

MADISON TOWNSHIP

WWW.MADISONTOWNSHIPONLINE.COM

LAW ENFORCEMENT & POLICE

165 YEARS
1843-2008



TRENTON'S
1ST MARSHAL
DAVID L. HUFF 1896

HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT & POLICE DEPARTMENT OF TRENTON, OH

COMPILED BY J. LARRY HELTON, JR.

The State of Ohio, Butler County, and Lemon Township were all founded in 1803. That same year, James Blackburn was the first elected Butler County Sheriff. From 1803 to 1843, the Butler County Sheriff's Department was the reigning law enforcement for this area. Madison Township was created in 1810. Bloomfield was platted in 1816 and the name changed to Trenton in 1831. In 1971, Trenton became a city, the only city in Madison Township.

HISTORICAL TIMELINE OF LAW AND ORDER IN TRENTON, OHIO

1843 - TRENTON AND MILTONVILLE BENEVOLENT PROTECTION SOCIETY

1843: October 28th, a lack of sufficient law enforcement had long been a problem to men of the early days. It became necessary for small groups to form organizations to prevent thievery, especially farm animal. Even the threat of hanging as punishment did not prevent horse stealing to any great extent. A group of men from Trenton and Miltonville met in Trenton and formed the Trenton and Miltonville Benevolent Society, also known as "The Horse Company". Jeremiah Martson was appointed president and Ezra Potter as secretary. A constitution and by-laws were adopted and meetings



1965 FORCE WITH CHIEF HOBE ADAMS

held quarterly for thirty-three years. There were 57 members in this organization.

1850: Around this year, Sarah Yargus was murdered by her husband on third floor of the old Michael Pearce (Trenton's founder) homestead at 1 South Miami Street. Mr. Yargus was allowed a bit of freedom from the Butler County jail by the sheriff and he came to Trenton. He crept up the outside stairway to the porch on the second floor and then up the inside stairway to the third floor where he murdered his wife just before daybreak and then fled down the stairway.

1875: The membership had fallen to 13, a protection fund of \$324 was in the treasury, and the membership fee was \$3.00 a year.

1896 - MARSHAL DAVID L. HUFF

1895: September 21st, Huff's signature on petition to oppose the incorporation of the village of Trenton.

1896: July 2nd, Huff is first appointed marshal in the village of Trenton.

1951: burial at Miltonville Cemetery; David L. Huff, b.1860-d.1/2/1951, Trenton, Ohio, age 90 years; wife, Anna, b.1869-d.7/16/1934, Trenton, Ohio, age 65. : from this point forward, until funds were available, additional officers of the law were volunteers.

Continued on page 4.

YOUR Township Administrator...



By Roxanne Mantz,
Madison Township Office Manager

Madison Township will be having a 2021 Christmas Lights Decorations Drive-By!

With this being such a complex year, many people are already looking forward to saying “Goodbye 2021 Let’s do this 2022!” A great way to end an old year and begin a new one is to look at the beautiful and unique Christmas lights!

You can decorate the house, trees with lawn ornaments, lawn decorations, lawn figurines, or use your Christmas imagination! This will be for EXTERIOR decorations only.

What wonderful memories and holiday cheer you create and feel when riding in your car with family members on a cold winter evening while viewing beautiful Christmas

lights on a clear night. Plus, there’s no waiting in line and it’s free!

Some people like the traditional large bulbs that are red & blue in color and simply outline the house, while others go with a more contemporary route with the new LED multi-color mini lights! Possibly spot Santa on their rooftop? See the action of a live animal nativity scene? Either way, it will be a great reason to load up family or friends, grab a thermos full of hot chocolate, (see recipe for hot chocolate bombs below) and drive around to see what others in the township have designed for their Christmas decorations.

If you would like to have your house placed on a list provided to our community, simply send me your address no later than December 10th. The address list will be distributed by December 17th, so your house must be ready for viewing ON the 17th. You can send me your address at Roxannem@Madisontownshiponline.com or call me at 513-424-0821 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Monday through Friday. If you wish, you do not have to submit your name, simply your address. The address list will be created and, on our website, our Facebook page. Pictures of the decorations may even end up posted to our Facebook page!

Have fun, be creative and let’s make this Christmas the best one yet! **MT**



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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 |
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| 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 |
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| 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...

Brian McGuire, President of Trustees

As we approach the end of another year we must take the opportunity to reflect on what has occurred in the past year and how we have reacted to issues that have impacted our families and community. Part of that reflection is to evaluate our responses to those occurrences and make changes, if necessary, for the betterment of our families and community. We as Madison Township Trustees are constantly looking for opportunities to make lives better for the people of Madison Township. Making it easier for the people of our township to pursue those God given rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Our responsibilities, as Trustees, are to try to ensure that our residents have safe township roads to travel on, a Fire and EMS Department that can respond to dangers that threaten our lives and homes, and keeping our community a place to enjoy our rural atmosphere with family and friends. Be assured that we will always continue to try to fulfill our responsibilities while staying within our budget constraints.

Our Road Department, in my mind, is the best in the State. They keep our roads cleared and in top condition for travel despite the many weather-related dangers that occur. They can be seen any time during the day or night clearing roads of snow, down trees and debris from tornadoes, and wash outs from flooding, ensuring our roads are safe for travel. Please be on the look out for our road crews while you are out and about. We want to assure that not only you can travel safe but, they can return home to their families after a job well done.

Our Fire and EMS Department is a blessing to all residents and visitors of Madison Township. We have been blessed with the finest group of men and women in the country. They put their lives on the line every day to protect our families and homes from the many dangers of life. Ensuring that we and our family members can enjoy life to its fullest. I thank God every day that we have them, at the ready, to respond at any moment. If you see any members of our Fire and EMS Department out at community events or anytime, be sure to thank them for their unselfish service and commitment to our community.

Finally, as we approach the upcoming holidays enjoying the time with our families and friends, we will have time to reflect on how blessed we truly are. I am thankful for my family and many friends I have. I am thankful that there are men and women who are willing to give their time to make sure we travel safe roads, and are ready to respond, at a moment's notice, to any dangers we face. And I am thankful that we live in the greatest township, state, and nation on the face of the earth. **MT**



An advertisement for Stacey Castle Design & Typography. The top part features a collage of various images including a woman's face, a globe, and abstract designs. The text "Stacey Castle.com" is prominently displayed in a large, white, stylized font. Below this, "Design" and "Typography" are written in smaller fonts, with the phone number "513.594.0206" in between. At the bottom, there is a red banner with white text that reads: "NEED A WEBSITE? NEED SOCIAL MEDIA? NEED MARKETING? 513-594-0206 MY 30+ YEARS IN MARKETING CAN PROVIDE WHAT YOU NEED".

An advertisement for The Law Office of Michael A. Newland. The top part features a scale of justice icon. Below it, the text "THE LAW OFFICE OF MICHAEL A. NEWLAND ATTORNEY AT LAW" is displayed in a serif font. At the bottom, there is contact information: "300 High Street, Suite 601 Hamilton, Ohio 45011 www.michaelnewlandesq.com" and "newlandlaw@fuse.net Phone: 513-887-9595 Fax: 513-737-1631".

Continued from the cover.

1897 - MARSHAL ALVA SHAFER

1882: Shafer's father, Fredrick Shafer, was a fire watchman on the Elk Creek railroad bridge.

1903: Shafer and Herman Goebel built the bell tower atop the 1901 engine house to house the newly purchased fire bell.

1925: Shafer was on the Trenton School Board.

1898 - MARSHAL CHARLES PFALIGRAF

1902 - MARSHAL ALVA SCHAFFER

1902: Shafer's second time as marshal.

1907: plans were drawn to build a room on the west side of the engine house, which was the first fire house built in 1901, for a council chamber and a room in the rear for a jail; John Fike, a carpenter and mayor of the village built the addition in the same year.

1922 - MARSHAL MILTON OTTO WEHR

1926: Two hold-up men rob bank at 208 State Street, Trenton of over \$3000 at twelve noon; this building was later used as a post office, a store, and today as a barbershop.

1940: burial at Saint Peter's Church Cemetery; Milton Otto Wehr, b.1/2/c1831-d.7/30/1940; wife, Louise; brothers, Martin and George; sister, Mrs. Katherine Bailey, Benton Harbor, Michigan; family plots; no tombstone.

1927 - MARCHAL WILLIAM WEILAND

1933 - MARSHAL EDWARD KOPP

1915: Kopp played in a Trenton band around this time.

1939: after having served many years, Kopp was the last station agent for the Cincinnati & Lake Erie traction line through Trenton when the service ended.



CHIEF OF POLICE
HOBE ADAMS



1965



1955 FORCE WITH CHIEF OSCAR REED

1909: Shafer played on a Trenton baseball team around this time.

1917 - MARSHAL JAMES LAW

1843: Law was a member of the Trenton and Miltonville Benevolent Protection Society.

1917 - Marshal Albert Young

1917 - MARSHAL ELIJAH EVANS

1918 - MARSHAL ALBERT YOUNG

1920 - MARSHAL JAMES LAW

1920: Law's second time as marshal; March 18th, Yeggs robbed bank at 208 State Street, Trenton of \$46 and contents of 56 safe deposit boxes.

1921 - MARSHAL JOHN WENDT

1930: November 8th-18th, Wendt had a contract drawn with Trenton to tear down school #10 on south side of Kennel Road and clear the grounds for farming purposes.

1948: burial at Miltonville Cemetery; Edward Kopp, b.1877-d.2/7/1948, Miami, Florida, age seventy years; wife, Ella E., b.1883-d.1977.

1938 - MARSHAL/CHIEF OSCAR MONROE "GIBBY" REED

1938: August 22nd, Reed was appointed marshal and street commissioner; also a member of the fire department.

1939: February 9th, Reed was provided with first uniform worn by a peace officer in Trenton.

1942: January 5th, by state law title of marshal was change to chief of police; salary was \$150 a year; Reed was appointed by Mayor Harry Stretcher as secretary and treasurer of Trenton Defense Council, a WWII Civilian Defense Corps.

1945 - CHIEF ELMER "BUCK" SCHEIBERT

1925: Scheibert opened an auto repair garage at 7th through 9th East Main Street.

Continued on page 6

Unity Baptist Church

SERVICE TIME
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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
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Continued from page 4.

1937: Scheibert moved his auto repair business to the barn behind his house at 205 North Miami Street.

1977: Elmer Scheibert, b.10/21/1903-d.5/1977, Trenton, Ohio; first chief to draw social security.

: at one time Scheibert was the fire chief for Trenton.

: Scheibert drove a Trenton school bus for 24 years.

1946 - CHIEF CHARLES LAKES

1949 - CHIEF OSCAR MONROE "GIBBY" REED

1949: Reed's second time as chief.

1953: first modern day recorded murder in Trenton; Reed was a member of the Trenton Fishing Club building committee, clubhouse constructed in 1957.

1956: February 15th, 2:00 P.M., first fully equipped police cruiser was delivered from Ross Motors of Middletown, cost \$1,808.95, first police radio which was tied in with the Butler County Sheriff's Office; up until this time Reed (Ford Cruiser) and his deputy, Hobert Adams (1946 Chevrolet), use their own cars; June 5th, Reed resigned as chief; Patrolman Simon Ehresman was on the force.

1961: burial at Miltonville Cemetery, Oscar Monroe Reed, b.1898-d.10/5/1061, Trenton, Ohio, age 63 years; wife, Effie J., b.1900-d.1973.

: Mayor Harry Stretcher took Reed and Adams to Cincinnati to get uniforms of their own.

1956 - CHIEF HOBERT "HOBE" ADAMS

1954: Adams started on the force during the Halloween season to combat pranksters.

1955: January, Adams was appointed as a new deputy; salary was \$40 a year part-time; Adam's first uniform was made from hand-me-downs from the Middletown Police Division; village population at that time was between 800-900; around this year the First National Bank at 130 East State Street was robbed, it was across the street from today's bank that relocated in 1960, with commercial buildings in its place.

1956: June 21st, Adams was appointed as acting chief of police for six months probationary period then officially named chief; two part-time deputies, Sergeant Carl Ennis and Arthur Reed.

1957: Patrolman Sidney B. Frisby was on the force.

1959: September 17th, David Carroll was approved by village council, which increased the force to 4.

1960: May 7th, Paul Halderman sold to the village of Trenton part of Lot 125 facing East State Street and adjacent to village property for \$5,500.00; October 6th, village council approved a \$48,969.00 contract for a new building, Roth U. Bertsch of Hamilton was the contractor; Patrolman Louis Wilder was on the force in the 1960s.

1961: January 16th, work on new village building began, located to the rear of old village building; May 24th, old building was dismantled.

1965: police department: Allen Selby, Lester Bellamy, David Carroll, Robert Adams (Hobe's brother), John Riouff – auxiliary, Willard Clonch – auxiliary.

1970: April, 6 officers were called to Oxford to assist in controlling a Vietnam War protest.

1971: February 13th, Trenton becomes a city; police force became full-time; Patrol Officers: Tim Hayes, Eugene Smith, Eugene "Butch" Kelley, and Robert Adams.

1977: Adams retired; 11 on the police force, some part-time and some full-time; Adam's position remained part-time as required by law; Adams had also worked full-time as a crane instructor at ARMCO Steel Corporation for 31 years while serving as chief.

1978: 1978-1986 & 1987-1993, Adams served on Trenton City Council; as vice mayor and on several committees during these 15 years.

2008: Hobe and his wife, Bea, still reside in Trenton.

: Patrolman Mike Bar on force during Adams' reign.

: police department earned a strong regional reputation, receiving a letter of recognition from Governor James Rhodes.

: Associate Press carried a story chronicling the department's innovative technique of handling juvenile crime, instead of taking them to juvenile court the parents were offered to come to the station and paddle them with the chief's wooden paddle.

: Adams was once named Trenton's Citizen of the Year and rode as grand marshal in the Trenton Family Festival Parade.

1977 - CHIEF JOE RICHARDS

1961: Richards began as a dispatcher for the Ohio State Patrol in Defiance, Ohio; he then went on to serve with the Butler County Sheriff's Department.

1971: September 15th, Richards became a Trenton police officer, sworn in as a lieutenant by Hobe Adams.

1977: January 1st, Richards was sworn in as first full-time Chief of Police by Mayor John Madoffori.

1978: Shirley Ledford was hired as a dispatcher.

1979: Officers Jim Valandingham and David Agoston, along with Steve Tannruther and Ron Meadows, organized the Trenton Football Team composed of 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th graders under the name Edgewood Cougars.

1991: 6 additional uniformed officers (now 17), 4 dispatchers, 1 animal control officer; 3 police vehicles in use; extensive changes to village building.

1996: July 7th, police department reunion at the Trenton rescue squad building with 25 past and present department employees attending; 2 new officers attending were Mike Gillen and Jim Elliott; others in attendance included Timothy Traud, Dave Agoston, Richard Miller (1966-1976), Allen Selby (former officer), Hobert Adams (1955-1977; former chief).

2000: July 4th, Richards retired having been one of the Tri-state's longest-serving chiefs.

2000 - CHIEF RODNEY HALE

1981: 1981-2000, Hale served with the Middletown Police Division as patrol officer, detective, and sergeant.

2000: June, Hale resigned from the city council seat he was elected to in 1998 to pursue the position of chief of police; dramatic uniform changes so department would have its own identity and distinguish it from other area departments; Hale retired Joe

Richard's badge number and on-air radio call number out of respect for the former chief.

2003: Best dressed division contest winners for a police department in a city under two hundred officers.

2006: October 7th, Hale retired; 10 officers, 9 dispatchers (5 were part-time).

as a young man, Hale worked in the family restaurant, Tastee Freeze/Big T in Trenton.

2007 – CHIEF CARL A. RAY

2007: March, Ray comes from the Loveland Police Department to become Trenton's Chief of Police; in 2007 more than 450 9-1-1 calls were answered, more than 15,260 dispatches were made, and answered 36,500 calls.

2008: Department: Chief of Police, Carl A. Ray; Assistant Chief of Police, Timothy Traud; Detective, Blake Brown; Sergeants: Michael Gillen. David Rosenfelder, and Michael Matala; Patrol Officers: Bruce Agee, Joseph Zianno, Jeremy Rose, Jamy Baker, Scot Johnson, Jeremiah Morgan, Tim Bushong, and Craig Flick; Full-time Police Dispatchers: Kathy Allen, Jim Montgomery, and Danean Murray; Part-time Police Dispatchers: Dana Taggart and Andrea Bowling; Administrative Assistant, Chelle Creekbaum.

a property auction is held each year during the annual city wide yard sales.

Trenton Police Division, 11 East State Street, Trenton, Ohio 45067, dispatch (513) 988-6341, fax (513) 988-5173, emergencies 9-1-1; 24/7 operation; there is a Detective Division and a Records Bureau.



1996 DEPARTMENT WITH CHIEF JOE RICHARDS

I compiled this history of the Trenton Police Department in 2008 under the direction of then Chief Carl Ray and former Chief Hobe Adams. Further newspaper articles and photographs can be found in the book with the same title as this article at Midpointe Library locations in Middletown and Trenton, the Trenton Police Department, and the Trenton Historical Society Museum,

which also has an early police department display. At one time, the department history was on the city's website and the year of the department's founding was on the entrance window of the Trenton Police Department. Much has changed since that time, officers have come and gone, Chief Carl Ray resigned, two police chiefs have served, and former Chief Hobe Adams passed away at 91 years of age, b.3/8/1924-d.4/4/2015 Middletown, Ohio, burial at Butler County Memorial Park. **MT**

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Homeowner's Guide

BY SEAN HUDSON

POOL WATER DRAINAGE

As the days get longer and warmer, one way to beat the heat is relaxing in a crystal clear swimming pool. To keep your pool clean and safe, a variety of chemicals are used to combat bacteria, algae, and other nuisances. Once the summer fun ends, these chemicals present a hazard to aquatic life, and must be properly treated before discharging onto a grassy area such as a lawn.

Proper pool water drainage is an important step in protecting our natural waterways. Unlike water in streams, lakes, ponds, and rivers, water in swimming pools and hot tubs is treated to limit the growth of bacteria, parasites, algae, and other nuisances. Swimming pool water is not allowed to be drained to storm sewers or directly to streams and creeks due to the environmental hazards posed by pool treatment chemicals and the volume of water entering over a short period of time. The following guide outlines the proper steps necessary to ensure that your swimming pool water discharge complies with US and Ohio EPA best practices, and has a minimal impact on our environment.

A good rule of thumb, if any chemical you are using says “keep out of reach of children” it does not belong in the stormwater system or our waterways, and needs to be removed before it is released into the environment.

CHLORINE REMOVAL

Chlorinated swimming pool water is considered an illicit discharge into any stormwater infrastructure or surface water under the US Clean Water Act. Swimming pool water needs to be dechlorinated through chemical treatment, carbon filtration, or sunlight exposure to a level below 0.1 mg/l on a commercially available chlorine test kit. Chemical dechlorinators need to be added at the rate specified on the product label and allowed to circulate for the specified amount of time. Carbon filtration requires additional filters to be installed and is best discussed with a pool supply company.

The chlorine used in swimming pools is not pure chlorine, it is a mixture of chlorine atoms and either sodium or calcium that forms reactive ions that attack organic matter. Chlorine ions will naturally break down in the presence of ultraviolet radiation. To use sunlight to remove chlorine, stop adding chlorine to the swimming pool, continue to run the circulation pump, and wait until the chlorine test kit returns an undetectable amount. While cost effective, lowering the chlorine content by sunlight exposure can take up to 2 weeks to reach an undetectable amount of chlorine.



ONE OF SUMMERS GREATEST ENJOYMENTS IS COOLING OFF IN A BEAUTIFUL SWIMMING POOL. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES PROVIDED WHEN DRAINING YOUR POOL.

Water in swimming pools is often treated to adjust the amount of acid or alkalinity for proper chemical disinfection. For discharge into the environment, the pH (a measure of acidity or alkalinity) should be between 6.5 and 8.5, which is the normal pH range for surface waters. Typically, pools are kept at a pH of 7.2 - 7.6 (slightly alkaline), and water should be released as close to a pH of 7 (neutral) as possible.

DRAINING

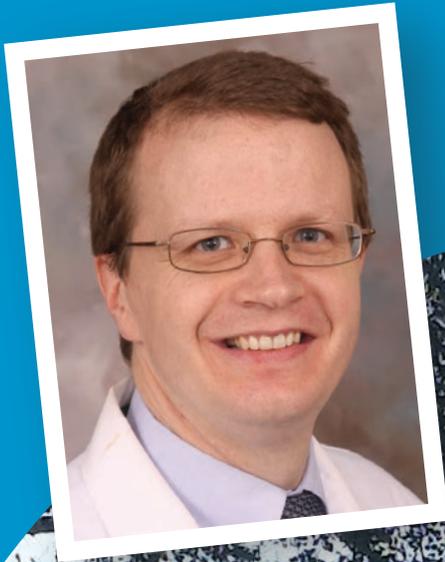
Once chlorine levels are undetectable and the pH is within the acceptable range, you can commence draining your pool. The best way to dispose of dechlorinated swimming pool water is to drain it to an area on your property that allows it to infiltrate into the soil without leaving your property. Because of the volume of water being released it is best to do this over a period of time to avoid creating a flooding, erosion, or nuisance insect issue. Additionally, such a large discharge of water may damage neighboring properties, which you may be liable for under Ohio drainage law.

Always check with your local sewer district to determine what the rules and regulations are for discharging pool water into the municipal sanitary sewer. Under no circumstances should pool water be drained into a septic system or around the leach field for a septic system, as this can cause costly damage to your septic system.

In Ohio, directly discharging a swimming pool into surface water can cause a fish kill, which you can be held financially liable for. If in doubt contact our office or the Butler County Stormwater District for more information.

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CHILDREN & THE OUTDOORS

By Roxanne Mantz

Spending time outdoors helps children develop problem solving skills, fosters cooperation and inspires curiosity. It helps improve physical and mental health and creates an appreciation for nature and wildlife.

Spend some time with your kids outdoors by going on special outings or picnics. Start with a simple hike that is suitable for children. Local playgrounds like the Madison Townships Community Park offers a paved walking path that is perfect for a quick outdoor trip.

Different weather hikes offer changes and opens communication and questions.

Fall offers leaves changing and animals preparing for the winter months ahead.

Spring/Summer offer flowerers, and the birth of new wildlife.

Everyday can be a new adventure! Make memories and have fun! **MT**



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5 Simple Ways TO RELIEVE STRESS

**FEELING STRESSED?
YOU ARE NOT ALONE**

By Roxanne Mantz

Whether you are scrambling with work and home projects, an appointment, paying for that unexpected car repair, or assisting your fifth grader with division, life can be stressful.

And while it is a normal part of life, too much stress can have serious consequences, on your mental health. It can also create high blood pressure, digestive problems and heart disease.

The good news is that there are mental health services and resources available in our county.

There are also initial steps you can take to help with stress relief.

1 ATTEND TO YOUR OVERALL HEALTH- exercise, sleep, and a healthy diet and regular medical checkups are all necessary for long-term stress management.

2 INTRODUCE HEALTHY COPING MECHANISMS-Alcohol and drugs often exacerbate stress over time, so try meditation as a way of coping instead.

3 SCHEDULE BREAKS-make sure you step away from your project, workplace or any stressful situation a couple times each day, even if only for five minutes to calm your mind.

4 FIND A HOBBY-There are plenty of tried-and-true activities designed to help alleviate a stress reaction, including meditation, visualization, exercises, breathing techniques, yoga, tai chi. Simple gardening or wood working for those who are crafty. Reading an novel, or taking a small walk.

5 SEEK HELP WHEN NEEDED-Working with a licensed mental health professional can provide guidance if you are feeling overwhelmed-helping you build resilience, increase productivity, and feeling more balanced.

Figuring out how our stress affects us is just the beginning to understanding and alleviate and cope. Remember you are not alone and even a conversation with a friend or family member can accomplish a lot. Mental Health Matters. **MT**

COUNSELING SERVICES IN OUR AREA:

Butler County Behavioral Health Services 513.881.7189

CDC Mental Health Services 13.868.1562 | 513.737.1247

Catholic Charities 513.863.6129

Cincinnati Children's (Psychiatric Intake) 513.863.4124

NAMI of Butler County (Family Support) 513.860.8386

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LEAPREALTORS.COM

Local History:

By Roxanne Mantz

WOODSDALE ISLAND AMUSEMENT PARK 1991-1913

It's hard to believe that in the decade of 1880s Woodsdale was known for its amusement park. Visitors took a long train ride from downtown Cincinnati to Woodsdale Island Park, which was located in what is now Fairfield Township.

The Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad Company spent approximately \$20,000 to open a restaurant, merry-go-round, boathouse, and other entertainment amenities at the park, according to a booklet produced by the company that was donated to the Library of Congress. There was speculation that the park was built as a source of income for the Cincinnati and Dayton Railroad who owned it. The train brought people from Indianapolis and Dayton and Cincinnati for a round trip ticket purchase of .50 cents. Coming from Hamilton or Middletown it was a mere .25 cents for the round-trip ride. Some residents arrived at the park via paddle boat, canoes and some just swam to the park. The Sebald Brewing Company operated a canalboat called the "Gambrinus" that carried family and friends to the park. The passengers dressed in their Sunday attire to attend the park festivities. You could picnic, ride the "Swan Boat" and even camp. The (Ralph) Sebald family even carried an organ on their boat for campsite musical entertainment.

Many politicians used the park as a platform for political rallies. William McKinney was one of those guest speakers. Other speakers included James Campbell a Middletown native who would introduce Aldi Stevenson from the Grover Cleveland campaign to speak. Local and State politicians were always campaigning at the park during election time.

Fourth of July celebrations were known to be the most eventful with evening fireworks displays. The dance pavilion including Webers Orchestra would play music that drifted to the entire park. In 1898 a flood destroyed the dance pavilion. After this flood, the park began to suffer neglect in the coming years along with poor management. Drinking and gambling began to take over the once family-oriented park. A 2013 Journal News article reported the park's location, between the Miami-Eerie Canal and the Great Miami River, was its downfall. The Great Flood of 1913 wiped Woodsdale Island Park out. It also destroyed the town and the many canal locks, after which there were virtually no passenger



travel by canal.

To this day, two goblets survive bearing the parks name. These goblets are a small reminder of what once existed. One is on display at the Trenton Historical Society Museum and the other was purchased at a flea market and is privately owned. (Pictures of the goblets provided by the Trenton Historical Society, Kelly Philpot)

Time and floods have done much damage to change the topography of what was once an island. The railroad tracks still wind its way around the site but overgrown trees, bushes block its view.

The history remains and is a part of our community and in the hearts of many. **MT**

Credits: Journal News articles and D Page along with photos from the Trenton Historical Society/Kelly Philpot



MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Achieving Excellence One Student at a Time

On the Plank

By Johnny Helton

As the sun propels its shining anchors through my bedroom window, the wood frame is imprinted onto the wall as it imprints another piece of wood into my mind. Almost as if through supernatural telekinesis, this particular piece of plank is placed in my palm and a perceptive part of my brain places the shoes on my feet and my feet on my plank. The wind upon my face is dry and breezy, winding down the wheezy bored feeling as I hop on my board, kneeling to feel the ground as I glide across the rough pavement of my driveway. I'm outside, although, contrary to this, I am inside, inside a safe bubble of content and peaceful empowering prosperity.

Like a moth to a flame I am drawn to the rolling transportation, as the rusty wheels transport little rocks and earthly steels from one concrete cluster to the other, as with the courage I muster to piggyback momentum upon my shoulders as I roll down this slanted manmade boulder. Look out from behind! Rocks fly by as they are spewed out from under the wheels of this board. Speeding down, the wind chases to scenery seen before in the previous scene, and my eyes set themselves upon the coming foliage, divided by this concrete river, my driveway. Such an opportunity isn't it? Though small, this rocky suite gives me the sweet sweet chance of not only entertained and content hours, but fulfilled hours, a time, an excuse to get outside and smell the flowers, skating experience in my mind building up and up like the tallest, but trembling towers. The tremble, the fragility derived from the time away, the lost experience comes from all the other days spent not on my board. The winter is what steals me away, this thieving, cold, wet season keeps me inside, and off of my plank, it keeps my feet on the wooden floor boards instead of my wooden rolling board.

Week after week, month after month the constant hike of time will eventually obliterate the snow, the cold, and the wheel weathering water. Obliteration applies itself not only to the cold season, but to the hours spent pent up in the boring penitentiary of my home. House is a better label, home is where the heart is and my heart beats when able to feel the thrill of being on my little rolling table.

Spring comes at last, it's solidifying breeze of solitude puts me at ease, as I return to the place where I once locked my shoulders and bent my knees. I am really home now, this is where I belong, not just in my driveway, but beyond the driveway, down the road, to the park, even further...as long as my board is what takes me there, I will remain where I am supposed to be. My board takes me wherever I am supposed to go, it serves my safe space, my guide, a place where I can set my feet upon and know that I am free, and a reminder that any day, whether it seems it or not, can have a purpose. There is nowhere else I'd rather be than standing on my surfboard of the concrete sea, there is no other way I would rather go than rolling on four wheels, opposed to on my toes.

After the sailing summer, the falling fall, the winter will return, along with myself as I return to my warm shackles, awaiting the call of spring to send me back onto my home as the cycle repeats.

Such is the way it goes, winning on my wheels to waiting on my toes, breathing in gliding air to inhaling and exhaling seasonal sighs, for this season is one I can hardly bear. Persevering through the trials of frost however, imprints an excitement in my heart rarely replicated, even in the dropping degrees a fire still burns in my heart, a fire which lights the way back to the bushes and the sun and again, to the saving, solidifying breeze. It's always good to be back, back to the safe haven so heavenly hindering, back to the one spot my heart forever desires to be wandering, nowhere else, but on the plank.

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MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

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Madison Alumnus



Madison alumnus Tyler Evick to bring his show “Through My Lens: A Cabaret” to Madison’s stage

Tyler Evick will present his show “Through My Lens: A Cabaret” at his old stomping grounds at Madison High School on **Saturday October 16.**

With a team of professional musicians, and the support of local friends and family,

Tyler will perform songs of Broadway as he talks about how they weave through his life. The cabaret features music from a range of Broadway classics including THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, LES MISERABLES, WEST SIDE STORY, JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT, and many more. From his first show, to the top 6 in the international competition “Give My Regards”, to working with Disney Theatrical and Musical Theater International, this performance tells the story of a life on stage.

“Through My Lens: A Cabaret” includes fresh arrangements by Music Director David Weinstein, featuring a band and a string quartet, some of Tyler’s closest and most talented friends, as well as a preview of the upcoming hit series “Incognita’s Infamous Adventures”.

Tyler’s love of the theater and performance got its roots in the community of Middletown, Ohio, performing with Summer Youth Theater, Madison High School, and many other organizations. His musical debut was on the stage of The Sorg Opera House in the Middletown Lyric Theater’s production of OLIVER at the age of six.

Now residing in Nashville, Tennessee, Tyler has the great privilege to work alongside Broadway and Music Industry professionals alike. Whether creating new content, recording teaching materials, or getting to be on the stage of The Grand Ole Opry for a live audience, there is never a lack of opportunity to be creative in Music City USA.

You can find out more about Tyler’s music career at his website, tylerevick.com. Tickets for his Madison show can be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/through-my-lens-a-cabaret-tickets-167665836029>, or just go to Eventbrite.com and search for “Tyler Evick”.

Middle School Musical

ANNIE JR.

The Madison Middle School Drama Club will present the musical “Annie Jr.” at the Madison High School theater on Nov. 19 and 20 at 7:30 pm, and Nov. 21 at 3:30 pm. Tickets will be available for purchase online and at the door, and there will also be streaming options available. Ticket and streaming information are available at MadisonArts.org.

Upcoming Concerts

TUESDAY OCT. 12

Concert for Madison’s 7th through 12th grade bands in the Madison High School Theater.

WEDNESDAY OCT. 13

Madison’s 7th through 12th grade Choirs will perform their fall concert. Both concerts start at 7:00 pm, and are open to the public.

Athletics

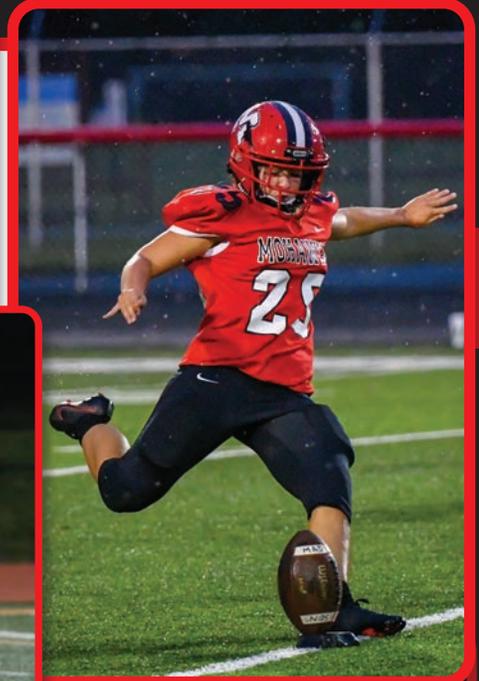
By John Harris

Most youth athletes will have very few physical reminders to take with them when their playing days are done. They'll definitely have life skills, life lessons, and great memories. I also want them to have something to show their grandparents, and, someday, their own children.

Good sports photography is notoriously difficult and expensive. However, when my oldest son decided he was going to play 2nd grade football way back in 2012, I decided I was going to start figuring out sports photography. Nearly 10 years on, there are still things to learn and figure out every game, but the results have gotten pretty good.

This season, I have the great pleasure to photograph games for the 2021 Madison High School football team. This excellent group of young men are dealing with a lot of adversity this season. They're coming off a difficult 2020 football season and school year that was complicated by COVID. They're learning a new system with new head coach, Dan Baker, and his staff. Maybe most difficult, they will be playing most of their season on the road. All home games are being played at Franklin High School's football stadium until Madison's new turf field, which has been delayed by COVID and supply chain issues, can be completed in late October. Despite the adversity, the future is bright. Led by a strong group of seniors, the Mohawks continue to persevere and improve, week after week. They're looking forward to the rest of the season and the opening of the new field later this fall. It's my goal to capture it all.

Galleries for all 2021 Madison varsity football games from Harris Sports Photography are now available at www.harris-sports.smugmug.com.





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SEBALD/

ELK CREEK METROPARK



Located at 5580 Elk Creek Road in Township, Elk Creek MetroPark (Formally known as Sebald Park) has well over 800 acres. Elk Creek MetroPark became the largest park within the park system on November of 2016. Sebald Park was first developed officially in 1965 with the aid of the Weber W. Sebald Park Fund. On August 1, 1965, the park was officially named Weber W. Sebald Park and the land on the east side of the purchase became Weatherwax Golf Course.

456.3-acre parcel of land known as Meadow Ridge Area of Elk Creel MetroPark was combined with the 352 acres in the Sebald Park area. The Sebald Park of Elk Creek MetroPark has been owned and managed by MetroParks since 2014.

This natural setting provides views of rolling hills and meadows forming walls of the creek valley while open lawn areas provide the park provide space for park customers using the ten covered picnic shelters and playgrounds. Hiking trails are routed throughout the woods and along the Elk Creek which runs the length of the park. Currently there is 9.5 miles of public horse trails and bird watching are among the fun adventures at the park. The creek itself provides cooling waters for swimming, rock hunting and fishing.

Back in the 1970s Sebald Park still had the old “swinging” suspension bridge that crossed the creek near the north existing entrance. If you were brave enough to cross this rickety bridge holding on to pieces of rope for support and knowing just when to jump where the missing boards were, you conquered the day. The swinging or suspension bridge existed near the ford that was used to access the old house that was previously located up the hill from the park entrance. The bridge provided access to the residence during high water conditions when the ford could not be used.

The bridge was removed in the late 1970’s. You can still see the posts where the bridge was once connected. The swinging bridge is no longer there but the memories remain. **MT**

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Your Immune System

By Roxanne Mantz

Information by GA and Health MD

This past year was truly unprecedented. We all witnessed a once-in-a-lifetime (hopefully) event as we watched the highly transmissible COVID-19 sweep across the entire globe, bringing uncertainty, fear and suffering to millions. All of us have either known someone to contract it or we ourselves have experienced it.

The pandemic also has led to much discussion about how people can boost their immune systems against viral invaders. I am certainly no doctor or claim to be, however I have found myself doing an increased amount of research on the topic.

One interesting insight I've learned is that the immune system requires balance. We are accustomed to thinking about making our immune systems stronger, when in fact balancing our immune systems is equally important.

When we experience a viral infection, our bodies strategically address the threat with the many highly specialized cells that comprise our immune systems. These include monocytes (alert the rest of the immune system to threats), natural killer cells (detect and destroy virus containing cells and tumor cells), B cells (produce antibodies) and many more. Think of your immune system as a multifaceted force like the military with its many functions: infantry, reconnaissance, surveillance and more.

These specialized cells activate in our immune systems when the threat presents itself, with the goal of eradicating the virus and preventing future infection. In the initial stages of infection, the immune system releases substances referred to as cytokines, which help recruit other immune cells. This is known as inflammation and is responsible for a lot of the "under the weather" symptoms that we feel when we get an infection.

Sometimes, this response can be a bit too strong, and the inflammation meant to help our bodies can become harmful and lead to destruction of bodily tissues, such as the heart and lungs. Excessive inflammation can be more dangerous than the virus itself. Having an unbalanced immune system means that your immune system is more prone to such excessive immune responses.

That said, your lifestyle can play a huge part in making sure that your immune system responds appropriately to microbial threats without causing harm your body.

Here is how you can do your part:

1 Eat an overall healthy diet: Make sure your diet is largely comprised of real, unprocessed foods including vegetables, fruits, legumes, nuts and seeds, grains and meats. Because plant foods are particularly anti-inflammatory, they are great at helping balance the immune system and should comprise the bulk of your diet.



2 Include anti-inflammatory superfoods: Do your research on the various foods and substances in nature that are particularly powerful for immune system balance. Garlic, onions, ginger, turmeric and green tea are a few of these superfoods to include in your diet on a regular basis.

3 Exercise, but don't do too much: You want to keep your body moving, as this helps to reduce inflammation and improve the immune response. However, it's important to know that there is such a thing as too much exercise, and that excessive exercise can increase inflammation and make you more susceptible to viral illness. In other words, don't try to "kill it" in the gym every day. Try to get in a consistent dose of 30 minutes to one hour of moderate exercise most days of the week.

4 Sleep and rest: Get your sleep at night and try not to "burn the midnight oil" all of the time. Sleep is important for immune system balance. Also, don't stay busy all of the time. Learn to take time to relax regularly.

5 Get outside: One of the hands-down most important substances that we can take in to balance our immune systems is Vitamin D, and our most available (and free) source of it is sunlight. Get outside and let the sunshine on your bare skin, keeping sun safety in mind. It's important to note that the darker your skin color, the more sun exposure you require for adequate Vitamin D production.

These are but a few actions that you can take to make sure your immune system is balanced and ready to respond appropriately to viral threats. Hopefully, this helps you to be motivated to take steps to improve your immune health – and overall health for that matter. As I like to remind people, though, make sure you do your part. You won't get healthy by simply reading about it!

Portable Generator Safety

Portable generators are one convenient answer to pesky power outages, but if you're not careful, they can be hazardous.

A portable generator's primary danger is carbon monoxide poisoning from the toxic engine exhaust; indeed, most generator-related incidents reported to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission involve such poisoning.

Carbon monoxide is called a "silent killer" because there are no odors or symptoms that signal a problem. So even if you don't smell exhaust fumes, you may still be exposed to carbon monoxide.

That's why extreme caution and safety safeguards must be used when using a portable generator. Begin by always

carefully following the manufacturer's safety instructions for portable generators.

These safety tips also can help protect against carbon monoxide poisoning:

ALWAYS place the generator outdoors. **NEVER** use a generator inside homes, garages, crawlspaces, sheds, or similar areas, even if you're using fans or opening doors and windows for ventilation, warns the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Deadly levels of carbon monoxide can quickly build up in these areas and can linger for hours, even after the generator has shut off.

Additionally, place generators so that carbon monoxide fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors, vents,

Continued on page 20.



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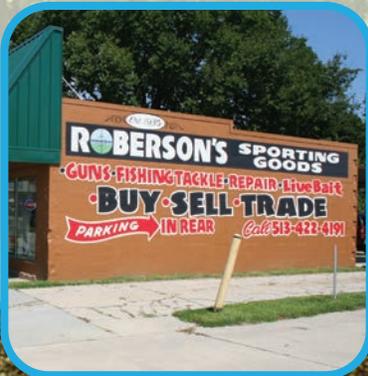
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Tips for Preventing Skunks

Having skunks around your home can present several health and safety hazards. Aside from the threat of being sprayed with their noxious musk, skunks are also known carriers of rabies and other diseases that can harm your family or pets. Skunks will also tear open trash bags and topple garbage cans, which can attract other vermin and insects to your home.

KEEP SKUNKS AWAY BY FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE GUIDELINES:

1. Remove outside water and food sources, such as pet-food bowls, low-hanging bird feeders, and fruit dropped from trees or bushes.
2. Seal all trash bags and place them in cans with tight-fitting, locking lids.
3. Eliminate any insect or rodent infestations.
4. Remove potential hiding spots in your yard, such as piles of wood, brush, or other debris.
5. Seal any openings in or around your home. Skunks like to hide under houses, decks, and sheds. Any barriers should extend one foot below ground to discourage burrowing.
6. Install bright lights in your yard. This will discourage the skunk as it is nocturnal by nature.
7. Use a skunk repellent such as predator urine, pepper sprays, ammonia, or citrus peels. While skunks are nocturnal animals, you may see one during the day. This could be due to hunger and might not mean they are rabid. In order to get rid of skunks on your property, contact a professional animal control trapper. The Township does not remove skunks from property.



continued from page 19.

or other openings in the building, says the National Fire Protection Association.

Indeed, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that a generator should be placed no closer than 15 feet from a structure.

Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home — either battery-operated alarms or plug-in alarms with battery backup. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for correct placement and mounting height so they're the most effective. Remember to test your batteries monthly to ensure they're functioning properly.

Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is hot, advises the fire protection association.

Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and clearly label it as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.

Be familiar with the signs for carbon monoxide poisoning — nausea, dizziness, headache, confusion, sleepiness, and weakness — and if you or others in your home experience these symptoms, or if your carbon monoxide alarms sound, get to fresh air immediately. Do not delay. The “silent killer” can rapidly have devastating consequences. Don't go back into the building until trained and properly equipped emergency personnel have determined it to be safe and free of dangerous fumes.

Portable generators are a useful and valuable tool when electrical service is interrupted. The key is take extreme care in operating them safely. **MT**

MADISON TOWNSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT:

The Historical Society of Madison Township meetings are still suspended due to Covid-19.

The cabin remains closed and Cabin Days cancelled as a result of Covid-19 and pending repairs.



We hope to welcome you back in 2022.

A FUN FALL SNACK!

POPCORN BALLS



1. Place popcorn in a large baking pan; keep warm in a 200° oven.
 2. In a heavy saucepan, combine the sugar, corn syrup, water and salt. Cook over medium heat until a candy thermometer reads 235° (soft-ball stage).
 3. Remove from the heat. Add the butter, vanilla and food coloring if desired; stir until butter is melted. Immediately pour over popcorn and stir until evenly coated.
 4. When mixture is cool enough to handle, quickly shape into 3-in. balls, dipping hands in cold water to prevent sticking.
- ~ For a fun twist, make the basic recipe and divide it into a few portions. Then add different mix-ins to each. Think candies, nuts, dried fruit, even cereal.



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RoadReport

**BY TODD DANIEL,
ROAD SUPERINTENDENT**

I would like to give an updated report as to our current conditions regarding the roads.

The avg. road surface in our township requires paving about every 15 years. Some will make it out to 17-20 years and others around 13-15 years. This is all based on drainage, average daily traffic and other various factors. Over the last 5 years we have paved an avg. of 3.15 miles of road per year at a cost of \$250,000.00 to \$280,000.00. This puts us at a 16.82 year treatment avg. just above where we would like to be. Fortunately we are still utilizing the crack fill process which helps us to treat an additional 1-2 miles of road each year getting us back to that sustainable number.

As some of you are aware the Township has received some funds from the Federal Govt. These funds are labeled ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act). These funds can only be used for specific things one of which is storm water infrastructure. Since we only have a few subdivisions in our township with storm sewers this is something the Trustees are looking at to use these funds. This will include the Fairlane Park subdivision (Dalewood and Winfield), Knoll Woods subdivision (Mosiman and Blair Ct.) as well as Browns Run Estates (Niderdale and Litchfield). These subdivisions were all built in the mid to late 60's.

We are in the process of getting bids for the 2022 paving season. Below are the list of roads we will be getting estimates for.

NOTE: We will not be paving all of them but are looking strongly at each one.

- Kalbfleisch Rd. – Hetzler Rd. to Dickey Rd.
- Kalbfleisch Rd. – Dickey Rd. to Elk Creek Rd.
- Hinkle Rd. – All
- Eck Rd. – All
- Leichty Rd. – All



Though not road related I would like to thank all those involved in the funding, development and completion of the new turf field at Madison High School. This was something that had been talked about for many years and is now a reality. Overall I believe the infrastructure of our township and schools are now 1st class and are moving in the right direction! Drive safely and enjoy the beautiful fall weather here in our Township! **MT**

PARK

Wanted to let people know if they are not aware we have a series of walking trails at the rear of the park. There are two access points and maps at these two entrances. This year we spent several days clearing and widening the trails so you have much better access throughout the woods. If you have not been back there I recommend the fall when the leaves begin to turn.

WINTER

As winter approaches here are a few reminders

- * If approaching or following a plow truck do so with caution as visibility can be an 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.**

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How to Prepare Chickens for Winter

Credit: Tractor Supply

Keeping your chickens healthy during the winter can be accomplished and may even reward you with egg-production year-round. When preparing your chickens for cold weather, some areas to consider include lighting, heating, proper air flow in their coop, water, and feedings.

Obviously, the best time to prepare for winter is during the late summer or fall, as winter can be a very miserable time for your birds. Of course, some breeds are hardier than others, but, typically, all birds will need some extra protection as those chilly months draw in.

If you experience freezing temperatures in the winter, it is best to start with a hardy breed. Most cold-hardy chickens are of medium to larger weight (six pounds or up) and typically have smaller combs such as peacombs although with sufficient protection from the elements, other comb types will do well.

Some of the best cold hardy birds include: Ameraucanas, Ancona, Black Australorps, Black Giant, Blue Andalusian, Brahma, Buff Orpingtons, Cochins, Delaware, Dominique, Langshan, New Hampshire, Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Red, Russian Orloff, Speckled Sussex and Wyandottes.

Egg production will halt as hens go through their annual molt in the early fall. Once they have completed the molt, the shortened daylight hours of fall and winter tend to slow egg-laying. Once the birds are finished molting, to stimulate eggs laying you can extend the daylight hours artificially with a lightbulb turned on in the coop. The hens require no more than 10 hours of light per day to do so and a timer on the light will ensure that the birds are not overstimulated by the added light in the coop.

Light intensity should also be considered. As a general guideline, a 40-watt bulb with a reflector located seven feet above the floor will provide adequate light for an area of 200 square feet. Multiple lights should be used to assure even distribution throughout the building. Incandescent lights are generally best. Also, assure that light fixtures are properly installed and maintained to avoid a fire hazard.

When temperatures plummet in the dead of winter, people commonly make the mistake of insulating the coop to a point that limits air circulation. This causes humidity to build up, which can lead to frostbite. It can also cause a buildup of ammonia gas from their droppings, subsequently damaging the chickens' lungs.

Even though you will want to avoid drafts from passing through the coops in the winter, you will need to allow for



WATTLES ON ROOSTERS MAY NEED SPECIAL CARE

- Apply petroleum jelly liberally to the wattle and comb of the bird. Massage the jelly into all red skin showing on the poultry's head. Finish up by leaving a thick coat of jelly on the comb and wattle.
- Observe the comb and wattle when applying the jelly. If any area on the wattle and comb are black, the bird may already have frostbite. Be very careful when applying petroleum jelly to this area and the skin surrounding it.
- Reapply petroleum jelly as needed. Pick up a chicken and touch the comb. If the red skin feels dry, it is time to reapply. If the skin still feels slightly oily or greasy the previous application is still doing its job.
- When applying the petroleum jelly, be careful not to get any jelly in the bird's eyes.



enough air flow to provide your chickens with enough fresh air. Ventilation is very important for your chicken's health. The overhang of your chicken coop where the walls meet the roof is a great place to place a screened window to increase ventilation



and light as well. Windows can all be screened so that the coop can be vented during the day but during the night the windows can be closed to keep the heat in.

Any time you are altering your coop, it is wise to ensure that the roof and floor are still waterproof, because one of the keys to staying warm is to stay dry. Keep in mind that bedding needs to be deep and changed often. Wet living conditions for chickens can bring upon disease and death within a few days.

Another idea is to have a closed in pen attached to the hen house, which will allow the birds to have a dry area to scratch about during the day.

Chickens do pretty well huddling together to keep warm, but if your birds are particularly susceptible to the cold or if you have extremely chilly winters, you may like to spoil your flock with the addition of heater or a heat-producing bulb in the chicken coop. You may feel that this is an extravagance, but it is a technique used by many chicken owners. Coop temperature only needs to be slightly above freezing to keep chickens comfortable and to prevent frostbite. Overly warm coops interfere with the bird's ability to tolerate cold temperatures in the winter so this should be avoided at all costs.

Late autumn is a common time for chickens to go through their annual molt (time when the shedding and growth of new feathers takes place). This is a time to consider offering your chickens a high-density vitamin filled feed, or enhancing your current feed with vitamins and food supplements. Adding vitamins will help provide the additional nutrients they need during the molt as well as dealing with colder temperatures.

You also want to make sure they have plenty of non-frozen water. Change water often, and break through the ice layer, if you notice one forming. Or for added convenience, purchase a heated bucket, available in the horse or livestock department of your local TSC store. Not only are they much easier to refill and clean, but they are also effective to a colder temperature.

Most importantly, monitor your chicken's behavior. If they are moving about and acting normally, they are fine! They will naturally fluff out their feathers or stand on one foot to keep warm.

Even though your chickens may be out in harsh winter conditions, with a bit of preparation, they are quite hardy if cared for properly. Fulfilling their basic needs of food, shelter and water will ensure a happy and healthy flock come spring. **MT**

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FireSafety

PREPAREDNESS TIPS

Install a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm (also called detectors) in the hallway of your home near sleeping areas.

Avoid corners where air does not circulate.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions to test the CO alarm every month. Do not use a CO alarm in place of a smoke alarm. *Have both.*

Before buying a CO alarm, check to make sure it is listed with Underwriter's Laboratories standard 2034, or there is information in the owner's manual that says the alarm meets the requirements of the IAS 6-96 standard. Make sure all household appliances are installed according to manufacturer's instructions and local building codes. Most appliances should be installed by professionals.



Have heating systems (including chimneys and vents) inspected and serviced annually, checking for blockages, corrosion, partial and complete disconnections.

Only burn charcoal outdoors, never inside a home, garage, vehicle, or tent. Always make sure to turn off any gas-powered engine, even if the garage door is open.

Do not use gas appliances such as ranges/ovens, or clothes dryers for heating your home.

Know the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning: headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, sleepiness, and confusion. If you suspect CO poisoning, get to fresh air immediately, and then call 9-1-1. Treat the alarm signal as a real emergency each time. If the alarm sounds and you are not experiencing any symptoms described above, press the reset button. If the alarm continues to sound, call the fire department. Visit www.redcross.org/homefires for more information. Sources: American Red Cross, U.S. Fire Administration, The National Fire Protection Association, and the US Consumer Product Safety Commission. **MT**

TOP TIPS FOR FIRE SAFETY & CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

1. Install Smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.
2. Test smoke alarms every month. If they're not working change the batteries.
3. Talk with family members about a fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.
4. If a fire occurs in your home, **GET OUT, STAY OUT, CALL FOR HELP.** Never go back inside for anything or anyone.

CALL 911

CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

- Carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels (such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil, and methane) burn incompletely.
- Each year, carbon monoxide poisoning claims approximately 480 lives and sends another 15,200 people to hospital emergency rooms for treatment
- Each year over 200 people die from carbon monoxide produced by fuel burning appliances in the home including furnaces, ranges, water heaters and room heaters
- A person can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a longer period of time or by a large amount of CO over a shorter amount of time.
- Carbon Monoxide can have different effects on people based on its concentration in the air that people breathe, and the person's health condition.
- CO poisoning can be confused with flu symptoms, food poisoning and other illnesses with symptoms including shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, light headedness, or headaches. High levels of CO can be fatal, causing death within minutes
- Consumers die when they improperly use gas generators, charcoal grills, and fuel-burning camping heaters and stoves inside their homes or in other enclosed or partially enclosed spaces during power outages.

Gardening

By Roxanne Mantz

FALL FERTILIZER TIPS

Early fall is an important time for fertilizing home lawns. Unfortunately, fertilizers are among the many common storm water pollutants that can degrade water quality. Though fertilizers contain chemicals that are good for lawns and plants when used properly, excessive amounts applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. Fertilizers are made of nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus. When it rains, these nutrients are carried by storm water into the nearest stream, river, or other water body.

Too many nutrients in water can cause algae to grow, which uses up the oxygen in the water. Low levels of oxygen in water can hurt aquatic wildlife and even lead to fish kills.

- If you've been in the habit of fertilizing more than once, consider cutting back and fertilizing just in September.
- For the greatest benefit to your lawn, be sure to use a "slow release" fertilizer. This long-lasting type of nutrient also is more likely to stay in the root zone rather than washing off the lawn and into the Street and down the storm drain during the next rainstorm.
- More is not better! Use only the amount directed. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Read the label. More application does not mean a greener lawn - it means more watering and mowing.
- Check the weather forecast. Never apply fertilizers if a heavy rain is anticipated.
- Clean up any spills by sweeping the product back onto the lawn. Never sweep or hose fertilizer toward a paved surface or a storm drain. **MT**



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