

MADISON TOWNSHIP

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By J. Larry Helton, Jr.

OneRoom Schools of Madison Township

In 1825 the State of Ohio established a law that permitted counties to set up public school districts within their townships, supported with tax money. Before that time, schools were private or by subscription, costing several dollars for a child's education.

A board consisting of township trustees and community members governed school policies, finances, hiring of teachers, and construction of buildings.

After acquiring a 1-acre lot, donated by an area farmer, the board decided who was going to build, what materials were needed, and the total cost. The average cost for a wood or brick building, during the late 1800s and early 1900s, was \$900.

The plan was to construct a schoolhouse every one to two miles apart throughout the township. That goal was never achieved.

Often, a local carpenter or builder was sought out for the task. However, if funds were low, the community would work together in the construction of their schoolhouse.

Great importance was put upon learning the 3Rs (reading, 'riting, & 'rithmetic) in a building that was designed to allow plenty of fresh air, light, and space. First through sixth or eighth grades were under one roof with one teacher. Communities were proud of their schools.

A few of the first schools were made of flat rock, such as Preble County's oldest one room school named Kumler, located at 6704 SR503 in Harrison Township. Most early schools were built of hand hewn logs from nearby woods. The roof and door were of clapboard, while the floor was dirt or wood. Glass was expensive, so oiled paper or animal skins were used as window coverings. A clay and rock chimney housed the fireplace. One such school, The Burnett Schoolhouse, built in the early 1800s, was moved from Shandon and restored at the Governor Bebb MetroPark at Okeana.



ABOVE: LOWER BROWN'S RUN SCHOOL #13, 1931.

TO RIGHT: LOWER BROWN'S RUN SCHOOL #13, 2023.



Later, one room schoolhouses were made of wood planks or slats, such as the one in Monroe, built in 1850, now a house at 130 Elm Street. The overall structure was very similar to the brick buildings that replaced them. By the 1870s, the majority of schools being built were of red brick, sometimes fired at the site. The Trenton one room schoolhouse built in 1850, located at 303 North Miami Street is an excellent example of the schoolhouses of that time.

The rectangular buildings ranged from 22 by 30 feet to

Continued on page 8.

YOUR Township Office Manager

David Runnells,
Madison Township Office Manager



Spotted Lantern Fly

The spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) is an insect native to China, India, and Vietnam, and attacks fruit plants, such as grapes and apples, ornamental, and woody trees. A primary host is Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*). Spotted lanternfly (SLF) was first detected in eastern Pennsylvania in September 2014 and was likely brought to the United States by imported woody plants, wood products, and other commodities. They have now established populations in several eastern states, including Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Ohio.



SLF is not a strong flier and is actually a planthopper. Despite this, SLF can spread long distances quickly by people who move infested materials or those containing egg masses.

Spotted lanternfly has been confirmed in Cuyahoga and Jefferson counties in Ohio; residents are advised to be on the alert for this pest and report any possible sightings.

IDENTIFICATION

Black sooty mold around the base of plants or oozing sap may indicate the presence of the spotted lanternfly, however other pests can cause these symptoms as well. SLF will lay eggs beginning in October through the beginning of winter. The egg masses of the SLF are small, grey masses protected by a waxy covering. After hatching in late spring, the SLF goes through four nymph stages. During the first three they appear black with white spots, and in the last stage, which typically occurs during mid-summer, they are red with white dots and black stripes. During the late summer and autumn, the SLF is in the adult moth stage. These adults are larger (approximately 1 inch), with black bodies and brightly colored wings.

REPORT IT

If you suspect a spotted lanternfly infestation, at any life stage, please take a picture or collect a sample and report the finding to the ODA Plant Pest Control using the Ohio Plant Pest Reporter.

Continued on page 4

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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WEBSITE

www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

TOWNSHIP CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES ALWAYS CALL911
 Madison Township Admin. Building..... 513-424-0821
 Kent Hall, Fire Chief 513-464-0709
 Fire Station 151 (Elk Creek Road)..... 513-988-9124

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Butler County Zoning.....	513-424-5351
Butler County Health Department.....	513-863-1770
Butler Rural Electric Cooperative.....	513-867-4400
Southwest Regional Water.....	800-232-5330
Duke Energy.....	800-634-4300
Dayton Power and Light.....	937-224-6000
Middletown Public Library.....	513-424-1251

MISSION STATEMENT OF MADISON TOWNSHIP

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



**John Terrill,
Trustee**

John has been a resident of Madison Township for most of his life originally moving to the township around 1971. He came to Madison when he was in 4th grade and he attended Madison Schools until his graduation in 1978. John and his wife Roxie raised their twin boys (Jordan and Zachary) in the township, and they also attended Madison Schools until their graduation.

John has a strong Public Safety background and has worked in a township environment for the past 16 years as a Chief of Police where he has been responsible for management of the police department, including budgets and personnel. He has been a police officer since 1980 serving with Kings Island Park Police (2

years), Middletown Police Department-Retired Sergeant (25 Years) and currently remains employed with the Clearcreek Township Police Department for 16 years as the Chief of Police.

John has been a board member of the Butler Heritage Federal Credit Union since 2020 and President of the Board of Directors since 2021. John holds membership in many organizations and sits on numerous Boards. John attended Miami University and Cincinnati State.

John has been further been involved as a Boy Scout leader and coach within Madison Township.

John was appointed to fill a trustee unexpired term and will run for his first full term this fall. **MT**

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"Call The Man On The Van"

Spotted Lantern Fly, continued from page 2.

QUARANTINE INFORMATION

On October 28th, 2021 the Ohio Department of Agriculture announced a quarantine to combat the spread of the spotted lanternfly. SLF is now designated a destructive plant pest under Ohio law, which increases inspections and restricts movement of certain items from infested counties in Ohio and other states into non-infested Ohio counties. SLF can spread long distances quickly by people who move infested materials or those containing egg masses.

Currently SLF is only known to be established in Cuyahoga, Jefferson and Lorain counties. Individuals traveling from an SLF infested area with items including tree branches, nursery stock, firewood, logs, or other outdoor items that pose a high risk of spreading the pest are asked to complete a self-inspection checklist.

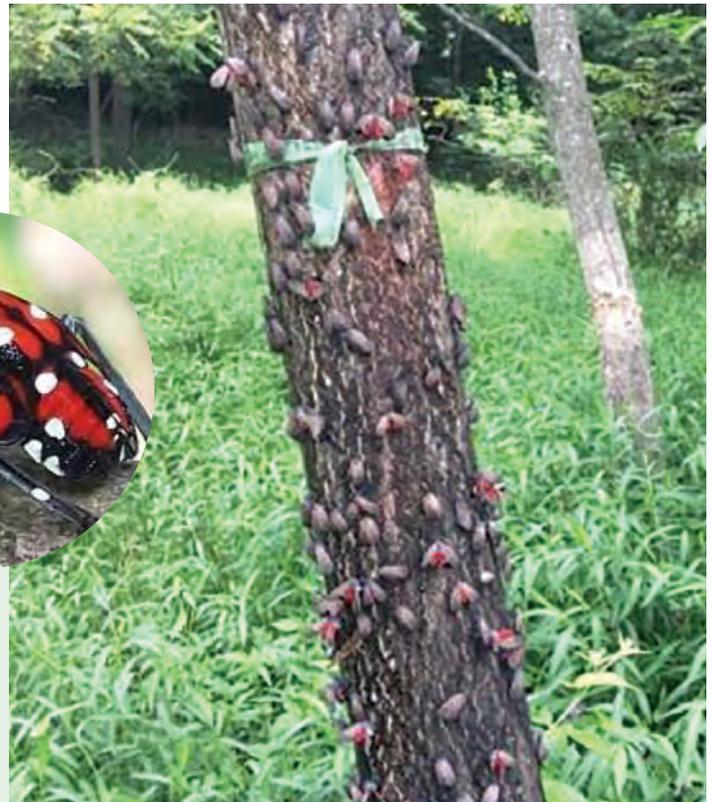
Nurseries, arborists, loggers and other commercial activities may need to be covered by a compliance agreement in order to ship certain products out of infested counties. Please call 614-728-6400 for more information about compliance agreements for commercial activities.

A national map of the reported distribution is available through New York State's IPM website.

DAMAGE AND IMPACT

SLF damage is caused by the insect feeding on the trunk and branches of woody plants. The feeding can result in oozing sap, wilting, leaf curling, and dieback. In addition, during feeding the SLF secretes honeydew which can buildup on and underneath the plant, which in turn promotes the growth of black sooty mold.

SLF can feed on more than 100 plant species, and has the potential to greatly impact the viticulture, tree fruit, nursery, and timber industries.



CONTROL

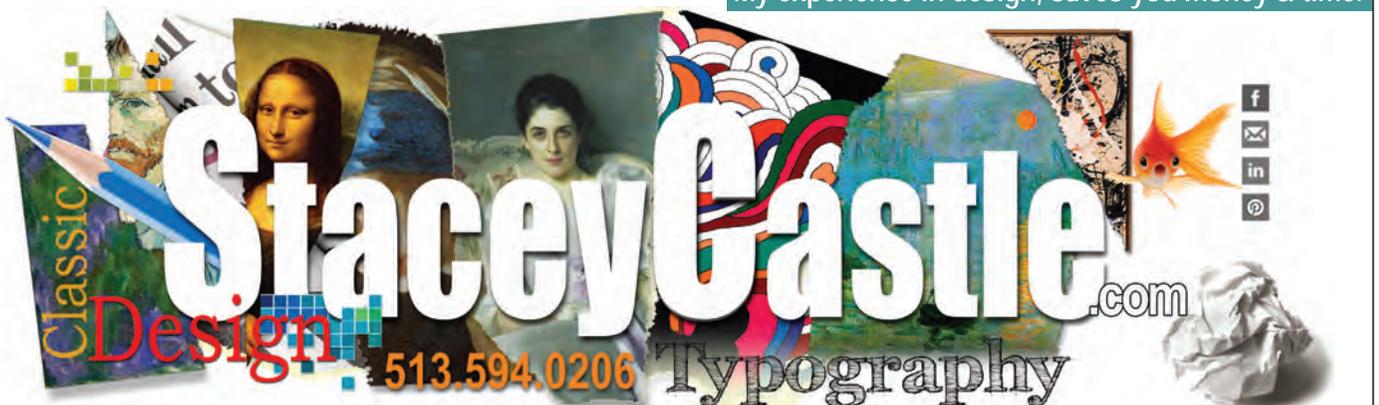
The egg masses may be laid on any hard surface, including trees, rocks, and outdoor furniture. Egg masses can be removed by scrapping with a hard or rigid tool and disposed of into a container of rubbing alcohol.

SLF nymphs will emerge from the egg masses in early May. These nymphs will crawl up and down trees to feed each day and can be controlled by banding the trees with an adhesive trap.

Several insecticides have been shown to be effective against nymph and adult SLF. Please be sure to carefully read and adhere to all pesticide products labeled directions for use. For more detailed information regarding these options visit PSU Extension webpage. [MT](#)

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Road Department

BY TODD DANIEL,
ROAD SUPERINTENDENT,
CEMETERY SEXTON

WINTER REPORT

Once again, the 2022-23 season brought below average snowfall. Aside from the -6 degree Christmas storm this winter was very uneventful. Total salt usage for this season was 179 tons of salt at a cost of \$15,378.00. This is the second least amount of salt ordered for Madison Township in the last 15-20 years.

SUMMER PROJECTS

Roads this year receiving treatments:

Resurfacing

Eck Rd. - Mosiman to Howe

Sloebig Rd. - Cloister Cliff to Thomas Rd.

Myers rd. - Browns Run to Midd. Germ. Rd.

Connie Lane - Eck Rd. to Dead end

Thomas Rd. - SR4 to Midd. Germ.

Keister Rd. - Beck Rd. to Franklin Madison Rd.

* We will also be retracing various roads throughout the township.

We will be spending approximately \$750,000.00 this year on our road treatments. Funding will be provided by our own paving budget, ARPA funds allocated from the second tranche and additional ARPA funds from the Butler County Board of Commissioners.

Another project that is currently underway in our township is the replacement of a large bridge on Elk Creek Rd. This project is estimated to be complete by July 21, 2023. The cost of this project is \$2,093,019.00. Funding is provided by federal (CEAO), BCEO.

PARK

As some of you might have noticed. All three of the playground apparatus that we installed years ago have recently been removed due to their condition and safety concerns. We have just submitted a grant application to the Middletown Community Foundation for \$25,000.00 for new equipment. The trustees have also taken action to match this grant if successful. Were hopeful we'll be rewarded this grant to help replace what we have lost.

As you can see there will be a lot going on in and around the township this year. Please be safe out there and have a great summer! **MT**

Fire Department

By J. Kent Hall, Fire Chief, Madison Fire and EMS

To the residents of Madison Township I would like to first say “THANK YOU”. Thank you for voting yes on the recent fire levy for the Madison Township Fire and EMS. With these funds we will be able to purchase much needed rescue equipment and rescue tools, we will be able to replace much needed fire apparatus that is over 20 and 30 years old. We will be able to upgrade our facilities and stations to today’s standards and provide a much better environment for the on duty crew as well as the paid call members. Upon completion of these facilities we will be able to add additional members for around the clock coverage and be able to respond on a first call first program which will reduce response time for Fire and EMS calls.

In the recent months Madison Fire and EMS has changed it’s policy on hiring non-certified personnel, with that change the department hired seven new fire members

and recently sent them through fire certified training where the members have received their certification with Clark State University. The addition of the seven new members have been a valuable asset to the department and a help on response with day to day calls for service in the township.

For the residents that would like to burn brush in the township please note there is a state wide “Burn Ban” for the months of March, April, May, October and November from 6 am to 6 pm. If you think you need assistance with your brush, please reach out to your local station, we can provide personnel and apparatus to assist you.

The Madison Township Fire and EMS would like to welcome the new trustee John Terrell as a trustee with Madison Township, Butler County. Mr. Terrell comes with a first responder background and will be a valuable asset to the Fire and EMS members as well as the residents of the township. **MT**

“Thank you for voting yes on the recent fire levy...”



One Room Schools, continued from cover page.

40 by 80 feet, with a ceiling height of 11 feet to 11 feet 6 inches. It had a clapboard door between two front windows that usually faced the road.

A few of the schools had two doors – as did some churches at the time – one for boys and one for girls. Three to four windows were along the side that could be protected with hinged wood shutters when school was out. Occasionally, a back door or false windows could be found on the rear of the building.

Most of the schools had a bell tower, either for looks or for the purpose of housing a bell that could be rung with an indoor rope. The brick chimney protruded through the roof in different places, often in the center, for the stove inside.

Sandstone plaques were a few feet above the door,

engraved with the district, number, year of construction, and sometimes the name of the school or builder. Roofing consisted of wood or slate shingles, replaced later with metal or asphalt. Full and half basements, though rare, were found in some schools for use as a storage space.

By the mid-1890s, vestibules were a common addition

Continued on page 14



(LEFT) ASTORIA #3, C1900-1910.

(RIGHT) ASTORIA #3, 2023.

Public Auction Saturday, May 20, 2023, 9:30AM

Excavating Business Downsizing

5190 Trenton Franklin Rd., West Middletown, OH 45042

Preview May 19, 4PM-6PM

Items of Interests:

RESNOR Oil Heater w/tank & pump, Antique John Deere 2 row planter, 550 Gal. Tank, 275 Gallon Oil tank
Transit Laser Tri-Pod, Linde Phase 3 Mig Welder, Cutting Torch w/Cylinder Cart, Elec. Cobra Sewer Auger
Manhole Vacuum Tester, Hydraulic Porter Power & Skid Steer mounted log splitter

3-Pointe Hitch Items:

Sod Roller, 8' Drop Spreader, 6' King Kutter Bush Hog & 6' Toro Aerator & Drum Spreader

Power Tools:

Manhole lift, Hydraulic Porter Power, 10" Compound Delta Miter Saw, Milwaukee HD Right Angle Drill, Stihl MS460 Chainsaw
Pipe testing equipment, Impact wrenches, Lincoln Batt. Operated grease gun, Stanley FatMax jump box
Bench grinders, DeWalt grease gun, 16 Speed Clarke Drill Press, Pipe Camera.
Parts only items: Pressure Washer, Generator, Stihl Cutoff Saw

Hand Tools & tool related:

Large & small vise, Ropes, straps, cable & safety harnesses, chains & all size binders, Small & large bottle jacks
Basement braces, Angle iron work bench with vise, multiple water pumps, small & large crevices, Spades, Pry bars, Shovels, Rakes
Crescent wrenches (all sizes), pipe wrenches, Slack adjusters, small & large pullers

Misc. Contractor Equipment Accessories:

New & used piping (sizes for all uses), new container swing doors, precast manhole covers, **concrete pipes (large and small)**, cast iron grates, pipe fittings, different sizes of roping, doors, misc. hardware, rebar safety caps, traffic grabbers, misc. wire, street sign frames, **aluminum & cast beams (several)**, 2 large **6' vertical planters**, pallet shelves

Automotive Related:

Ford fan clutch wrench set, Air filters & oil filters multiple vehicles, four-piece tune-up kit, fans, New/used auto parts, Jack stands, fire hoses, splines & truck wrenches

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MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

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Spring Musical: Mary Poppins

Upcoming Dates

May 2

7 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Science Ohio Tests
(8th grade only)

May 10

Choir Concert

May 12

Stell Band
Lefferson Park, 6-8 p.m.

May 15&16

Band Concert

May 25

Last Day for Students

May 26

Graduation Ceremony

Friday, May 12th is being changed from a regular school day to a professional development day for teachers and staff. (This means students will NOT report to school that day, but teachers and other staff will.)

April 27-29 @ 7:30 pm

April 30 @ 3:30 pm

Order tickets at MadisonArts.org

Adults \$15, K-12 Students and Seniors \$12, preschoolers free

Everyone's favorite practically perfect nanny takes the stage in this Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious musical adventure! One of the most popular Disney movies of all time is capturing hearts in a whole new way: as a practically perfect musical! Based on the books by P.L. Travers and the classic Walt Disney film, Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins delighted Broadway audiences for over 2,500 performances and received nominations for nine Olivier and seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

The jack-of-all trades, Bert, introduces us to England in 1910 and the troubled Banks family. Young Jane and Michael have sent many a nanny packing before Mary Poppins arrives on their doorstep. Using a combination of magic and common sense, she must teach the family members how to value each other again. Mary Poppins takes the children on many magical and memorable adventures, but Jane and Michael aren't the only ones upon whom she has a profound effect. Even grown-ups can learn a lesson or two from the nanny who advises that "Anything can happen if you let it."



REGISTER YOUR KROGER CARD

Register your Kroger Plus card and choose Madison Music Boosters (organization #97286) as your charity. Then every time you shop at Krogers and swipe your Plus card, Kroger will make a donation to the Music Boosters, at no cost to you!



Text or Call 844-SAFEROH

YOU can anonymously report anything that is suspicious or endangering you, your friends or your school.



MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

Achieving Excellence One Student at a Time



Art News

Congratulations to our Mohawks who had their artwork accepted into the Miamisburg Art Gallery High School Student Art Exhibition.

We had many talented artists garner awards and recognition for their talents:

- Still Life Honorable Mention -- Cadence Wilmot
- Other Honorable Mention -- Meadow Tarabrella
- Animals Honorable Mention -- Maddie Moore
- Portrait Honorable Mention -- Zoey Abbott
- Dimensional Art Honorable Mention -- Layla Amburgey, Lily Carpenter
- Jack Blandford Memorial Award -- Zoey Abbott

Congratulations again to our students and art teachers, Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Lenos!



TECHNOLOGY & CAKE

Butler Tech's Baking and Pastry Arts and Engineering Essentials students at Madison High School recently tapped into their creativity and talent with a co-curricular project inspired by an episode of "Baking Impossible" on Netflix. The reality show features contestants with a challenge that combines baking with engineering, coined "bakineering."

Baking students were paired with an engineering student to design an edible robot that would ultimately complete an obstacle course! The robot had to have a modular base and at least one moveable element. All other elements of the robot had to be edible with the choice of using scrumptious options such as crispy rice treats, cake, pastries, icing, fondant, modeling chocolate, and gum paste.

"This project was used as a work-based learning experience for our students," explained Krystal Yeager, Family & Consumer Sciences instructor. "We wanted to do something that was memorable, fun, and outside the box for the end of the quarter!"

The ultimate goals of the project were creative thinking, teamwork, communication, cake and technology production, specialty cake decoration, and keeping up with industry trends.

"I really think the students rose to the challenge," said Yeager. "Many of the creations made it through the course...with some help...and all of the cakes were edible and looked great!"



Science

A dozen boxes filled with sand, portland cement and flour to simulate the lunar bedrock and regolith (moon dust). Students dropped projectiles from various heights, observing that the faster an object strikes a surface the more energy is released, increasing the sizes of the impact craters. Slow-motion videos were recorded of impacts which were fascinating to see and allowed students to use their phones for something useful.

Objects accelerate due to Earth's gravity at 9 meters per second (squared) but objects from space that impact the Earth/Moon are travelling at speeds approaching 20,000 meters per second! We then compared our little homemade craters to those on Earth, the Moon and Mars. The Moon was formed in an unimaginable collision and its surface was shaped entirely by the impacts that followed, especially in its first billion years but impacts continue today. Everything we see on the Moon is from an impact! The Earth also has scars from impacts although almost all of them are erased through plate tectonics, weathering/erosion and life over spans of time that are difficult to imagine.

- Russ Melampy



MADISON ATHLETIC

Boosters Spring 5K

Elk Creek Metro Park, 5101 Circle Pkwy
Middletown

SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH

Join us for the Annual Madison - Athletic Boosters Spring 5k!

Located at the Elk Creek Metro park (5101 Circle Pkwy Middletown, OH 45042) the 5k course will take a scenic route within the park, with great views of various ponds and beautiful trees. In addition to the 5k there will also be a 1.25 mile fun walk. The fun walk is not timed.

(Strollers are welcome for the fun run/walk section, but the 5k is not stroller friendly due to gravel)

Runners can buy a race tee or tank if they sign up before 4/18. Each runner will get a swag bag. The bags can be picked up in the Madison Community Room on 4/26 between 4-6:30pm, or on race day prior at the event, between 7am-8am.



Spirit Week in Mrs. Blackburn's Class: Hat day, silly socks, Wacky Wednesday



Dress like what you want to be when you grow up Raena, Avery, and Ella dressed like me and Ashley because they want to be teachers.



Students in grades K-5 are hitting the lanes once a week in the after-school Bowling Club. Students learn about bowling basics, bowling etiquette, and, of course, work on throwing strikes and spares! During the course of the 6-week club, students grow as bowlers and gain confidence on the lanes. Great job, Madison bowlers!

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 www.twitter.com/MadisonMohawk

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Fall Festival Weekends

6 Weekends –Sept. 23 & 24 thru Oct. 28 & 29

BUSINESS HOURS

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.



BUTLER COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR

May 1, 2023

COUNTRY CRUISE-IN

Location: The Barn-N-Bunk
3677 Wayne Madison Rd., Trenton
Time: 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.988.9211
Admission: Free
Details: Enjoy music, food, free admission. Free ice cream for participants. Includes All Models, 4X4, and Mustang Cruise-Ins.

May 5, 2023

PENDLETON ART CENTER

Location: 1105 Central Ave., Middletown
Time: 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.421.4339
Admission: Free
Details: The Pendleton Art Center studios are open for First Friday each month and the following day for Second Look Saturday 11am-3pm. Some studios are open daily; some are open by appointment with the artist. The Potato Bar Café is open. This first Friday features the studio of the month's art of Sandra Reff, Studio 109.

May 5, 2023

TRIPPIN BILLIES

Location: Fairfield Community Arts Center,
411 Wessel Dr., Fairfield
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.867.5348
Admission: \$34
Details: Bringing fans of the music of The Dave Matthews Band for close to 20 years, Trippin' Billie's has become the gold standard for tribute bands. If you are a fan of the Dave Matthews Band, don't walk, run to see this band. Relix magazine has named them one of the top five tributes in the country for good reason; come find out why.

May 6, 2023

FITTON SHOWSTOPPER

Location: Fitton Center for the Creative Arts,
101 S. Monument Ave., Hamilton
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Contact: 513.988.9211
Admission: Free
Details: Grab some popcorn, prop up your feet, and silence your cellphone as the Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra celebrates all

things cinema with incredible music from the silver screen. Enjoy exciting arrangements from some of cinema's most legendary films and composers. With music from the Star Wars, Bond, Rocky, and Mission: Impossible franchises, as well as classics including The Godfather, The Magnificent Seven, and The Pink Panther—there will be something for everyone. Performance preceded by Gallery Opening at 5:30pm.

May 6, 2023

RIDERS IN THE SKY

Location: Sorg Opera House
63 S Main St., Middletown
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.425.0180
Admission: \$34, see website for further details; www.sorgoperahouse.org/tickets
Details: This classic cowboy quartet are the keepers of the flame passed on by the Sons of the Pioneers, Gene Autry and Roy Rogers, reviving and revitalizing the genre of Western music. Riders In The Sky have themselves become modern-day icons by branding the genre with

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18.

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One Room Schools, continued from page 8.

that enhanced the school's entrance. The Woodsdale School built in 1870, at 6659 Wayne-Madison Road had that feature. Sadly, that schoolhouse was razed a few years back.

The interior of the schoolhouse contained a wood floor that had a raised platform or rostrum at the front of the room for the teacher's desk. Student desks, which replaced earlier benches, were arranged in rows, with an aisle down the middle, and bolted to the floor.

The inside walls and ceilings were covered with wainscoting or plaster. In 1827, the front walls were being painted black and used as the first chalkboards. Then in the 1880s, slate chalkboards were becoming common in the classrooms.

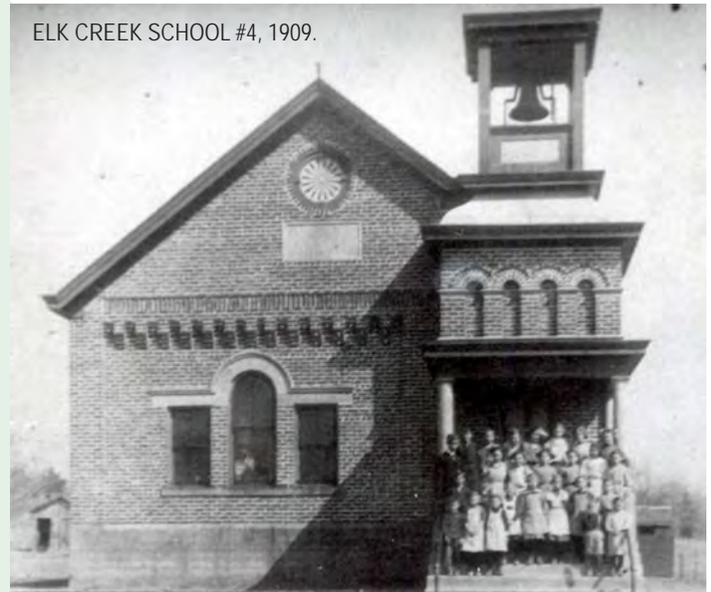
Ledges near the windows held oil lamps or candles during the darker days of winter. Replacing the fireplace, the pot-bellied stove was stocked with wood or coal from the nearby bucket.

Early schools showed patriotism with pictures of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, along with displaying flags inside and out. State maps were made of linen. Coats were hung on nails or hooks about the room, until coathooks became popular in the 1890s.

Needs other than educational were fulfilled outdoors. A well was dug in the front or to the side of the building, far from the privies out back. A pump was installed and water was drunk from a tin cup. Privies or outhouses were built of wood, a few of bricks, and were always traditional parts of the one room school setting. Playground equipment was very limited, consisting of wood swings and seesaws.

By the mid to late 1920s, many one room schools were being closed and districts consolidated to centralized

ELK CREEK SCHOOL #4, 1909.



locations with buildings of multiple rooms. All of the grades again being in one building, but this time a larger student body and multiple teachers. Madison Local School District can boast that all of their nine one room school buildings still remain intact, that served its students prior to consolidating by 1937.

According to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, 830 of the 200,000 one room schools of 1900 were still being used 100 years later in the United States. The last ones in Butler County had closed in the 1950s.

There are still many of these one room schoolhouses throughout our local area and throughout Ohio that serve a variety of purposes: houses, churches, corn cribs, barns, storage, or businesses to name a few. Others sit there

Continued on page 16.

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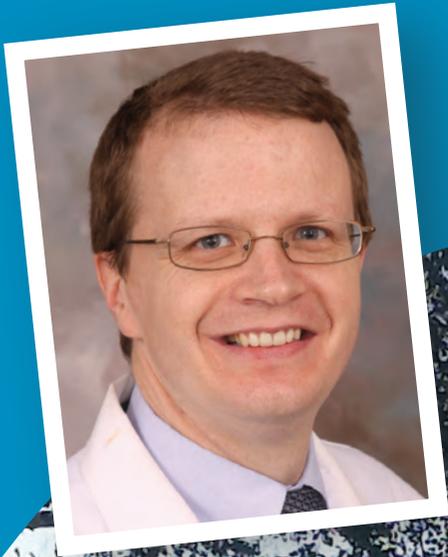
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abandoned and rotting away, while others are long gone with only a trace of its former days: wells, pumps, steps, foundations, sidewalks, or shade trees.

“The education of yesterday belongs to history. The

children, the teachers, and the schools are but a memory. Yet they are a part of tomorrow. The past is always with us. It is the foundation on which we build.” -John J. Loper, Going to School in 1876. **MT**

LOCATIONS OF EXISTING ONE ROOM SCHOOLS IN MADISON TOWNSHIP:

ASTORIA #3 1871-pre1937, 7175 Elk Creek Rd., Astoria. aka Jacktown School, now a church, school's portable building moved in 1944 and is now a house at 7154 Elk Creek Rd.

CHRISTIAN FALL #7 -1935, 4601 Eck Rd. house.

DUBBS #11 1859-1937, 6659 Hetzler Rd. aka Hominy Ridge School, dismantled and rebuilt as current house, sandstone plaque is in the garage floor of which may have been the previous schoolhouse.

ELK CREEK #4 1906-1935, 1920 Middletown-Eaton Rd./SR122. George Barkman was the architect, presently Laff's II restaurant.

LOWER BROWN'S RUN #13 1874-1937, 6575 Sloebig Rd. aka Popular Ridge School, burned and rebuilt c1900, house.

MILTONVILLE #8 pre1852 or 1870-1937, 4473 Elk Creek Rd., Miltonville. had been two-story, house.

PIKE #1 1861-1937, 7475 Middletown-Germantown Pk./Old SR4, Poasttown Heights. Aka Stump School or Poasttown Heights School, sandstone plaque is in the sidewalk, house.

PLEASANT RIDGE #10 1850-1866/1928, 5767 Kennel Rd. school may be part of farmhouse.

POASTTOWN #6 1857-1937, 6415 Germantown Rd./SR4, Poasttown. fire station.

TRENTON #9 1850-1866, 303 North Miami St., Trenton. house.

UPPER BROWN'S RUN #2 1859-1937, 7460 Brown's Run Rd. house.

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BUTLER COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR

their own legendary wacky humor and way-out Western wit.

May 10, 2023

SECOND FRIDAY CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

Location: Oxford Community Arts Center, 10 South College Ave, Oxford
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.524.8506
Admission: Free
Details: Every Second Friday of the month, Oxford Community Arts Center celebrates new art exhibitions in their three gallery spaces with a complimentary wine bar, free hors d'oeuvres, and a free performance.

- Visit with resident artists in their 3rd-Floor studios from 6-7:30
- Browse great art for sale in The Art Shop from 6-7:30
- Enjoy free entertainment in the Brant Ballroom from 7:30 – 9

May 11, 2023

TEAM TUNE MUSIC TRIVIA

Location: Swine City Brewing
 4614 Industry Dr., Fairfield
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.201.7070
Admission: Free
Details: If you love music, nights out with friends, and hand-crafted brews, Team Tune Music Trivia is the place for you! Every second Tuesday of the month, enjoy a fun game of "name that tune" that's perfect for all ages! Get into the music and find your new favorite monthly tradition at Swine City Brewing Company!

May 13, 2023

NOAH GUTHRIE & GOOD TROUBLE

Location: Sorg Opera House
 63 S Main St., Middletown
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.425.0180
Admission: See website: www.sorgoperahouse.org/tickets
Details: Singer-songwriter Noah Guthrie takes the Sorg stage. Enjoy an evening of music similar to Chris Stapleton's country/rock style.

May 13, 2023

HAMILTON FLEA

Location: Marcum Park, 106 North 2nd Street, Hamilton, OH
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Admission: Free
Details: This urban, curated market features a wide variety of local artisans who specialize in handcrafted goods and unique, high-quality services.

Food trucks are on site for when hunger strikes! Spend some time supporting local businesses and experience Hamilton, Ohio in a unique way.

May 13, 2023

CRAFT SHOW & FLOWER SALE

Location: The Barn-N-Bunk
 3677 Wayne Madison Rd., Trenton
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Admission: Free
Details: Unique gifts, home decor, vintage, and repurposed items! Admission is free and all ages are welcome! Featuring: Hanging Baskets, Live Music, Raffles, Food, Drinks, Outside Guest Crafters, and Indoor Permanent Crafters!

May 17, 2023

THE FAIRFIELD FARMERS MARKET

Location: Fairfield Community Arts Center,
 411 Wessel Drive, Fairfield
Time: 4:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.867.5348
Admission: Free
Details: Head to the Village Green in Fairfield every Wednesday for their annual farmer's market! Browse seasonal produce, eggs, breads, honey & jams, artisan crafts, wellness items, and more!

May 19, 2023

ETTA MAY & SOUTHERN FIRED CHICKS

Location: Sorg Opera House
 63 S Main St. Middletown
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.425.0180
Admission: www.sorgoperahouse.org/tickets
Details: Etta May has performed her brand of clean comedy on Oprah, Showtime, Comic Strip Live, MTV, and as a guest commentator on "CBS Sunday Morning," and now she brings her award winning live show to the Sorg stage! Think Blue Collar Comedy Tour with better hair and a bigger attitude!

May 19, 2023

AUSTRALIAN WINE DINNER

Location: Oscar Event Center, 5440 Dixie Hwy., Fairfield, OH
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.674.6000
Admission: \$150 See website for details; www.sorgoperahouse.org/tickets
Details: Drink excellent wines while dining on an exquisite five-course gourmet meal for an educational fine-dining experience! While Australia is known for its Shiraz and red

blends, it also has wine regions that specialize in dry Riesling, Chardonnay, and even sparkling Shiraz!

May 19, 2023

JAZZ & CABARET – PROHIBITION MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT

Location: Fitton Center for the Creative Arts,
 101 S. Monument Ave., Hamilton
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Contact: 513.863.8873
Admission: See website www.fittoncenter.org
Details: Knock three times and slide into the Fitton's Roaring Twenties speakeasy, Kitty Malone's. Chicago Mayor "Big Bill" Taylor, an advocate for prohibition, is secretly attending to celebrate a new city government contract, but his enemies have tracked him down...to kill him! Can you crack the case?

May 19-21, 2023

TRENTON CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES

Location: Trenton
Admission: Free
Details: Citywide garage sales

May 20, 2023

THE BELAIRS

Location: Sorg Opera House
 63 S Main St. Middletown
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.425.0180
Admission: www.sorgoperahouse.org/tickets
Details: The Belairs bring their 50 and 60's Rock & Roll Show Band's music review back to the Sorg Theater. The Las Vegas-style show is complete with costumes and choreography. The Belairs feature great harmony, humorous entertainment with audience participation, and dynamic impersonations of the great oldie's stars of the past, including tributes to Roy Orbison, Dion, Dusty Springfield, Billy Joe Royal, Neil Diamond and many more!

May 20, 2023

METROPARKS SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL

Location: Voice of America MetroPark
 7850 Voice of America Park Dr,
 West Chester Township
Time: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.867.5836
Admission: Free
Details: Numerous art vendors will be showcasing their work at the inaugural Spring Arts Festival. Enjoy live music and tasty treats

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21.

Gardening

TREES TREES TRESS

Trees are an important part of our environment. They help to purify the air, provide shade and shelter, and are home to many different species of animals. Trees also play a vital role in the water cycle. They help to prevent soil erosion and can even help to reduce flooding. Simply put, trees are essential to life on Earth.

However, trees need our help to stay healthy and thrive. That's where tree service comes in. Tree service is the process of caring for trees, including pruning, trimming, and removing dead or diseased branches. Tree service is important because it helps to keep trees healthy and looking their best. It can also be used to improve the safety of your property by removing any branches that could potentially fall and cause damage.

THE BENEFITS OF TREE SERVICE

There are many benefits to tree service, both for you and for the environment. Some of the benefits of tree service include:

- improved air quality
- enhanced curb appeal
- increased property value
- improved safety
- healthier trees
- Air Quality

Trees play a vital role in purifying the air around us. They do this by absorbing pollutants like carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen back into the atmosphere. By keeping trees healthy through tree service, we can help to improve air quality in our communities.

CURB APPEAL & PROPERTY VALUE

Well-maintained trees can do wonders for your home's curb appeal. Not only that, but they can also increase your property value. In fact, according to the National Association of Realtors, homes with well-landscaped yards sell for as much as 6% more than homes without them.

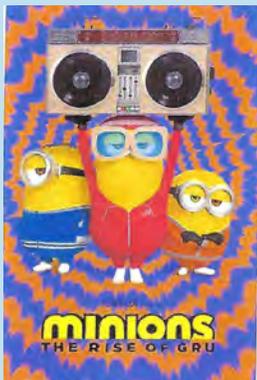


SAFETY & HEALTHIER TREES

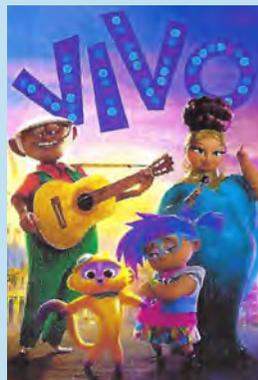
Overgrown or damaged branches can pose a serious safety hazard to your family and your home. By regularly maintaining your trees through tree service, you can help to prevent accidents before they happen. Additionally, healthier trees are better able to withstand pests and diseases—meaning they'll be less likely to die prematurely or require expensive treatment down the road.

As you can see, tree service is important for many reasons. From improving air quality to increasing your property value, there are countless benefits to keeping your trees healthy and well-maintained. If you're not already taking advantage of tree service, now is the time to start! **MT**

2023 MADISON TOWNSHIP MOVIE IN THE COMMUNITY PARK



Saturday, June 10th



Saturday, July 8th



Saturday, August 12th

These are FREE events!

Please bring a chair or blanket and find a spot in front of the HUGE screen.

The movies start at dark.

BUTLER COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR

from local food trucks while you browse and shop. MetroPark patrons will be able to browse and purchase the works of many local artisans and craftspeople.

May 21, 2023

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER WORKSHOP & WINE TASTING

Location: Liberty Farm Market, 5850 Princeton Rd., Liberty Township
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.808.8504
Admission: www.libertyfarmmarket.com
Details: Sip on delicious, locally produced wine as you create a stunning floral bouquet of your own. Liberty Farm Market's floral designers will help you create a beautiful bouquet to brighten up your home.

May 21, 2023

SUNDAY BARN BUFFET

Location: The Barn-N-Bunk 1893 Barn, 3677 Wayne Madison Rd., Trenton

Time: 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.988.9211
Admission: Reservations Welcome
Details: Country Buffett

May 26, 2023

MAMA WON'T FLY

Location: Fairfield Community Arts Center, 411 Wessel Drive, Fairfield
Time: 4:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.867.5348
Admission: \$15 See website for tickets, www.fairfield-city.org/248/Community-Arts-Center
Details: Savannah Honeycutt has to get her feisty mother from Alabama to California for her brother's wedding. But there's one problem — Mama won't fly!

May 28, 2023

SUNDAY BARN BUFFET

Location: The Barn-N-Bunk 1893 Barn, 3677 Wayne Madison Rd., Trenton
Time: 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Contact: 513.988.9211
Admission: Reservations Welcome
Details: Country Buffett

June 1, 2023

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Location: Liberty Center, 7100 Foundry Row, Liberty Township
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.644.0900
Admission: Free
Details: Enjoy live music in The Square with a different band every Thursday.

June 2, 2023

UNION CENTRE FOOD TRUCK RALLY

Location: The Square @ Union Centre, 9285 Centre Pointe Dr., West Chester Township
Time: 11:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Admission: Free
Details: Over 40 food trucks will converge at The Square, serving unique flavors and foods from all over the world! There will be vegan and

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BUTLER COUNTY EVENTS CALENDAR

gluten free options as well. See event website for a full list of food trucks. Don't miss out on delicious food, live music, firework show, and more!

June 2, 2023

BEATLEMANIA MAGIC

Location: Sorg Opera House
63 S Main St. Middletown
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.425.0180
Admission: www.sorgoperahouse.org/tickets
Details: Experience Beatlemania at the Sorg Opera House! Hear classic Beatles songs from their early days all the way through Abbey Road.

June 3, 2023

SPRINGFEST

Location: Trenton Community Park, 440 Dell Dr., Trenton
Times: Noon – 4:00 p.m.
Admission: Free
Details: It's all about the kids at this year's SpringFest. Trackless Train! Inflatable Games! Giant Slide! Dunk Tank! Bounce Houses! Face Painting! Balloon Twisting! Food Trucks! Taekwondo Demo! MidPointe Library on Wheels! Butler Soil & Water Conservation District Educational Soils Trailer! Wild Hearts African Farm Mobile Zoo!

June 16, 2023

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE

Location: Middletown Lyric Theatre
1530 Central Ave., Middletown
Times: 8:00 p.m.
Contact: 513.425.7140
Admission: www.middletownlyric.org
Details: The days leading up to the completion of his most famous painting, A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte, Georges Seurat is struggling to make meaningful art and maintaining a relationship with his lover Dot. Sunday in the Park with George, merges past and present into beautiful, poignant truths about life, love, and the creation of art.

June 30 – July 2, 2023

TAPS, TASTES & TUNES FESTIVAL

Location: National Voice of America museum of Broadcasting, 8070 Tylersville Rd., West Chester Township
Times: Fri 5-11 p.m., Sat 12-11 p.m., Sun 12-10 p.m.
Contact: 513.777.0027
Admission: Free
Details: Fill up on the flavors of Butler

County at the annual Taps Tastes and Tunes Festival presented by Miller Lite. This exciting summer event will appeal to the senses with the smells and tastes of the delicious local fare, the sounds of the areas booming live music scene and the sight of the National Voice of America Museum of Broadcasting.

July 21 -22, 2023

OHIO CHALLENGE

HOT AIR BALLOON FESTIVAL

Location: Smith Park
591 Tytus Ave., Middletown
Times: Friday 5:00pm-10:30pm
Saturday 4:00pm-10:30pm
Contact: 513.705.1770
Admission: \$5 Walk-In or \$15 Per Vehicle with shuttle included from Middletown Regional Airport
Details: The Middletown hot air balloon festival known as The Ohio Challenge is one of Butler County's most unique festivals. The festival takes place in July annually, and showcases over 30 colorful hot air balloons, a laser light shows, fireworks, skydiving performances, and more!

This Ohio balloon festival returns bigger and better every year! The Ohio Challenge features over 30 skilled balloon pilots competing in aerial balloon challenges, a classic car show, carnival rides, live entertainment, tethered balloon rides, a balloon glow evening, arts, and crafts, and more!

April 29 - 30, 2023

ASIAN FOOD FEST

Location: Downtown Cincinnati, Court Street Plaza
Times: Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 10 p.m.,
Sunday 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Admission: Free, asianfoodfest.org

May 13 - 14, 2023

APPALACHIAN FESTIVAL

Location: Coney Island, 6201 Kellogg Ave., Cincinnati
Times: Saturday, May 13, 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 14, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Contact: 513.251.3378
Admission: Tickets are purchased at the gates; no credit cards accept at the gates. General Admission (18 and up) \$15, Kids (6 to 17) \$5 Children (5 and under) Free
Details: 52nd Annual Appalachian Festival. All profits go into an Appalachian

Grant Fund to go back into the Appalachian Communities! Dance, food, music, storytelling, vendors and demonstrators.

May 27 - 29, 2023

TASTE OF CINCINNATI

Location: 4 blocks of Fifth Street, between Main Street and just east of Sentinel Street in downtown Cincinnati.
Times: Saturday, May 27, 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.
Sunday, May 28, 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.
Monday, May 29, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Admission: Free, there is no admission for Taste of Cincinnati. Menu items range from \$4-\$8
Details: Taste of Cincinnati is held every Memorial Day weekend in downtown Cincinnati by the Corporate and Community Events division of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber. Started in 1979, it is now the nation's longest running culinary arts festival.

June 3, 2023

SPRINGFEST

Location: Trenton Community Park, 440 Dell Dr., Trenton
Times: Noon – 4:00 p.m.
Admission: Free
Details: It's all about the kids at this year's SpringFest. Trackless Train! Inflatable Games! Giant Slide! Dunk Tank! Bounce Houses! Face Painting! Balloon Twisting! Food Trucks! Taekwondo Demo! MidPointe Library on Wheels! Butler Soil & Water Conservation District Educational Soils Trailer! Wild Hearts African Farm Mobile Zoo!

June 23 – 29, 2023

BUTLER COUNTY FAIR

Location: Butler County Fairgrounds, 1715 Fairgrove Ave., Hamilton
Contact: 513.892.2950
Details: Butler County Agricultural Society and its annual fair remain excellent examples of the strength of agriculture in southwestern Ohio. Attendance for recent fairs has ranged between 90,000 and 100,000 people for the weeklong event. Butler County has a Junior Fair program with more than 1,400 members, which is important to the fair's success.



Madison Township Springfest 2023

May 13th

Join us for the return of Springfest!
 Noon to 6:30 p.m.
 Madison Schools

If you are interested in helping, please contact us at:
 (513) 318-8080 or madisonspringfest@gmail.com



MARKETPLACE CRAFT SHOW



KIDS AT SPRINGFEST



COMMUNITY GROUP BOOTHS



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Unity Baptist Church

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Sunday School - 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening - 6 p.m.

Wednesday Evening - 7 p.m.

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Pastor Bobby Reed

email: bobby45042@aol.com

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 Sing along Bingo - Every other Tuesday
 Poker Nights - every other Wednesday



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 Surf & Turf nights: 4/4, 5/26, 8/28, 10/2

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GOLF AT THE RUN

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Men's Senior League - Tuesdays at 9am
 Open Leagues - Wednesdays @ 5pm or Sundays @ 4pm

Junior Golf Academy

This 6-week camp introduces juniors to the game of golf

Tournaments:

Middletown Men and Women Open Golf Championships - June 23rd - 25th

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POOL MEMBERSHIPS

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www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com



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The farmer knows just what to do, for God has given him understanding... - Isaiah 28:26

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