845-1907". Finding no records, it is assumed a descendant – a grandson or nephew. Church records list Tom Killbuck as a war veteran having served as a scout for the Colonial Army during the American Revolution.

Fact, with probably a bit of fiction, Shawnee Chief Tom Killbuck and his clan of Shawnees are important historical figures from our native people and township's past.

Research from the works and notes of George Crout; Alan Eckert; Roger Miller; Donna Walter; A History and Biographical Cyclopedia of Butler County, Ohio 1882; Bicentennial 1776-1976 Celebration, Jacksonburg, Ohio; Jacksonburg, Ohio Sesqui-centennial 1835-1985; Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Records; personal research. **MT**



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SPECIALIZING IN STORM DAMAGE & HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL

By Rick Henry

Gardening

AN ENCHANTING ORNAMENTAL

In Japan, the Japanese Maple is said to possess “a poetic, rather than visual, quality.” It is very interesting to me that Japanese paintings tend to include cherry trees and pines; but, it is the Japanese Maple which is captured in Japanese songs (*waka*) and Japanese poetry (*haiku*). It is hard to overstate the captivating aesthetics of these maples placed in just the right spot in one’s landscape. The Japanese Maple (*acer palmatum*) is native to Japan, China, and Korea, but it grows very well and is very hardy in most of the United States. I have three different cultivars that I have enjoyed for over 20 years in my backyard here in Madison Township. Through our diverse and sometimes harsh weather, these virtually no-maintenance trees have proved to be as tough as they are enchanting.

In the present day there are over 700 cultivars/types of Japanese Maples. There are many varieties to choose from in size, shape, and leaf texture. It can sometimes be overwhelming when one decides to purchase a Japanese Maple. However, to simplify things it is helpful to consider two basic categories of maples: 1.) Upright broadleaf and 2.) Spreading lace-leaf. And, within these two categories there are two long-time favorites I can strongly recommend. Based on my personal experience, in my own backyard and elsewhere, an excellent choice for an upright broadleaf maple is “*Acer Palmatum Bloodgood*.” Also an excellent choice for a spreading/low-growing lace-leaf maple is “*Acer Palmatum Dissectum*”. One absolutely cannot go wrong with either of these favorites here in Madison Township. Like most Japanese Maples these offer four season beauty and are a most satisfying addition to one’s landscape. Either of these is just perfect for anything from a cottage garden style landscape to a formal planting. The fall colors and the winter interest provided from the artful framework of these maples are appreciated very much by most homeowners.

In the end, of course, it is up to the individual to choose which maple is most attractive and appealing. There is one word of warning here though for the first time buyer. Once one decides on a particular Japanese Maple, make sure this is what you are purchasing, and it is indicated exactly by the genus, species, and cultivar on the plant tag. For example with the above



recommendation for a broadleaf upright maple: ‘*Acer*’ is the genus; ‘*Palmatum*’ is the species; and ‘*Bloodgood*’ is the cultivar.

In many discount stores and home improvement stores one will see Japanese Maples selling for \$20 - \$35 depending on the size of the container. They will look like the other more expensive cultivars, but the tag will show only ‘*Acer Palmatum*’ (no cultivar). In this case one is buying only the root stock that the desirable maples are grafted on to—in this case as tempting as it is to purchase this maple because of price this is an inferior ornamental. The leaves will be smaller, the foliage will be sparse, and both the summer and fall color will be dull. In this case, if one purchases one of these maples, one did not get a ‘*Bloodgood*’ but something else. Usually, about \$85-\$100 is the minimum to be paid for either an upright broadleaf or spreading lace-leaf. So, the word of warning is once the decision on which maple to purchase has been made and the shopping begins pay very close attention to the plant tag.

There is not space in this article to even begin to do justice to the subject of the enchanting Japanese Maple. But, if you have never seen a Japanese Maple, this might be just the plant you are looking for to fill a certain spot in your landscape. They grow so well here in our area, and if planted in a spot that allows them to reach their mature size require almost no pruning or care. Hopefully, the above technical information is helpful to the first time buyer and from there, after planting day, possibly the poetic quality of the Japanese Maple may speak for itself. **MT**

MADISON TOWNSHIP FIRE CHRISTMAS EVE SANTA RUN



This is the route that Santa will be making on Christmas Eve night throughout our township.

SOUTH POLE (Station 151, Miltonville), leaving at 3:00pm. Santa leaves station and goes south on Elk Creek Rd and turns around at the twp line. Santa then makes a right onto Howe Rd and then left onto Mosiman Rd stopping by Moder Ln, Ristaneo Dr, Weatherwood, Marts Dr and Circle Pkwy. Santa continues down Mosiman Rd crossing 122 to stop by Blair Ct. Santa will then backtrack up Mosiman Rd and turn left onto Eck rd stopping by April Cr and Sandra Lee Ln. Santa then turns left onto Howe Rd merging with Trenton Franklin Rd and stops by Leichy Ave. Santa then crosses 122 circling around Vine St and back to 122 west. Santa then stops by Emrick Dr and continues up Hill St, right on Emerson then continues up 122. Santa stops by Knoll Ln and Beverly Ln and then turns right onto Hursh Rd. Santa then turns right onto West Alex and turns around at Sunoco, then backtracks down West Alex and turns right onto Dickey Rd. Santa then makes a left turn onto Kalbleisch Rd, left on Elk Creek Rd and then right onto West Alex. Santa then turns left on Strebee Rd stopping by Lenrose and Preblewood Dr. Santa will then turns around at the County line and continue his route south on Elk Creek Rd. Santa then makes a right turn onto 122, a right on Renee then left on Elk Creek, left on Eunice, right on JoAnne, left on Ernestine, stopping by Erika, Kyle, and Ada Dr. Santa will then turn left off of Norma Dr onto 122 and turn right onto Elk creek Rd. Santa will then turn right onto Howe Rd, right onto Wayne Madison Rd and turn around at the dead end. Then back to South Pole.

NORTH POLE (station 152, Poasttown), leaving at 3:00pm. Santa's first stop will be at Catalina Mobile Home Park. From there the route will continue to Corlee Ln and Aljen Rd, then north on old Germantown Rd crossing Rt4, then east on Thomas Rd. Santa then makes a right on Franklin Madison Rd to Rickard Acres, right onto Perry Ave, left onto Gerry St, down Lorraine and Evelyn Dr. From Evelyn Dr onto Franklin Madison Rd, right onto Trenton Franklin Rd, then left onto Winfield Dr, right on Dalewood Dr, and then back onto Trenton Franklin Rd going west, stopping by Otter Creek, Gleneagle, and Dairy Ln. Santa then continues west on Trenton Franklin Rd turning right onto Michael Rd, making another right onto Hetzler Rd, left onto Kalbleisch turning onto Mont Crest Estates, then continuing west on Kalbleisch Rd. Santa then turns right onto Dickey Rd merging into No Mans Rd, then turning left onto Elk Creek and left onto Kalbleisch Rd, returning to Hetzler Rd and turning left, then making a right turn onto Keister, stopping by Bertha and May Ave. Santa then continues east on Keister Rd, crossing Rt 4, stopping by Twin Oaks. Santa then back tracks to Old Germantown Rd and heads south. He then stops by Hoover Ct and Ora Ln. Santa then continues on Germantown Rd and turns right onto Myers Rd, left onto Browns Run Rd, left onto Thomas Rd, right onto Cloister Cliffs Dr, left on Litchfield Ln. Santa continues down Neiderdale Way then right on Sloebig stopping by Bunker Ln. Santa then continues on down Sloebig and turns right onto Thomas Rd and stops by Middlemoor Ln. Santa then turns right going west down Thomas Rd and make another left onto Browns Run Rd. Santa will then complete his route at Browns Run and Trenton Franklin Rd. Then back to the North Pole.

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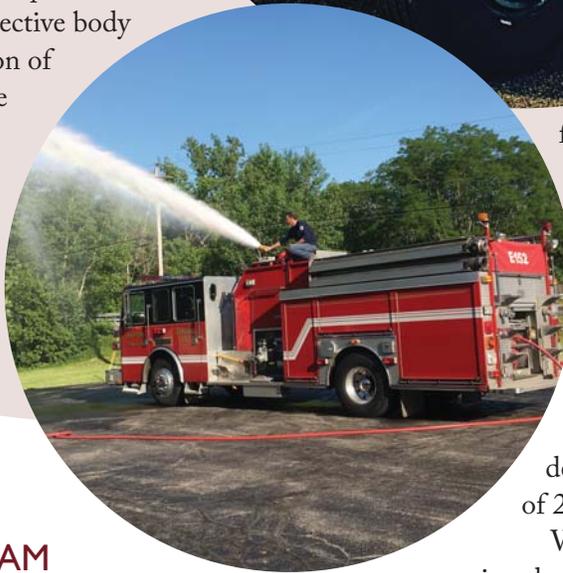
BUSY YEAR FOR THE MADISON TOWNSHIP FIRE AND EMS

The Madison Township Fire and EMS has had a busy year for 2016, handling approximately 750 calls for service for both Fire and EMS for the first nine months of the year. These fire and squad calls have all different levels of emergencies such as structure fires, automobile accidents, over doses related to the heroin epidemic, grass fires, electrical wires down do to storms and other various types of calls.

In the world today, things change all the time and we've had to adapt to these changes in the emergency response field. One of the changes that we believe that we had to change, just like our other neighboring departments, was providing better equipment to protect our personnel. Do to some gracious donations from area businesses that provided almost \$7000.00, we will soon be providing protective body armor for our EMS personnel. With the donation of money we will be providing ten sets of protective body armor, this body armor will be worn when squad personnel are responding to calls such as domestic violence, active assaults and active shooter situations. Because of the awesome donations that we received, it will make things much safer for our EMS personnel.

// DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR ANNUAL FIRE DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS THAT WE DO EVERY YEAR SUCH AS: CHRISTMAS TREE SALES, WHITE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WITH THE SCHOOL TO HELP NEEDED FAMILIES IN THE TOWNSHIP, AND THE ANNUAL SANTA RUN ON CHRISTMAS EVE. //

The Madison Fire Department is currently in the final stages of putting plans together for the order of a new life squad. This new squad will be a 2017 Horton life squad. This vehicle will be on a Ford 550 chassis, be four wheel drive, and with the Horton specs it will have several safety



features such as an updated restraint harness system and air bag roll system to help better protect patients and EMS members. This squad is expected to be ordered around October of 2016 with a possible delivery date around June of 2017.

With the end of the year coming don't forget about our annual fire department functions that we do every year such as: Christmas Tree Sales, White Christmas Program with the school to help needed families in the township, and the annual Santa Run on Christmas Eve.

If you are currently certified as a firefighter or an EMS member and would like to join the Madison Township Fire Department, stop by one of our three departments and fill out an application. Our EMS division is staffed 24/7 with part time employees and we offer paid On Call firefighter for fire calls in the township. **MT**

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