

# MADISON TOWNSHIP

WWW.MADISONTOWNSHIPONLINE.COM

By Lillie Elmore and Teresa Crim

## MADISON TOWNSHIP'S Legacy

Legacy is a word that should not be used lightly, but our small area, Madison Township, is lucky to have more than one. Larry Brandenburg impacted a large number of people in Madison Township and this southwestern section of Ohio. He was a teacher, assistant principal, principal, coach of many sports, and athletic director at different points in his career. He was known, loved, and now remembered by many.

Larry graduated from Gratis High School, continuing his education at Ashland College where he received his Bachelor's degree, followed by a Master's degree from Xavier University. He started teaching at Madison in 1959 at the old Poasttown Elementary School. Larry taught there for one year until the new high school was finished being built. He dedicated 29 years of his 30 year career in education to Madison High School. He taught Physical Education, Biology and was also director of the science department for 18 years.

Not only did Brandenburg teach at Madison, but he also coached many sports, and took a turn as the athletic director. He founded the football program at Madison in 1960 and coached until 1965. To honor his contribution, Madison's football field was named after him. James "Red" Ratliff played football for him in those first seasons he coached, scoring one of the first Mohawk touchdowns on what would eventually be Brandenburg Field. When asked why he was such a great coach, he said, "I guess because you never saw him get excited. He was always calm when it was good or bad," adding, "but also encouraging. He wanted it to be fun too."

Other than football, Brandenburg coached boys basketball. He was well known for leading the boys basketball team of 1972 to the State Class AA Final Four. Throughout his time coaching basketball, he won 114 games in 11 seasons. Jeff Smith, current head varsity boys basketball coach at Madison, holds a deep respect for Brandenburg. "Coach Brandenburg will forever be remembered as a pioneer at Madison. He

set the standard for serving our school. His 1972 basketball team that went to the Final Four is the standard bearer in basketball and other sports. He was a good man and loved by our community. "

Brandenburg also coached track, and cross country. Under his encouragement and leadership, he helped many teams and individual players advance to the state finals. MIke Felger, a colleague, fellow coach, and friend for 53 years, shared these thoughts on Larry's coaching. "He absolutely loved to help young athletes develop their skills and even more than that, develop their character. Success came with starting a football program, developing talented teams and athletes, but most of all, his success came with helping young people grow into responsible adults." This success continued beyond Larry's time as a professional educator and coach.

When Larry retired as principal in 1989 after a thirty year career, during which Felger learned, "...how dedicated he was to his profession." He reflected that, "Larry cared deeply about all of his students, no matter what their backgrounds or abilities might have been. This carried over to whatever the relationship might have been, be it the classroom, the athletic fields, in the hallways, or in later life pursuits. In much the same way, as an administrator, he cared for his staff..." Felger felt, "He was respected and loved by his students and faculty because they knew he cared deeply about them." Even after retirement, Brandenburg continued to care and to serve, spending several years as a Madison Township Trustee.

Brandenburg legacy is intertwined with our community. He made a difference for each person he met - and even those who only heard of



LARRY  
BRANDENBURG

# YOUR Township Administrator...

By **Todd Farler**,  
**Madison Township Administrator**



## A WELL-DESERVED *Thank You*

**A**s with many things that become normal, mundane, or standard, we sometimes begin to take things for granted. We forget how impressed we used to be with the scenery we drive by every day on our way to work. What about the neighbor that's always done that little job that you never seem to get to? The person that greets you every Sunday at the church door. The cashier or waiter/waitress that calls you by name. Your own family member that always does that little task for you, simply because you don't like to do it. When was the last time you said, "thank you"?

Well, it's my turn to say, "Thank You" to some very admirable residents in our township. These residents have donated their time and expertise to help make this newsletter so very informative and enjoyable. The vast majority of articles that you've read over the years comes from a small handful of writers that are sedulous in their

responsibility to providing insightful, educational, and entertaining information. They are all, or have been, residents of Madison Township.

Rick Henry has been writing for this newsletter since 2010. He has always been the "Garden Guru" and has brought you articles from composting to landscaping to gardening tips and trick. He has been our longest, continuous contributing writer, and has shared a plethora of gardening/growing information with us. This will be his final article in the newsletter and his contributions will be sincerely missed.

Larry Helton contributed his first article in 2009, and within a few years became our main "Historian", teaching us where we came from and what events have led us to where we are now. From the Indians to present, Larry continues to teach and inform us of our community's history.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

#### PRESIDENT

**Brian McGuire** ..... 513-423-8710

#### VICE PRESIDENT

**Thomas Hall** ..... 513-254-5204

#### TRUSTEE

**Alan Daniel** ..... 513-464-0594

#### FISCAL OFFICER

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

#### ADMINISTRATOR

**Todd Farler** ..... 513-424-0821

#### WEBSITE

**www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com**

### TOWNSHIP CONTACT NUMBERS

**EMERGENCIES ALWAYS CALL** .....911

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.....	513-887-3149
Butler County Engineer.....	513-424-9144
Butler County Board of Elections.....	513-887-3700
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.

Alan Cady frequently connects us with nature, be it snakes, owls, or ecology. Being a rural community, it's always nice to continue learning about our surroundings and environment.

We've recruited numerous student writers from Madison High School over the years, under the watchful eye of educator Tereasa Crim. These are normally our "community interest" articles. What a great opportunity for our students/future writers to begin being published! These articles frequently turn to an individual in our township and the contribution they've made over the years. This issue is no exception, and Lillie Elmore did an excellent job.

We'll also occasionally recruit an individual resident to write about a specific topic or event that can have a direct impact on our township or its residents. These "one time" contributors normally offer date sensitive or critical information that can be useful to the entire community or a select group. Resident David Mancuso offers up an excellent article in this issue, providing needed and helpful information for the seniors in our community.

And then there is Stacey; Stacey Castle. This unbelievable, highly talented, wonderful woman gives more than anyone could expect or imagine. She is the one behind the scenes, helping me create this newsletter that Madison Township has come to love and expect for over 10 years. She has given more, more often, than any resident I've ever encountered. Above her time and expertise, she quietly gives of herself without ever asking to be acknowledged, and she has for over 10 year.

The first newsletter I published was in the fall of 2008, about a year after being hired as the township administrator. I created it in a Word document while sitting at my desk. I still have a copy of it in my office, and yes, it looks like a Word document on fancy paper. I even used the "drop shadow box" as article headings! That was the extent of my graphic design and publishing expertise. After issuing a communal greeting on the front page, I included a sentence asking if anyone would like to help create or produce future



newsletters. Stacey Castle read the article and knew I needed help. I think she felt sorry for me. Stacey Castle came to help, and help she did. From the very next issue, things began looking much nicer, more professional. And now, over 10 years later, Stacey Castle is still helping me to create this newsletter twice

a year. The beautiful graphics, layout, colors, etc., she gets that credit. The typos, punctuations, etc., that falls back to me and the writers. OH! And that beautiful township/school calendar you get every year, that's her work too! If I totaled ALL the invoices that she's ever sent the township over the past 10 years for her work on the newsletters and calendars, it would be \$00.00. (and no, that's not a typo or misprint on my part). That's a volunteer who loves her township; that's someone who wants to give back to their township. She is a very important part of why Madison Township is a great place to live, work, and play.

It is always nice to see volunteers in our community, and the residents of Madison Township always come thru. From our Fire Department to school students, to Boy Scouts and River Cleanup crews, our community truly cares and wants to be a part of giving back. If it's been a while since you've volunteered for something, I encourage you to do so. Find something, somewhere in our community: a community organization, a church, or the school district. Maybe start your own group and begin doing something that simply needs to be done! And maybe, just maybe, you'll be lucky enough to find your own Stacey. **MT**



## MADISON TOWNSHIP

Please send us story ideas or even something you'd like to submit. We are always open for ideas, content and images.

[www.madisontownshiponline.com](http://www.madisontownshiponline.com)

Township meetings are held every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. all are welcome to attend.

Please register for Madison Township email notification and always know what's going on in your township. Visit our website home page and click the link.



Like Us on Facebook

Continued from the cover page.

his influence. Felger, Smith, and Ratliff could share numerous stories in which Brandenburg was fondly remembered and were in agreement that he was a great guy. These three were just a few of the people who were influenced by Larry. His celebration of life was filled with many more. A wide variety of people who shared stories included Pastor Tim Sheets (point guard on '72 basketball team), Alan Daniel (former student, fellow trustee and friend), Ken Rupe and Walker Williamson (former administrative colleagues and friends), Sonny Brandenburg, Tim Young, Mark Young (all former students), and Felger. A former student Rick Gibbs sang as well. Brandenburg shared enlightenment in the classroom, but also influenced decisions and imparted wisdom beyond the school day that stayed with these people. Brandenburg's legacy is not just in his accomplishments, but in the memories which will become stories of legend for the next generation.

On August 14th, 2019 Larry passed away at the Hospice of Dayton.

He was so generous and was still trying to provide educational opportunities by donating his body to the Wright State University Medical school. In the simple words of his dear friend, Mike Felger,



LARRY BRANDENBURG

“Larry Brandenburg represented all things Madison. He absolutely loved and cared for the students and people of the community. 30 years in education...service as a trustee... all contributed to being a positive influence on those who knew him.” Larry Brandenburg was a great person and was loved by our community.

With the help of many former students and friends, there will be a scholarship created in Larry's name. It will be administered by the Middletown Community Foundation. It will be awarded each year to a Madison student IF the minimum amount needed for funding is reached. The amount over that minimum may be used to increase the dollar amount or perhaps to add an additional student winner. There is a committee working on guidelines for the scholarship. **MT**

## DONATIONS:

### THE LARRY BRANDENBURG SCHOLARSHIP

\*Be sure to designate the name of the scholarship on your check  
c/o Middletown Community Foundation  
300 N. Main Street, Suite 300  
Middletown, OH 45042

I would ask that anyone who was in any way influenced positively by Larry at any time in their life, please consider donating to this scholarship, no matter the amount. This would be the best way to pay respects to all that he did for the community. We would really like to make this scholarship for Madison students permanent and self-sustaining.

COME JOIN US AS WE LIVE LIFE TOGETHER, AND BUILD GENUINE AND LASTING RELATIONSHIPS.



Turning Point will be a church that will laugh, cry, and challenge one another to grow in our love for Jesus, and each other.

Food & Clothing Bank - By Appointment (513) 594-1963

Sunday Morning Gatherings  
at Madison High School at 11:00 a.m.

TurningPointGatherings@Gmail.com  
PastorGreg8767@Gmail.com • (513) 594-1963

# Country Program

By David J. Mancuso

**A**s we age, most of us want to stay in our own homes, even if we need help. Home means independence, privacy, dignity and connection to our loved ones. In-home care is much cheaper than a nursing home, but it's still beyond the means of many. That's where Butler County's Senior Services levy helps.

For more than 20 years, the levy has supported the Butler County Elderly Services Program (ESP). Through services such as home-delivered meals, personal care and transportation to doctor's appointments, Butler County ESP makes it possible for more than 4,000 seniors to remain in their homes with independence and dignity. This number includes 53 Madison Township residents.

Eligibility for the program begins at age 60 and individuals must require assistance with certain daily activities. Eligibility is determined through a home visit with an ESP care manager.

Care managers create a plan for each enrolled client and arrange and coordinate services. Services are flexible to accommodate a client's changing needs. In some cases, clients can hire their own caregivers (including someone they already know, such as a family member or friend) through the program.

The program is for more than just seniors. Butler County ESP makes a big difference for families who are caring for older loved ones. It helps working families keep mom and dad at home, while also helping businesses whose employees are struggling to balance work and caregiving responsibilities. ESP helps long-married spouses care for each other and stay together. And for those seniors who have no family nearby, it makes a difference in quality of life.



Butler County ESP is funded by the county's Senior Services tax levy. The levy provides more than 92 percent of funding for the program. Without the levy – and the support of taxpayers – the program would not exist. The current 1.3-mill levy costs homeowners approximately \$39.81 per \$100,000 of property value, annually.

Not only is the Elderly Services Program compassionate, it is also cost effective. It costs taxpayers \$294 a month to help a resident on the Elderly Services Program, compared to more than \$4,000 per month to provide care in a nursing home via Medicaid tax dollars.

The program is operated by Council on Aging (COA) through a contract with Butler County Commissioners, who appoint a board to advise on program needs and policies. COA contracts with LifeSpan, Inc. to assess, enroll and care manage clients in the program. Provider agencies deliver ESP services (meals, transportation) under contract with COA.

Butler County ESP serves a real and growing need. According to the US Census and the Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University, 19 percent of Butler County residents are age 60 or older. By 2030, it will be nearly 25 percent. And, nearly one-third of residents age 65 and older have a physical and/or cognitive disability with more than one in 10 living near the federal poverty level. A combination of lower income, living alone and disability contribute to the need for this important community program.

**Butler County Elderly Services Program**

**(513) 868-9281**

Referral form: [lifespansohio.org/esp/](http://lifespansohio.org/esp/)

## BLASHOCK PLUMBING INC.

**TIM BLASHOCK - OWNER**

**\* NEW CONSTRUCTION \* REMODELING  
\* COMMERCIAL \* BACKHOE SERVICE**

**MIDDLETOWN  
513 424-8444**

**FRANKLIN  
937 743-8844**



Member of Master Plumber Association  
Master Plumber - Licensed & Bonded

State of Ohio Plumbing License #12475/ #5407

"Call The Man On The Van"

# Trustee

By Thomas Hall, Trustee



I am excited to get the opportunity to share what is going on in our great township. Fall is always a busy time of the year as we are finishing up projects and operations in 2019 and looking forward to 2020. As we set our sights on 2020, so much of this fall is going to be planning and prioritizing various departments to ensure we are addressing the needs of our residents. To that point, our monthly business meeting, the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30, has been very well attended in recent months. Listening and working with each of you to help make Madison a better place is very encouraging.

As we move into the future, we have been busy creating short- and long-term plans for our some of our departments. One of those departments is our township park. Our park is one of the many great things our township has to offer. In saying that, there are multiple ways to consider improving our park and making it a better place for all to enjoy. One of the huge ways we are working on is bringing our youth baseball program to the park. In doing this, we will not only add more features to our park, but also have one centralized location for the majority of our youth sports. These talks are still in preliminary discussions as we are working with several youth sports organizations, to accommodate for each of them.

We have also been working with our Madison Fire Department to strategize our future plans. We currently have three operating stations, with one of those three having on call responders 24/7. I cannot stress enough that we are evaluating ALL possible scenarios to provide the best service to our residents. We have taken steps to replace and upgrade our current equipment as we have had several fire apparatuses go out of service in the recent months. We have great first responders, but we must also provide them the necessary tools and equipment not only makes their job more efficient, while also allowing for residents to receive better service.

Going into 2020, we are also evaluating road projects and paving. An important part of our township is to maintain and improve our roadways. As we look at which roads to prioritize, we also seek to gear up for the upcoming winter months. We are grateful in recent years to have upgraded half of our fleet, to provide a better service to our residents. While upgrading equipment for both the Fire and Road Department, we always remain cautious of spending of taxpayer money. As we work hard to maintain our healthy budget status, we also continue look at ways to better serve the people of our township.

Again, thank you all so much for choosing Madison Township as your home. If you would ever have any questions, please reach out to one of our Township Trustee board members or our Township Administrator, Todd Farler. Have a great rest of your 2019! God Bless. **MT**

## For all Your Real Estate Needs Call Faye or Walter Leap at Leap Realtors!

MADISON RESIDENTS SINCE 1975



Walter J. Leap  
CRS, GRI, RLI, Broker  
Licensed in Ohio and Florida



2024 Central Avenue  
Middletown, OH 45044

Tel 513-425-7010  
Fax 513-425-7060  
Res 513-422-7092

Walter@LeapRealtors.com  
Faye@LeapRealtors.com

LEAPREALTORS.COM



Faye E. Leap  
Broker, CRS, GRI

## B.D. MORGAN & CO., Inc.

Since 1923

DESIGN & BUILD  
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION

Jonathan B. Morgan  
PRESIDENT



P.O. Box 629  
Middletown, OH 45042

(513) 423-9494  
Fax (513) 423-0161  
Cell (513) 464-0144  
www.bdmorganco.com  
jbm@bdmorganco.com

Please call or email us with any of your construction needs:

- Metal & Conventional Building & Additions
- Star Pre-Engineered Metal Building Systems
- Metal Building Repairs
- Metal or EPDM Roofing - new or repairs
- Sitework/Excavation/Demolition
- Exterior Paving - Concrete or Asphalt
- Concrete - New/Replacement/Repairs
- Floor Slabs/Machine Foundations/Walls
- Masonry - New or Repairs
- Engineering/Design & Build Stamped Drawings
- Steel Fabrication, Welding & Erection
- Remodeling and Renovation Carpentry

**(513) 464-0144**  
jbm@bdmorganco.com

## Western Hills Veterinary Clinic



**Stephaine A. Burk, D.V.M.**

**(513) 422-4181**

5622 Mosiman Road • Middletown, Ohio 45042

[www.westernhillsvetclinic.com](http://www.westernhillsvetclinic.com)

• Over 50 Years of Quality, Compassionate Care •



- NEED A WEBSITE?
- NEED SOCIAL MEDIA?
- NEED MARKETING?

MY 25+ YEARS  
IN MARKETING  
CAN PROVIDE  
WHAT YOU NEED



**Friends of  
Chrisholm**

**PLAYSCAPE open daily  
Program every Sunday  
House Open 2-4 p.m. Sunday's**

2010 Woodsdale Road, P.O. Box 234, Trenton, OH 45067  
Telephone: 513-468-1973

Email: [friendsofchrisholmfarmstead@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofchrisholmfarmstead@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.chrisholmhistoricfarmstead.org](http://www.chrisholmhistoricfarmstead.org)

Affiliated with  MeowParks

  
THE LAW OFFICE OF  
**MICHAEL A. NEWLAND**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

30 N D St  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013  
[www.michaelnewlandesq.com](http://www.michaelnewlandesq.com)

[newlandlaw@fuse.net](mailto:newlandlaw@fuse.net)  
Phone: 513-887-9595  
Fax: 513-887-9608

# TUCKER

Heating & Air Conditioning

*Family owned and operated  
by Madison High School Graduates*

OH License #27097

- Commercial & Residential
- Geothermal Heat Pump Sales & Installation
- Gas, Oil and Boiler Heating
- Duct Cleaning
- Free Proposals on New Installations
- 24 Hour Emergency Service



**513-422-7171**  
[www.tuckerheating.com](http://www.tuckerheating.com)



**TEMPSTAR**  
Heating and Cooling Products

# Upcoming Events

## SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM PLAIN & SIMPLE LIFE

The Amish-Mennonite Way  
 Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead  
 Sun., November 3,  
 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 FREE

## SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM READING THE WEATHER

Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead  
 Thurs., November 7,  
 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
 FREE

## PHOTO WALK TIPS FOR SHOOTING FALL COLORS

Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead  
 Sat., November 9,  
 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
 Registration required by 11/8/2019  
 FREE

## SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM ABC'S OF FARM LIFE

Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead  
 Sun., November 10,  
 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 FREE

## SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM TURKEY TALK

Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead

## SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM CORNUCOPIA

Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead  
 Sun., November 17,  
 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 FREE

## SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM PILGRIM ADVENTURES

Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead  
 Thurs., November 21,  
 10:00 a.m. - 11 :00

## SHOW & TELL ON THE FARM THANKSGIVING FEAST FOR THE ANIMALS

Chrisholm MetroPark  
 Historic Farmstead  
 Sun., November 24,  
 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 FREE



- ♥ WEDDINGS
- ♥ BIRTHDAYS & PARTIES
- ♥ CORPORATE EVENTS
- ♥ SPECIAL EVENTS

and much more

Amy Schenck  
 513-464-0730  
 aschenck@cinci.rr.com



# Lock in a great auto rate with Erie Insurance

## Contact us to find out how:



**Pat Foley**  
**Simpkins Foley Ins Associates**  
 1135 E 2nd St  
 Franklin, OH 45005-1766  
 pat@sfiagents.com  
 937-746-9993



Don't miss a chance to lock in a great rate. Erie Rate Lock insurance is subject to terms, conditions and exclusions not described in this advertisement (e.g. does not guarantee continued insurance coverage). For terms, conditions, exclusions, licenses and states of operation information, visit [erierategoodnews.com](http://erierategoodnews.com). Patent pending. ©2012 Erie Indemnity Company.



# MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

*Achieving Excellence One Student at a Time*

## Robotics Team Ranks 3rd in State

**MADISON HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM RANKS 3<sup>RD</sup> IN STATE, QUALIFIED FOR TSA NATIONALS IN NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND**

The VEX Robotics Competition is the largest and fastest growing middle school and high school robotics program globally with more than 20,000 teams from 50 countries playing in over 1,700 competitions worldwide. Each year, an exciting engineering challenge is presented in the form of a game. Students, with guidance from their teachers build innovative robots and compete year-round.

In addition to learning valuable engineering skills, students gain life skills such as teamwork, perseverance, communication, collaboration, project management, and critical thinking. The VEX Robotics Competition prepares students to become future innovators with 95% of participants reporting an increased interest in STEM subject areas and pursuing STEM-related careers.

Participants use a team approach to develop a computer-controlled model solution to a given problem, typically one based on an industrial setting. Teams analyze the problem, build a computer controlled mechanical model, program the model, explain the program and mechanical features of the model-solution, and leave instructions for evaluators to operate the device.



JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM ARE STATE CHAMPIONS, QUALIFIED FOR NATIONALS IN NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND

## Key Club

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE IS KEY**

The Madison High School Key Club spent a little time during their busy homecoming week to freshen up the learning trail at the community park. Just proves this trail is fun for all ages! We are lucky to have it our community.



## Marching Band



The Mohawk Marching Band marched off the Bishop Fenwick High School field with four trophies on Saturday, September 14, 2019. Their accolades included best percussion, best general effect, best music and second place in their class!

## Follow Madison Local School District on Social Media

 [www.facebook.com/MadisonMohawks](http://www.facebook.com/MadisonMohawks)

 [www.twitter.com/MadisonMohawk](http://www.twitter.com/MadisonMohawk)

 Instagram: #GoodtoBeaMohawk



# MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

*Achieving Excellence One Student at a Time*

## Homecoming

### OUR HOMECOMING FESTIVAL - MOHAWK MADNESS - SHOWS COMMUNITY SPIRIT

On Sunday, September 22, 2019 The entire community was invited to join in our homecoming kickoff festival. The event kicked off with float and hallway decorating for all grades/clubs/ and sports at the high school and the township community park. Followed up by the parade where everyone showed off their school and community spirit. With silly string, candy, and tiny prizes, for the younger kids to gather, the band, floats, decorated cars and golf carts followed the Grand Marshals, Alan and Wanda Daniel, through the high school parking lot.

Here the community was greeted with yummy food trucks, fun festival games, and a dunking booth. Some community members even took a test drive in a Mustang from Middletown Ford to help support our Athletic Boosters. Heading to the grandstand many stayed to watch the girls show their prowess in a powderpuff tourney. The seniors stole the title in the end, just in time to hang out at the bonfire.

THE KING AND QUEEN  
BRENDEN PAYNE AND FAITH AUVIL



2019 KING AND QUEEN NOMINEES FOR HOMECOMING:  
FAITH AUVIL, OCEAN BALLARD, LILLY CORDER, MAGGIE NAPIER, AMYA SMITH, FIONA SULENTIC, LEXI TURNER, TURNER CAMPBELL, JAKE EDWARDS, MAX KELLY, KORBIN KILBARGER, BRENDEN PAYNE, JAKE PHELPS, MITCHELL RAMSEY.



## Mohawks are Mattie Strong

Friday September 20th, the Mohawk fans went yellow in support of Madison Township resident, Mattie Cole. The support from the crowd was overwhelming, as Mattie rang our Mohawk victory bell.



## Girls on the Run



### GIRLS ON THE RUN - TO A HEALTHIER AND HAPPIER WELL BEING

Our fifth grade Girls on the Run group has been working hard to prepare for their 5K event on November 16th in Cincinnati! The girls practice every Tuesday and Thursday after school for an hour. They are working on building their running stamina while also learning valuable life skills through the unique Girls on the Run curriculum. Keep up the hard work girls!

If you are interested in learning more about Girls on the Run in our area visit [gotrcincinnati.org](http://gotrcincinnati.org)

### HANDS ON LEARNING APPLYING REAL WORLD SKILLS

Mrs. Curp's Honors Biology Class took some time to do some hands on learning at Sebald Park. They caught live crawfish to prepare for a class activity.

Mrs. Malott's class using equations to calculate how long it takes marble to fall and calculate where the dune buggy starts movement so that the marble falls into the cup- physics premise is free fall acceleration!

Mrs. Conniff's classes do a literary yoga review of plot terms and a gallery walk of some characters of Greek mythology in preparation to read The Odyssey.



# Historical Society

By J. Larry Helton, Jr.

## OF MADISON TOWNSHIP

In 2005, Cinergy (now Duke Energy) interviewed members of our community and asked how their company may be of benefit to Madison Township. Donna Walter was one of those interviewed and she cited a need for a society to preserve our local heritage. With that, one of the \$1500.00 grants was given to the township as “seed money” to begin an historical society. Donna volunteered as a temporary chairperson to organize that society. She contacted other historical societies in Butler County and in the State of Ohio to find that the first order of business was to organize with by-laws, officers, membership, and a vision for our society. On April 19, 2006, the proposal was brought to the Township Trustees meeting and at that time charter members were sought to become part of this society’s formation. When the society was to become a reality, the grant money would be transferred from the township.

The first meeting for the formation of the historical society was on Thursday, April 27th at 7:00 P.M. at the township administration building.

In the beginning they met at the township administration building, where they had quarterly meetings with speakers and presentations, and discussed their direction and purpose. The charter board members were: President, Donna Walter; Vice-President, Mark Whiteman; Recording Secretary, Connie Back; Corresponding Secretary, Phyllis Richmond; and Treasurer, John



Gilmore; plus a board of directors. With there being twenty-one Madison Townships in Ohio, the name Historical Society of Madison Township, Butler County, Ohio was adopted since that was one of the word combinations not yet taken by another historical society and which distinguishes us from the other Madison Townships in the state.

Also in the beginning, the historical society had the opportunity to obtain a log cabin in the township, built in 1833, and last lived in by the Blanton family. Charter member, Ed Simpkins, was the one who orchestrated this acquisition, having been involved with the relocation and restoration of the log structures at Caesar’s Creek Pioneer Village in Warren County. The cabin was dismantled, stored, and then reconstructed in 2008-2009 in the Madison Township Community Park in time for the township’s bicentennial in 2010.

### TO BECOME A MEMBER

Mail your name, address, and phone number to:

John Gilmore, 6120 Michael Rd., Middletown, OH 45042.

Make checks payable to Historical Society of Madison Township.

Per year: Individual \$5, Student \$3, Family \$10, Lifetime \$100.

For email correspondence contact: Larry Helton at [spoors@fairpoint.net](mailto:spoors@fairpoint.net)



Since the historical society's inception they have continued to promote and preserve our local history, through presentations, speakers, cabin open houses and Cabin Day, trips to other area historical society museums and historic sites, preservation of historical artifacts, a collection of reference material, publishing a township history book (out of print), writing articles for the township newsletter and Journal News, and on social media.

Presently, the historical society has quarterly meetings on the second Thursdays in March, June, September, and December at 7:00 P.M. at Pleasant Ridge United Methodist Church at State Route 122 and West Alexandria Road. The meetings are open to all. Presentations or speakers are often the agenda, but other times we may schedule our meetings with other groups or at other sites. Cabin open houses occur throughout the summer months on scheduled Sundays and the annual Cabin Day occurs each Fall.

Would you like to know who the first settler in the township was? Who lived in the house or upon the land you now live? Where the hidden cemeteries are located? Where the one room schools still standing are located? What that artifact is? Then maybe you'd like to be a part of this group. The Historical Society of Madison Township is always seeking new members to help carry on our mission of preserving our township's history. You can be involved with the society as much or as little as you like, never any pressure. You can contact any of current board members for more information, visit [www.facebook.com/Madison-Township-Historical-Society-847049865468250/](https://www.facebook.com/Madison-Township-Historical-Society-847049865468250/), simply join and receive postcards prior to the upcoming meetings, or just show up at the next meeting.

Current board: Former President, Donna Walter; President, Mark Whiteman; Vice-President, Larry Helton; Recording Secretary, Steph Burke; Corresponding Secretary, Betty Lowell; Treasurer, John Gilmore; board of directors, June Gilmore, Connie Back, Dave Kelhoffer, and Nancy McCann. **MT**

**FLOWERS-BY-NANCY**  
6401 Germantown Road, Middletown, Ohio 45042

513-422-2935  
[www.flowers-by-nancy.com](http://www.flowers-by-nancy.com)

Hours: M-F 9 to 5 SAT 9 to 1:30  
**FALL IS IN THE AIR**

*Peggy's Produce Market*

380 Middletown-Eaton Rd., Middletown, OH 45042  
513-217-4712  
Business Hours: Mon.- Sat. 9am - 7pm, Sun. 10am - 5pm

**HEDGES & YAUCH**  
ATTORNEYS

513-988-6169  
[www.hedgesandyauch.com](http://www.hedgesandyauch.com)

Strong, Sensitive Representation  
**Elizabeth Ann Yauch**  
**John C. Hedges, Jr. (1949-1993)**

Divorce • Dissolution • Mediation  
Custody/Support • DV/CPO Matters  
Wills • Estate Planning • Estate Administration  
Criminal Matters  
Juvenile

# 'TIS THE SEASON TO MAKE MEMORIES

Celebrate The Season With Our  
Winter Glow Christmas Drive-Thru  
Where Your Family Will Enjoy:

- A Mile And A Half Long Drive Through With Over 3 Million Christmas Lights
- A Visit With Santa In The Christmas Village
- Hot Cocoa, Cookies, Eggnog And Fudge
- A Majestic 45 Foot Christmas Tree
- A Merry-Go-Round, Kid's Train Ride, Bonfire, Christmas Movies And More!

**LAND  
OF  
ILLUSION**  
WINTER GLOW

OPENING

**NOV 22<sup>ND</sup>**

Visit [landofillusion.com](http://landofillusion.com) for details.

# Gardening

By Rick Henry

## LESSONS LEARNED



I've had a strong interest in plants and gardening since I was a young boy. When I was in the fourth grade I would look for pop bottles on the road and cash them in for the deposit. Then I would ride my bike to a local greenhouse to buy small houseplants for my bedroom window. That was over fifty years ago, but I still clearly remember the kind old man that owned that little greenhouse. Each weekend we would go through our ritual, I would walk around and carefully select a small plant and take it up to him and ask him how much it was (nothing was priced). Then he would always smile and say how much do you have? Looking back, I can see that I never did have enough to buy a plant, but he would always tell me what I had was the price of the plant so I could take it home.

When I was in my early twenties, I moved into my current home and started a vegetable garden and started planting shade trees and ornamental trees and shrubs. I continued installing landscaping beds all over my yard including annual and perennial beds. Over the years I continued planting and finding "one more spot" for one more plant. Because I had many varieties of trees and plants, and had devoted the majority of my property to gardening, I felt like an accomplished gardener, a "True Gardener." Now in the present day, I have been gardening at my home in Madison Township for over thirty five years and would like to share a few lessons learned along the way.

Firstly, do not plant trees too close to your house. I was influenced by some cabins in the woods that I rented at Natural Bridge, KY. These cabins had trees growing very close to them that kind of embraced the cabin. I especially liked the way they hung over the covered back porches. So I planted shade trees heavily around my house and around my covered back porch. My home became just like the cabins in the hills that I liked. But, that was a mistake, as the trees continued to grow and hang over the roof they became problematic. The maples grew over the roof of my house and dropped seed pods, which the wind blew under the shingles and propped them up breaking the seal. The seeds from the beech trees did the same thing to the roof. The large river birch tree grew over the front half of the roof and dropped branches on the roof, as is the nature of this tree. In the past few months I'm sorry to say I have had to remove all of these trees due to poor planning.

As well, when I was younger I had more energy for maintenance of my extensive beds and cottage style garden. Now, I do not seem to have the time or energy that is required to maintain the high maintenance situations that I have created in

past.

So here

well, I have

had to remove

majority of my plantings that I have enjoyed for so many years. Sometimes we gardeners get wrapped up in the romantic aspects of what we are doing. But, ultimately it does get to a point where unless you are willing to pay a grounds maintenance company to maintain your property, it does get to be too much for some of us.

But, there is one positive thing that has come out of these lessons learned, and 'learning by my mistakes'. After transforming my property from a kind of arboretum to more of a sparsely planted property, I am happy to realize something. In the past in these articles, I have used the term "True Gardener." In the past I have used this term in kind of an exclusive sense--like one has to have a romantic view of gardening as well as a very extensive and somewhat sophisticated garden to be considered a True Gardener. But, now in the present as I have neither of these, I am realizing that these things are not necessary to have a love of gardening, or to be a True Gardner. This is a somewhat obscure point, but with this being my last gardening article I will be writing for the township newsletter, it is one that I would like to make. I am grateful to have come to the realization that when we have changes come into our lives whether it is what we want or not, there is always something to be realized that is positive and beneficial. In this case, for me, to realize that whether we are more like the fourth grade kid riding home on his bike with his new prized plant . . . or, whether we are more like the adult man with impressive plants and the best landscaping at his home, to have a true love of gardening is an innate thing. There is a quote about living life in a mindful way that I like which is, "Wherever you go, there you are." And, that is what I'm happy to learn at this stage of my life, the Beauty of Nature is not something that comes and goes, based on what we possess or do not possess in our own backyards, it is always "there" and remains. I am grateful for this, and I am grateful to have had the privilege of writing this column for the past several years. Happy Gardening! **MT**

# It's Tune-Up Time! **Free** pick-up & delivery **ACT NOW AND SAVE!**

Be Ready For Spring! Schedule by **March 31** to receive **FREE Pickup & Delivery!**



## Annual Small Engine Maintenance is necessary for several reasons:

- Have your lawn equipment ready when the grass starts growing.
- A complete yearly service will help prevent costly breakdowns & increase the life of your machine.
- A clean deck with sharp mower blades is a determining factor in quality of cut, grass dispersal, and a healthy looking lawn.
- Proper engine maintenance with new filters greatly increases fuel efficiency.
- Lubrication keeps important parts from drying out.
- Doing just a bit of maintenance now will make you a much happier person this spring when you are ready to start working in the yard again.

Call WorkForce Outdoor Power today at  
**(513) 727-9003**

## **FREE** Pick-Up **AND** Delivery

A \$75.00 VALUE—Good Thru **MARCH 31ST**

To schedule your **FREE** pick-up.

### Tune-up Prices **INCLUDES** Parts & Labor:

Push and Self Propelled Mowers.....	\$89.95
Residential Riding Mowers.....	\$189.95
Hand-held Trimmers, Blowers, Chainsaws.....	\$69.95
Tillers.....	\$79.95
Commercial Walk Behind.....	\$189.95
Commercial Zero Turns.....	\$279.95
Snow Blowers.....	\$79.95
Please call for all other small engine pricing.....	513-727-9003

Storage fee of \$25.00 per month will be charged if equipment is not delivered/picked up within 15 days of notification. Pricing does not include tax, environmental / shop supply fee. All equipment must be directly accessible or \$25.00 fee may be charged.

## We service most brands!!!

### TUNE UP SERVICE INCLUDES BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO:

- Steam wash entire unit
- Change engine oil & filter
- Replace air filter
- Replace plugs
- Lubricate unit
- Add ethanol treatment
- Inspect belts, cable, & linkages
- Test, run, & adjust as required
- Check tire pressure
- Sharpen & balance blades
- Level & clean mower deck
- Replace fuel filter



**WorkForce**  
**OUTDOOR POWER**



4316 Jewell Ave.  
Middletown, Ohio 45042

**PRICE MATCH**



ON ALL NEW EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

**513-727-9003**

info@workforceoutdoorpower.com  
www.workforceoutdoorpower.com

# Dr. Paul Jennewine, MD

Board Certified Internal Medicine



## Middletown Medical Group

200 N Breiel Blvd, Middletown

513·424·2535

Adults and Adolescents  
Better Health, Longer Life

- Physicals
- Well exams
- Chronic illness management
- Diabetes
- HTN
- Heart disease
- Joint injections
- Vaccinations
- In office testing
- Medicare exams

MIDDLETOWN  
MEDICAL  
GROUP

Malcolm Steiner, M.D.  
Paul R. Jennewine, M.D.  
Marvin L. Ray, M.D.  
Kelly L. Burghard, M.D.  
James Kalbough, P.A.-C.

A photograph of a green sign for Middletown Medical Group. The sign lists the names and titles of the medical staff. The background of the sign is white with green text. The sign is mounted on two green posts. In the background, there is a building and some trees.

Accepting most insurance and new patients.

# FireDepartment

## CITIZENS ADVISORY GROUP

By J. Kent Hall, Fire Chief Madison Township Fire Department

During (4) Mondays in the month of September the Madison Township Fire and EMS formed a Citizens Advisory Group that met at all three Fire and EMS stations in the township with the last meeting occurring at the new City of Trenton Fire Headquarters. This group of citizens from Madison Township donated their time to meet on these Mondays to discuss the future needs of the Madison Township Fire and EMS and to give their prospective opinions of the department. During these meetings the group was provided information such as: the cost of current Fire and EMS vehicles, the cost of equipment, run volume information, cancer awareness involving firefighters, along with various other items. The group also was able to tour the Fire Stations, getting a first hand look at living quarters, bay areas, bathroom facilities, kitchen areas and overall conditions of these stations.

As the Fire Chief of the Department I appreciate the time and interest that was given by this group, this group asking a lot of different questions and I believe was able to get a lot of valuable information, hopefully being able to share this with other residents in the township. **MT**



# FIRE PREVENTION



Fire Prevention for Madison Township Fire Department for Madison school kids was on October 7th of this year. On this day the elementary kids were able to visit the Madison Township Fire Station to view the fire trucks, life squads and fire stations. Also during this visit, the school kids were able to see a Fire Prevention Puppet show as a performer tells the kids about Fire Safety. During the show, the performer interacts with the school kids, putting on several different shows and covering all aspects of Stop, Drop and Roll, Family Escape Plan and Fire Danger. At the end of the field trip the students were provided Fire Prevention coloring books and other items involving Fire Prevention.

This was a Great Day for the kids to learn about Fire Safety!

J. KENT HALL, FIRE CHIEF MADISON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Unity Baptist Church

### SERVICE TIME

Sunday School - 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening - 6 p.m.

Wednesday Evening - 7 p.m.

Youth Meetings Every Wednesday - 7 p.m.

*Pastor Bobby Reed*

email: [bobby45042@aol.com](mailto:bobby45042@aol.com)

**(513) 422-3414**

5960 Trenton Franklin Rd, Middletown, OH 45042

# THANK YOU TO PACK 28

A BIG shout out THANK YOU to Pack 28 in Madison Township for their patriotic service of placing flags on servicemen graves this past Memorial Day. They have done this for numerous years and we greatly appreciate these boys for volunteering their time to help keep our township cemeteries looking beautiful!



Best prices on Siding & Pole Barns you'll find in this area!



**LOCALLY SOLD BY AL DANIEL  
WITH LONG LASTING METAL ROOFS**  
Custom build your building to your specifications  
Many built in Madison Township



Custom Metal Roofs • Churches • Agricultural  
Commercial • Mini-Storage • Garages • Recreational  
Barns • Post-Frame • Pre-Engineered • Steel Buildings

**513-464-0594**  
[www.midwesternbuildings.com](http://www.midwesternbuildings.com)

## AL'S CUSTOM WELDING

Ornamental Gate & Hand Rails  
Complete Fabrication  
All Types of Welding Repair  
Stainless & Aluminum  
Portable Work

Tree Service & Stump Removal

### AL DANIEL

7060 Michael Road • Middletown, Ohio 45042  
Office 513-422-3950 • Cell 513-464-0594  
Email [AlsCustomWelding@gmail.com](mailto:AlsCustomWelding@gmail.com)

# Workers Needed

**HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS  
OF WORKERS NEEDED!**

In the spring of 2020, the Census Bureau will launch the largest 2020 Census field operation, known as Nonresponse Follow-up, Census Takers will knock on doors to follow up with households who have not responded to the census questionnaire.

Applicants can qualify for both field and office positions. The office positions, which are more limited, will be located in area census offices. The role of these offices is to recruit, select, hire, train, manage, and pay all office and field staff who work within the designated boundaries of the geographic territory assigned to the office.

The Census Bureau is in the process of opening 248 offices to support the 2020 Census. As these offices become ready for business, they are listed at [2020census.gov/jobs/pay-and-locations](https://2020census.gov/jobs/pay-and-locations).

## **EASY TO APPLY**

Applying for one of these jobs is simple. Just visit [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs) or call 855-JOB-2020 and select option 3 for more information. Pay rates for field and clerical jobs can be found at [2020census.gov/jobs/pay-and-locations](https://2020census.gov/jobs/pay-and-locations).

Those who are being considered for a position will receive a telephone interview. If offered a job, they will receive instructions on next steps via email.

Applicants will need to complete paperwork online and make an appointment to get fingerprinted for the background check. Once they are offered the job, there will be a period of time before their start date to allow time for the background clearance process. To search for possible management positions, go to [USAjobs.gov](https://USAjobs.gov).

Most applications will remain active throughout the 2020 Census and may be considered as positions become available. Apply today!

## Wonderful Volunteers



**2018 GREAT MIAMI RIVER CLEAN UP!**

Visit our webpage:  
[www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com](http://www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com)

Sign up to be on our E-mail Notification List.

Various notices are sent out monthly which include weather warnings and alerts, township meeting notices, and other township news and events.

You can also submit any Madison charity or community events and we'll post them on our webpage.

Like Us on Facebook!



## "Did You Know...?"

Madison Township was erected from Lemon Township in 1810, and is one of thirteen townships in Butler County.

But did you know there are 21 Madison Townships in Ohio!

The upcoming Fall, weather has been hot and dry with Madison Township being placed on a Burn Ban because of this condition. Madison Township residents are permitted and allowed to burn brush, tree limbs, and vegetation, but it is suggested to contact your local Fire Station so they may come out and see what a resident may burn. The Madison Township Fire Department will, if requested, come out with Fire Apparatus to stand by during this open burn if you feel the brush pile may be too large, as this is a free service. It is not permitted to burn trash in the township. If the fire department has repeated calls to a resident that is burning illegal items such as trash, the EPA will be notified and could possibly issue fines levied by the EPA.

J. Kent Hall, Fire Chief  
Madison Township Fire Department



# NewsRelease

## APPRAISERS BEGIN FINAL 2020 REAPPRAISAL REVIEW PROCESS

**H**AMILTON, Ohio – Appraisers with the Butler County Auditor’s Office on Thursday will begin conducting a final review of properties leading up to the state-mandated 2020 countywide reappraisal. As part of this process, each parcel record will be visually matched in the field.

Our appraisers are assigned to different taxing districts, so the rollout will be throughout Butler County, according to Butler County Auditor Roger Reynolds.

The review will generally be done from an Auditor vehicle, which will be clearly marked with Auditor’s Office identification on the doors, County license plates and a flashing yellow light on top. Our appraisers will be wearing Auditor ID and will have information handouts available.

It’s anticipated that the field review will continue through November 2019. In all, there are more than 163,000 improved parcels to visually inspect.

By conducting the 2020 review with Auditor appraisal

staff rather than contracting it out, Reynolds is saving taxpayers approximately \$2.5 million.

The 2014 reappraisal marked the first time that Auditor appraisers conducted the review in-house. Historically, Tyler Technologies had performed 100 percent of the duties related to each six-year reappraisal and triennial update in Butler County. However, for the 2014 reappraisal, Reynolds challenged the appraisal staff with the opportunity to perform much of those duties. In addition to saving the office and taxpayers about \$1.5 million, the appraisal division benefited from an expanded skill set resulting from more training and experience in the reappraisal process.

The Auditor’s Office also conducted the 2017 reappraisal in-house at a savings of more than \$100,000.

Performing significant portions of a reappraisal in-house is not a common approach taken by other counties in the state. In fact, based on 2014 reappraisal contract price reports from the Ohio Department of Tax Equalization, only eight counties did so during that cycle.

GLENN W. FRALEY & SONS EXCAVATING INC



**Residential  
Commercial  
Development  
Top Soil  
Gravel**

**5 1 3 . 4 2 3 . 7 6 0 7**  
6372 Trenton-Franklin Road • Middletown, Ohio 45042

5610 West Alexandria Road  
Middletown, Ohio 45042  
Phone: 513-424-0821  
Fax: 513-424-4659  
Email: ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com  
Website: www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Cincinnati, OH  
Permit No. 5400

**ROBERSON'S SPORTING GOODS**

**• 84 YEARS •**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Family Owned and Operated**  
**Hunting • Fishing • Archery**  
**(513) 422-4191**  
6348 Germantown Road, Middletown, OH  
**Don Roberson, NRA Certified Instructor**

- Firearms
- Hunting Supplies
- Gun Repair
- Rod & Reel Repair
- Optics
- Trophies
- Special Orders
- Ammunition
- Fishing Supplies
- Muzzelloading
- Live Bait
- Award Plaques
- CCW Training

ROBERSON'S SPORTING GOODS  
• GUNS • FISHING TACKLE • REPAIR • LIVE BAIT •  
• BUY • SELL • TRADE •  
PARKING IN REAR (513) 422-4191