

ANDERSON Insights

THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

APRIL 2023

Eight Mile-State Route 32 Intersection Reconstruction to Close Road Starting April 19

Drivers traveling north in Anderson Township should consider new routes this summer and fall as a road closure is planned at a key intersection.

In an effort to improve safety and reduce congestion at the Eight Mile Road and State Route 32 intersection, **vehicles will not be able to access Route 32 from or to starting April 19 into November**, according to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). The safety project will introduce widening and upgrades on Eight Mile Road, along with construction of a signalized “Green T” intersection with a new traffic signal.

The April 19 project start date is a new development, as the project was moved up from a May start date announced this winter. (That now-incorrect May date is reflected in the April Anderson Insights which will be distributed starting the week of April 10.)

Three-way Intersection planned

The new Green T three-way intersection will allow westbound Route 32 traffic travelling straight down the hill to flow continuously towards Newtown as it does today, bypassing a new traffic signal at the Eight Mile intersection. The new signal will regulate traffic for all other traffic movements.

Westbound traffic on Route 32 will include a left turn traffic signal in a protected phase, which means left turns will only be permitted when eastbound traffic is stopped at the traffic signal. Traffic turning left or right from Eight Mile Road will be managed by the new signal.

While inconvenient during construction, township, county and state officials are greeting the state funded \$4.57 million project as a plus because Green T intersections **“are implemented to improve congestion and traffic flow, which in turn, improve safety,”** said Kathleen Fuller, public information officer with ODOT.

“ODOT has shared that backups and delays at the intersection could be reduced significantly, up to 75 percent,” said Trustee Chair Dee Stone. “This will help more effectively move traffic, while also greatly improving safety at the current, oddly configured intersection,” she added.



The Eight Mile-State Route 32 intersection will be closed for several months this year.

Solving a safety problem

This key intersection on the township’s eastern border historically has been recognized as a confusing area for drivers, which in turn causes driver errors. In a five-year period from 2017 to 2021, the Hamilton County Engineer’s Office recorded 39 crashes at the location, with 2017 alone listing 12 incidents. Numerous crashes included injuries.

The project is the latest in a number of major upgrades in the region’s Eastern Corridor, a focus of study for ODOT for the last several decades between the I-71/Red Bank Road area and Route 32 near Batavia.

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Bored? Lots To Do in Anderson This Spring

Plans Readied for Township Operations Center Upgrades

Beechmont Avenue properties in line for makeover, possible expansion.



Dedication of the Beechmont Fire Station, part of the township's operations center, from 1962.

Anderson Township's public services home on Beechmont Avenue, with buildings dating back to the 1950s, will soon receive upgrades to best serve the community's future needs.

The site, known as the Anderson Township's Operations Center at 7954 Beechmont Ave., is host to many township functions. **These include the public works garage, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 substation, the Beechmont Fire Station, the Anderson Township Senior Center and the 24/7 Anderson Township Recycling Center.** Improvements will primarily focus on interior and exterior space utilization, plus renovations and possible new building construction.

Administrator Vicky Earhart said while the buildings have seen incremental improvements over the years, and the transportation site's traffic flow and safety were upgraded in 2016, it's time to move forward so "enhancements are made to enable the township to continue high-quality services in the future."

"We have maintained and upgraded the buildings, but we've stretched our current space as far as it can go," she said. "Our goal is increased efficiency of this area to accommodate current and future needs."

The township is gathering proposals for engineering/design changes for the 6.5-acre site. Initial planning work could kick off this summer.

Earhart noted Anderson had discussed a "robust" expansion about 15 years ago, including new buildings and an expansion to the campus. However, state funding adjustments greatly affected the township's budget. In response to this, leadership began an effort to eliminate unneeded properties, to "right size" this site, she added.

More than 8 acres of adjacent township-owned property was sold, which is now home to the One30 at Stonegate apartment community and Nagel Village, a residential community under construction. Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds, now collected from this private development and distributed to the township and schools, are projected to cover design services and a portion of the planned improvements. Remaining costs will be funded through the township's 1994 TIF.

"This strategy will allow us to greatly improve the delivery of our services to the nearby new development and community at large, without any tax increase," Earhart added.

Areas of potential improvement include:

Beechmont Fire Station

The busy Beechmont Fire Station (Station 6) has undergone many upgrades over the years to house its firefighter-paramedics, vehicles and training facilities. Originally dedicated in 1962, the facility has been expanded and modified to meet the department's needs, which is key as the station provides nearly half of the responses of the entire department. The building also includes office space above the fire station. The study will assess how this space may best be utilized to serve the community.

Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 substation

The District 5 Hamilton County Sheriff's Office substation, which was an addition to the Public Works garage in 1994, operates 24/7 with a total of 35 officers. "The most glaring issue is the need for additional space," noted former District Commander Lt. Dan McElroy. "We have two tiny offices that now are shared by eight people."

The department also seeks to upgrade security of loading and unloading prisoners, plus increase maintenance space for its vehicle fleet. "It's a tight fit sometimes," he said.

Public Works facilities

The Public Works Department, which handles snow removal, township infrastructure plus the township's equipment fleet, serves out of a garage built in the late 1940s, which is adjacent to the sheriff's department. The building has undergone subsequent additions over the years.

Director Eric Luginbuhl said improvements are needed to complete more efficient in-house repairs to public works and fire equipment and to "remain efficient in daily public works operations."

Possible Public Works Department improvements include a new operations center roof, upgraded and expanded maintenance area for mechanics, a wash bay for township and sheriff's vehicles and improvements to offices and restrooms.

During the winter months in particular, Luginbuhl said space is especially needed to brief staff and allow a much-needed break for plow drivers.

24/7 Recycling Center, Anderson Senior Center

The Anderson Township Senior Center and 24/7 recycling site also are housed on the operations campus site. However, they will not be considered in this study as those areas recently have been updated, Earhart said.

"Public services originating from the Anderson Township Operations Center impact every resident and business owner in our community," she said. "Improvements to these 60+ year-old facilities will ensure that the township continues to fulfill its mission and responsibility "To provide services which protect and enhance the quality of life in our community.""



Bird's eye view of the Anderson Township Operations Center from Beechmont Avenue.

Township Electricity Aggregation Program Renews in Summer

In the coming months, Anderson Township's electricity broker, Energy Alliances, will be soliciting competitive rates from multiple electric service providers to offer the best savings for township residents eligible for the aggregation program.

Anderson will be deciding on price, renewal length and supplier during first week of April, with opt-out material mailed the week of April 17.

The program will begin on the June 2023 meter read date and show up on July's bill. Updates will be posted on the township website: AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Anderson Township has offered this aggregation program since May 2017, to obtain favorable electricity supply prices for township residents after residents voted in 2016 to form an opt-out aggregation program.



Want Emergency Notifications? Sign Up for Alert HC Program

Make sure you are notified of natural disasters and storm warnings through the countywide Alert HC program. Notifications are sent via voice call, text, email or all three,

Notifications Available Via Alert HC

- National Weather Service watches and warnings for Hamilton County
- Phone call alerts available for civil danger warnings, civil emergency messages, evacuation immediate alerts, flash flood warnings, shelter in place warnings, tornado warnings and municipal alerts
- Critical safety and emergency information
- Municipal messages from your community

To get started, go to alerthc.org and make your alert selections.



TOWNSHIP NEWS

More Sidewalk Connections to be Built in 2023

Anderson Township adds to its trails network again this summer, with several new links and an expanded focus on safety.

Summer projects announced

A critical quarter mile multi-purpose trail scheduled for construction this year will ultimately connect four regional multi-use trails and expand the reach of the popular Little Miami Scenic Trail.

The new link, dubbed the Elstun Connector, phase 1, runs from Beechmont Avenue near the redeveloping Skytop Apartment complex to Spindlehill Drive in Cincinnati. The project is funded in large part by a SORTA Transit Infrastructure grant to connect more than 400 apartment units to METRO's Route 24.

This phase lays the groundwork for phase 2, planned for 2024, that will continue the trail on Elstun, and a bridge will traverse Clough Creek to link to the Little Miami Scenic Trail. **The Skytop area and Mt. Washington then will be linked to the Lunken Airport Bike Path, the Otto Armleder Park Trail and the Ohio River Trail.**

Rambling Hills Drive sidewalk provides new link

In the township's center, the Anderson Trails Plan identified the need for a connection along Paddison Road in the Sherwood area, according to Assistant Township Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers.

Last summer a sidewalk was built on a portion of Paddison Road from Woodridge to Beechmont, with assistance from an ODOT grant. Unfortunately, various constraints limited the ability to continue this to Bluecrest Drive, as originally planned. An alternate route was chosen to link Paddison Road neighborhoods to Beechmont, which utilizes existing sidewalks in that area to connect to Topaz and Rambling Hills drives. Sidewalks will be constructed on these streets this summer.

Another high-priority project in the Anderson Trails Plan which was delayed last year involves construction on the **Lawyer Road and Little Dry Run Road sidewalk**. Work is anticipated to begin later this year on the east side of Lawyer Road (from Little Dry Run to Concordgreen Drive) and on the north side of Little Dry Run (from Lawyer Road to Wilson Elementary School).



The new Elstun Connector, pictured here under construction, will link the Skytop area to several regional trails.

These streets maintained by Anderson Township will be repaved this construction season:

Blairhouse Drive	Deerhaven Drive	Loisdale Court	Montridge Drive	Perthwood Drive	Shenstone Drive	Tree Valley Court
Cabinet Circle	Denallen Drive	Louisview Lane	Northport Drive	Pinebluff Lane	Summit Hills Drive	Whitehouse Lane
Calgery Drive	Executive Court	Manitoba Drive	East of Eight Mile Road	Rockhurst Lane	Summitridge Drive	Winstone Court
Capitol Drive	Hillridge Court	Merlin Court	Oldforge Lane	Sarnia Court	Sunmont Drive	Woodstone Drive
Citadel Place	Hilltree Drive	Montchateau Drive	Perthview Court	Senate Court	Toronto Court	
Coran Drive	Laval Drive	Mountfort Court		Shadywoods Court	Treeridge Drive	

Anderson Township will provide pavement preservation applications to help rejuvenate and extend the life of other roadways. Roads that will undergo micro surface application include:

Berkshire Club Drive	Hawkins Ridge Lane	Kimbee Drive	Maddux Drive	Skytop Lane	Veraview Court
Bogarts Pointe	Knotty Pine Drive	Lindsey Lane	Maddux Lane	Signal Hill Lane	Wyndwatch Drive
Fairgrove Court					

Anderson Trails Plan Update Lines Up Yearly Projects

With a long-term strategy to create a more walkable community, the Anderson Trails Plan designates the addition of new or improved pathways for construction each year.

To decrease reliance on vehicular transportation, **the township plans to create an interconnected community by building sidewalks, bike lanes, wide shoulders and natural surface paths to allow safer and easier travel and recreation.** More than 22 miles of trails have been added since the network's inception in 1999, and dozens of related safety enhancements have been established.

In a new focus with this update, the trails plan also will include an expansion of its recommendations. Safety measures including more marked on-street walking lanes and crosswalk improvements will be included, along with "traditional" sidewalk links. The plan again will include natural trail corridors to link neighborhoods to the trail network, as well as incorporate key non-vehicular projects from other plans, including those for Beechmont Avenue and Clough Pike.

"We are thinking a little more broadly this year," said Planner Chris Cavallaro. "With the addition of these elements connected to developing our trails plan, we will be taking a more comprehensive approach to trails."



A five-year work list of construction projects will be scheduled. Led by Transportation Advisory Committee member Brian Gay, volunteers are reviewing the many resident suggestions. "Suggestions provided by our community members will help us prepare a more strategic approach to upcoming projects," Gay said.

This is the fifth update to the award-winning trails plan, initially developed in 1999. The document details connections to schools, neighborhoods, shopping and other township destinations. A draft plan will be prepared later this spring.

To allow residents to see what is under consideration, an in-person and virtual open house will be planned in May to view and comment on suggested projects. Information at AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Greenspace Program Still Growing After 30 Years

A large parcel of Greenspace has been added to the township's acquisitions, creating the largest contiguous Greenspace property: 170 acres on the west side of Eight Mile Road between Hopper and Old Kellogg roads.

The new 69.58-acre parcel was donated by Forestville Realty General Partnership. Currently, the township's acquisitions total 70 properties and 769 acres. "These donations are a significant addition to our portfolio of properties, as they are completely wooded with impressive older forests in some areas. Plus, the site is originally part of the Charles F. Williams family property which at one time was 1,000 acres," said Suzanne Clingman, Greenspace inspector.

The township's program's began in 1990. This new property abuts 101 acres that previously were donated by Forestville Realty. With this donation, more than a mile of roadway frontage on the west side of Eight Mile Road, from Woodruff to just north of Kellogg Road, **will be forever Greenspace or parkland (Woodland Mound Park)**. Clingman also noted that nearly a mile of frontage on the east side of this roadway is protected as part of Woodland Mound Park owned by Great Parks of Hamilton County.

"This recent donation just emphasizes once again the viability of our Greenspace program, which has been protecting beautiful corners of our community for more than 30 years," said Ron Edgerton, longtime chair of the Greenspace Advisory Committee. "By all measures, our program has been a great success and has added to the quality of life in the township."

"Adding these parcels as Greenspace allows the beautiful creek that separates the two properties to be protected," Clingman added. "The forest on the hillsides along this creek is well over 100 years old and on some of these steep hillsides the forest has probably never been completely cut," she said. The property includes many tree species and very impressive large trees, she added.

"It's wonderful to add a wooded parcel of this magnitude to the Greenspace program, continuing the efforts of those who worked so hard to implement this program," said Trustee Vice Chair Lexi Lausten. "Adding to its significance is the fact that the many acreages in our protected program ultimately have a direct impact in improving the quality of life for our township physically, socially and environmentally."

Information and map: AndersonTownshipOH.gov.



Anderson's new Greenspace parcel is located along the west side of Eight Mile Road.

Shortage of EMS Personnel Initiates Township Response

Anderson hiring EMTs for current staffing needs, offering paid medic training.

Like other national and local emergency service providers, **Anderson Township Fire and Rescue is facing a shortage of paramedics.** For several years now, the number of candidates seeking to work in emergency services has slowed to a trickle, throughout the nation and also in Anderson.

In response, Anderson's 66-member fire and rescue department now has the option to hire certified EMTs (emergency medical technicians) to fill staffing positions, with increased salaries and paid paramedic training. The department will continue to give preference to paramedics throughout the competitive hiring process, with EMTs filling remaining positions. Previously, all personnel in the department were certified paramedics and certified firefighters.

Fire Chief Rick Martin said his department has been dealing with the industry-wide labor shortage for several years. With two to four staff members leaving each year, he noted, "There are not enough paramedics graduating in the Cincinnati region to meet the existing need of local fire departments."

"Much of what is happening involves fire departments competing with each other for a limited pool of paramedics in our area," Martin said. **To respond to the situation, Martin said the township has raised its starting pay significantly.**

"We are welcoming in EMTs and Advanced EMTs with the promise that we will give them time off to go to paramedic school and we will pay for paramedic school itself-with the agreement that any EMT we hire must be a paramedic within their first five years of employment with us."

Paramedic certification provides a substantial pay increase, he said. "We will advance them to match their increased responsibilities and usefulness to the department," he added. Additionally, paramedic school involves a considerable cost and a year of schooling which are both obstacles to overcome for someone trying to get into the firefighting profession, he noted.

Ten to 15 years ago, Martin said there were sufficient qualified paramedics to meet the needs of local fire departments. In comparison, a 2021 report detailing needs of the Cincinnati Fire Department showed the organization was down 80 positions.

"Like any good business, **you have to adapt to the environment you serve to stay competitive,**" noted Trustee Josh Gerth. "Government is no different. Anderson Township has always been committed to providing the best service to our residents in every department and this move will ensure our fire and rescue department remains the best in the business," he said.

Eight Mile-State Route 32 Closing *(Continued from page 1)*

According to Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations, **over the years ODOT has implemented various low-cost improvements, such as a continuous right turn lane from Eight Mile to Route 32 and restriping and resurfacing,** to try to improve safety at the intersection. "These efforts were only able to muster 'minimal' results, but in looking at the entire corridor, engineers identified the Green T approach to help more efficiently, and safely, move traffic through these areas," he noted.

Drivers have already navigated the first phase of construction on Route 32, as traffic has been shifted to the south with a barrier wall in place.

On April 19 or thereafter, Eight Mile will be closed at Route 32 and the official detour will direct traffic to Clough and Mt. Carmel-Tobasco Road, and vice versa.

During construction, while traffic on Route 32 will generally be free-flowing through the intersection in both directions, it will be limited to one lane during construction.

All traffic will first be placed on the current westbound "downhill" side of the roadway split in this area while work occurs on the eastbound "uphill" lanes. Later this summer, traffic will then shift to the current "uphill" lanes.

Most of the work will be complete by the end of October, according to ODOT, and soon thereafter Eight Mile Road will be reopened. In 2024, final paving, striping and raised pavement markers will be completed.

"Though work is focused at the Eight Mile intersection, construction will impact traffic flow as motorists seek other intersections along Route 32," noted Sievers. Because of the regional impact, the township is working with ODOT and neighboring communities who manage traffic signals at nearby crossroads, to plan for an adjustment to new traffic patterns.

"We appreciate the collaboration of ODOT, the Village of Newtown, the Hamilton and Clermont County engineer's offices, and Union Township to work through this project," Sievers said.

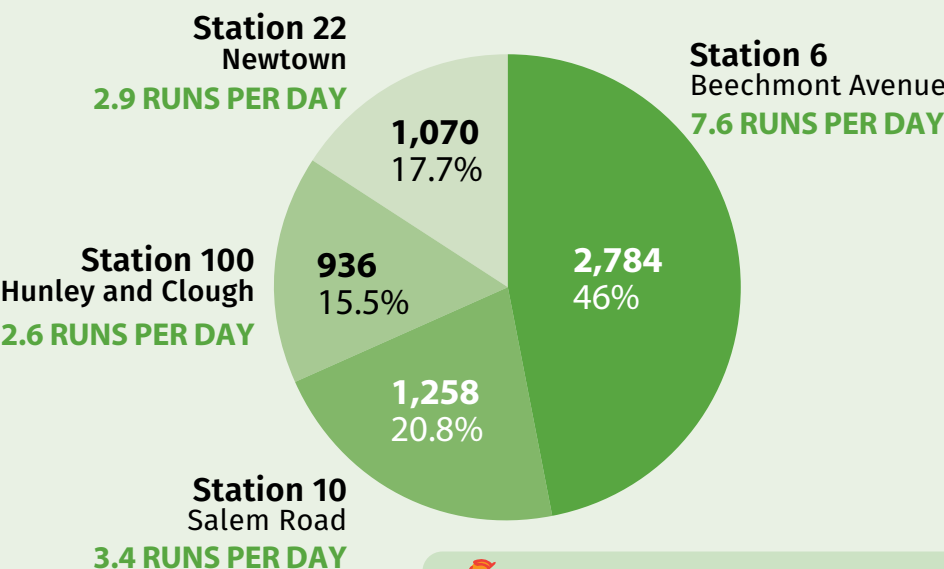
"This will have impacts," Stone noted, "but the finished project will be much safer and ease traffic. We appreciate motorists' patience and help planning alternative routes and allowing for some extra travel time," she said.



Upgrades to State Route 32-Eight Mile Road are part of the Eastern Corridor Program initiating regional transportation improvements.

Anderson Fire and Rescue 2022 By the Numbers

TOTAL RUNS BY STATION



152 fire runs by Anderson Township Fire and Rescue in 2022

TOP FIRE REASONS

- Mulch 36 (32.1%)
- Passenger Vehicle 17 (15.2%)
- Cooking 12 (10.7%)
- Structure Fire 11 (9.8%)
- Outside Rubbish 10 (8.9%)

RUN FACTS

- Busiest hour:** Noon - 1 p.m.
- Busiest day of the week:** Tuesday
- Busiest month:** June
- Average response time:** 5:07 minutes

Board of Township Trustees BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME YOUR CALLS!



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The Durham Pioneer Family Left its Mark on Anderson

In 1940, local historian and genealogist Marie Dickore wrote an article in the *Cincinnati Times-Star* newspaper about a man named Aquilla Durham. He was a pioneer who farmed and hunted the land of the lower Little Miami River valley just east of today's Village of Newtown. **Although the Durham name is not known by most people living in Anderson Township today, Aquilla lived a remarkable life, and his story is worth knowing.**

Following the Revolutionary War, the Village of Newtown (originally Mercersburg) grew as a result of the flow of people seeking new opportunities in the west. Many were former veterans of the War for Independence and their families, while others were simply ordinary people willing to endure incredible hardships for the hope of a more prosperous life. Aquilla Durham was one of these people. His story represents the story of many others who settled in the Little Miami River Valley and in our township.

In 1722 the Durham family sailed from England to settle in Maryland and raise a family. Among the children was Joshua who, seeing the promise in the newly-opened lands of the Ohio Territory, traveled by flatboat in 1796 with his family, arriving at the mouth of the Little Miami River on the birthday of his 17-year-old son Aquilla.

After investigating the countryside, the Durhams settled on land which was **watered by a stream called Little Dry Run**. It was here that Joshua Durham and his wife erected a cabin and established a farm with the help of their 10 children. The Durham farm originally occupied land that is today Anderson Township's W. M. Johnson Hills Park.

Over the next few years Joshua's son Aquilla acquired a reputation as an excellent hunter and scout. Meriwether Lewis and

William Clark were searching for men with such skills as they traveled down the Ohio River in 1804 prior to their exploration of the Louisiana Purchase, and Aquilla was invited to join them. He declined however, citing his pending marriage to Harriet Thompson. According to information from genealogist Dickore, Aquilla continued farming and together he and Harriet raised a family of 10 children.

Numerous stories were told over the years of **Aquilla's adventurous life** by his grandson Samuel. As a hunter, Aquilla excelled. It was said that in one day he shot 13 deer, butchered them, and brought the meat to his home.

During the War of 1812 General William Henry Harrison hired Aquilla Durham to guide his army to engage the British at the fort in Vincennes, Indiana. Aquilla then returned home to drive livestock through the wilderness back to Vincennes to supply the army.

As a farmer Aquilla, like most farmers in the valley, sold wheat and produce in Cincinnati, a three-day round trip, first by pack horses and later by the first covered wagon in the valley. Aquilla died in 1870 at the age of 91.

Unlike some local families like Wolfangle and Markley, there is no street named for the Durhams. However, the family left its mark in other ways. In 1897 Samuel Durham published a book entitled *The Pioneer Settlers of the Lower Little Miami Valley* in which he states: *These pioneer settlers of this western country seemed to have been especially created for the work before them, and they fearlessly undertook it...their trials and hardships seem but a dream to us, we know so little of them.*

But, as he reminds us, with a longing for freedom and with determination, endurance and self-sacrifice, pioneers like his grandparents helped shape the township, the state and the nation.



The Durhams had 10 children, all born in a log cabin on Little Dry Run Road. Five attended the Durham family reunion in 1896. Left to right: Alazanah, Harriet, Winfield, Leander and Thompson.



1938 aerial photo of the estate of W.M. "Mack" Johnson and his wife Marian, now the W. M. Johnson Hills Park. The land was originally the farm of the Durham family.



Aquilla and Harriet Durham, circa 1850s



Marian and Mack Johnson in the doorway of their home MariMac Manor, when he presented the home to his wife as a wedding gift in 1940.

Text by Tom Brown. Photos courtesy of Anderson Township Historical Society and Anderson Park District.

NEWS & NOTES

Post 318 Names Kirk Firefighter of the Year



Josh Kirk

Firefighter/Paramedic Josh Kirk is the American Legion Post 318 Firefighter of the Year for 2023.

Kirk, who joined the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department in 2014, has taken a leadership role in the area of mental health and peer support. He also worked to find a replacement minister for the department after the retirement of Harvey Cook.

Additionally, Kirk was selected for the honor based on his knowledge as a competent fire apparatus operator and his mentoring of other personnel.

Deputy Johnson Cited as Officer of the Year



Barry Johnson

Deputy Barry Johnson with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 substation is the Officer of the Year, an annual award presented by American Legion Post 318.

Johnson began his career with the sheriff's office in 2016, starting his work in Anderson Township in 2021. He also has served in the Corrections Division and the Court Service Division. Johnson has received four divisional commendations, with the last one in 2022 evolving from a motorcycle accident where he rendered lifesaving medical aid.

Jackson Hired for Anderson Center Events

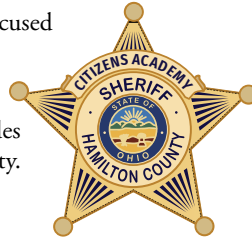


Makiyah Jackson

Makiyah Jackson is Anderson Township's new event attendant lead. She is a 2019 University of Akron graduate, small business owner and part-time operations coordinator for a popular Cincinnati music venue.

Citizens Academy Class Starts in June

It is not too late to sign up for a free 12-week class focused on community policing and local law enforcement.



The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 is hosting a Citizens Academy summer class that provides an inside look on what it is like being a sheriff's deputy.

Classes focus on education, service demonstrations and off-site tours of the Hamilton County Justice Center, plus the firing range, Hamilton County Coroner's Office, the aviation units and other locations.

The class begins June 6 and runs consecutive Tuesdays from 5-8 p.m. Classes are mostly hosted at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.

Applications can be completed online at AndersonTownshipOH.gov (click on "News") or obtained at the District 5 substation, 7954 Beechmont Ave. in the lobby, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays or during open hours at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road. Applicants must be Anderson Township residents and will be subject to a background check.

Class size will be limited. For more information, contact Deputy Brian Hayes at bhayes@AndersonTownshipOH.gov or Deputy Jacquelyne Campbell at jcampbell@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Local Deputies Train for Active Bystander Enforcement

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 recently received training for active bystander enforcement. The Center for Innovations in Community Safety created a program called **ABLE (Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement)** to broach this issue.



ABLE is a national hub for training, technical assistance, and research, all with the aim of creating a police culture in which peer intervention among officers is routine and accepted as necessary. The goal is to prevent misconduct, avoid police mistakes, and promote officer health and wellness.

ABLE training and implementation support is provided at no cost to law enforcement agencies, but those agencies must commit to creating a culture of active bystandership and peer intervention through policy, training, support and accountability.

More than 800 sheriff's office staff members have completed the ABLE training, and several deputies have received commendations for utilizing ABLE training during peer interventions, per the sheriff's office.

Beekeeping? Raising Chickens in Anderson? Learn the Rules



Raising chickens in your backyard is allowable with certain restrictions.

The increase of backyard beekeeping and raising chickens has grown recently in urban and suburban areas, including Anderson Township.

But before you buy that chicken coop or beehive, **it's a good idea to check with Anderson Township's Planning and Zoning Department to understand regulations** surrounding these activities.

Anderson's rules regarding beehives and chicken coops are simple, notes Planning and Zoning Director Paul Drury. "The township regulates the coop or hive," he said. The structures are required to be set back 100 feet from all property lines. That means residents can raise chickens, roosters and bees, as long as that distance is maintained.



Rules regarding raising chickens and bees involve regulating coops and hives.

"Anderson requires participants to obtain a zoning certificate for the hives and coops," Drury said. "We always like to have a conversation with residents before they start their new hobby so they may better understand neighborhood issues that can arise over these activities," Drury added. He noted the township does respond to several complaints about chickens and bees each year, so he suggests planning ahead to avoid issues down the road.

For details or to obtain a zoning certificate, call Drury at 513.688.8400 ext. 1176 or email pdrury@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Seizures of Cocaine Up, Fentanyl Down in 2022, RENU Stats Show

Anderson funds special officer to investigate controlled substance trafficking.

Statistics released from the dedicated narcotics enforcement unit in the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office show that last year, cocaine made a comeback, while seizure of the powerful drug fentanyl dropped compared to 2021. In 2022, cocaine seizure came in at 60 pounds, compared to 9 pounds from 2021.

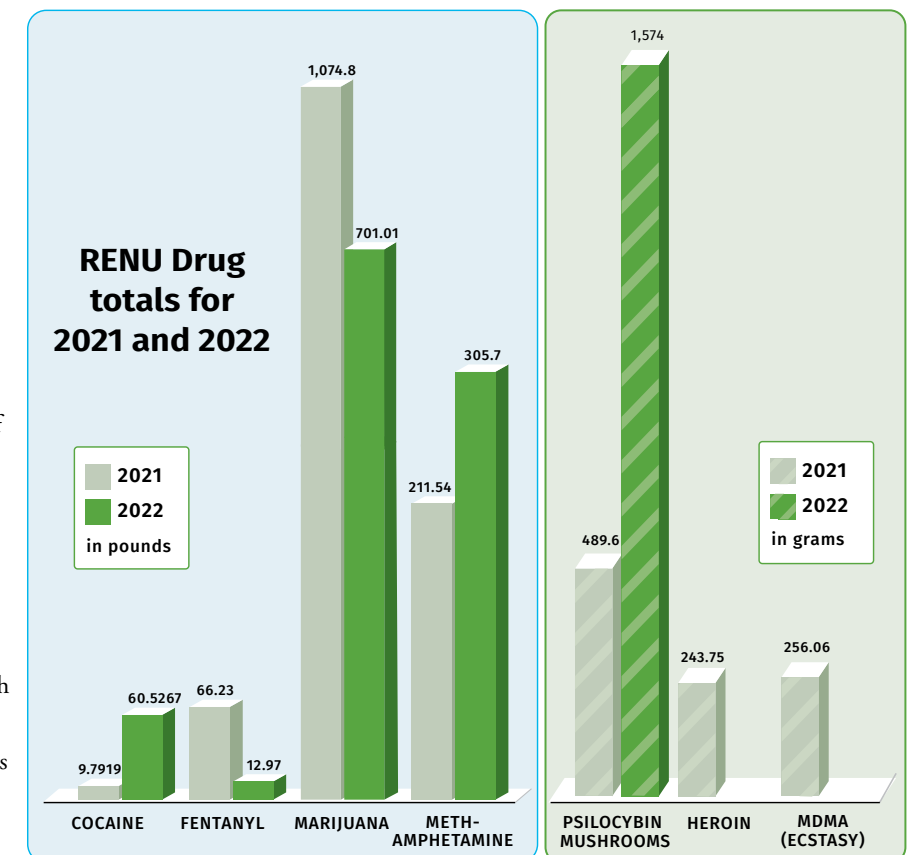
Information recently was released by the Regional Enforcement Narcotics Unit (RENU) detailing their yearly efforts to reduce illegal drugs on the street. Lt. Matt Guy, RENU commander with the organized crime section and former District 5 commander in Anderson, said methamphetamine seizures last year "remain significant and the largest increase in seizure was in cocaine seizures." Eighty-five pounds of methamphetamine and 701 pounds of marijuana were seized, along with \$977,616 in drug assets.

No heroin was seized in 2022, he noted. "We are not seeing heroin. We are seeing fentanyl in its place."

"Methamphetamine is still very prevalent in our area and marijuana is consistent, as always," he added.

For the past decade, Anderson Township has funded an officer on the RENU squad through Anderson's contract with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

RENU officers investigate criminal organizations and persons who traffic controlled substances, as well assisting local, state and federal law enforcement agencies when requested.



Be a Good Neighbor-Trim Those Bushes

Trimming vegetation to enhance pedestrian, bicyclist and driver visibility is an important way you can enhance safety in your neighborhood. Overgrown trees and shrubs are your responsibility if they are on your property and should be trimmed if they are blocking access to the sidewalk.

Anderson Township is responsible for trimming and maintaining street trees (those trees planted in the right-of-way.) The township does have the authority to trim overhanging bushes and limbs if they pose a serious safety issue.



Students Thrive During ‘History to Schools’ Program

Field trip engages second graders in civics lesson, bike safety and outdoor fun.

Forest Hills School District students enjoy a full day of all things Anderson Township during the History to Schools program.

After a three-year COVID-related hiatus, the History to Schools program returns this spring with students invited to connect the past to their present. This year’s events run for five weeks during March and April.

Several local organizations weave together activities and experiences involving township history, Anderson’s safety services, a nature walk and pioneer school days. A highlight of the event is bicycle safety lessons, which allow students to ride through an obstacle course. At the end of the day, students take home a tree seedling to plant as a part of Arbor Day. Participants include all Anderson Township departments, the Anderson Township Historical Society and the local Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office.

Trustee Chair Dee Stone said having the students in Anderson Center for the day and engaging with them is always a highlight. “I love seeing young people in our Anderson Center building and learning the history of our



community,” Stone said. “These kids are interested. When they come in, they are excited about the day.”

History Room in Anderson Center Soon to Open on Weekdays



Anderson Township History Room

Anderson Township’s History room is expanding its hours and soon will be open weekdays.

Displays and artifacts dedicated to the township’s heritage are on display in the room, which is a joint project between Anderson Township and the Anderson Township Historical Society.

Beginning May 1, the room will be open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is located in the lower level of Anderson Center at 7850 Five Mile Road.

“We are really excited to provide greater access to the interesting and varied history of Anderson Township through our history room,” said Anderson Township Historical Society President Nancy Krueger. “It is a beautiful room with a lot of very unusual history pieces that provide a backdrop to understanding the heritage of this area.”

From May 15-June 9, archaeology project interns will be stationed in the room to respond to questions about artifacts found in an ongoing dig on township Greenspace. Bring your own artifacts for identification when the interns are in the history room. (See page 22 for details.)

Seed Bash Celebration Welcomes Spring at Urban Farm

The Anderson Township Historical Society Urban Farm hosts their annual spring festival, the Seed Bash and Youth Showcase, from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at the farm at 2550 Bartels Road. Suggested donation is \$5 per person or \$10 per family.

For the second year, the event features a Youth Band and Artisan Showcase. Enjoy learning more about gardening, Earth Day and the Anderson Township

Historical Society while supporting the talent of high school students at the event. Food trucks and other vendors round out the day.

The Urban Farm also plans new events and classes throughout the coming year. For more information or to volunteer, visit their Facebook page: [AndersonTownshipHistoricalSocietyUrbanFarm](https://www.facebook.com/AndersonTownshipHistoricalSocietyUrbanFarm) or visit the website: andersonurbanfarm.com.



Local False Alarm Numbers Continue to Decline

Expensive and time-consuming false alarms in Anderson Township are on the decline, according to recent statistics. The number of alarms reported from 2016-2022 has dropped about 22 percent from a high in 2016, saving money and time invested by emergency rescue crews who respond to check on the alarm. False alarm calls in 2022 were about 12 percent of the total volume of calls, according to Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations.

In recent years, Anderson has sought to work with homeowners and businesses that repeatedly post these nuisance alarms.

The issue being addressed by the township is both financial and practical. Responding to false alarms costs the township in county fees each year, according to Assistant Chief Bob Herrlinger with Anderson Township Fire and Rescue. But more importantly, Herrlinger said, is that managing the false alarm issue is important because it potentially affects daily responses to true emergencies.

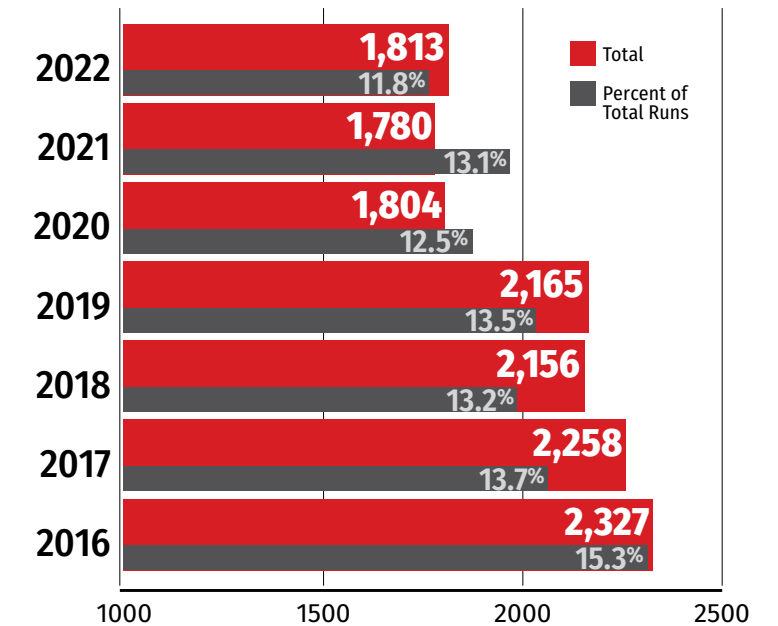
COVID-19 shutdowns may have influenced the drop in false alarms for a few years, noted Sievers, as some businesses were closed entirely or operated with reduced hours.

Since 2018, the township has imposed a fine for businesses or individuals who continually post false alarms. Fines start with a \$50 charge for the fourth false alarm in a calendar year. This fee increases to \$100 for the fifth alarm, and \$150 for the sixth and subsequent false alarms in a calendar year. Fines collected in 2022 totaled more than \$7,500.

Crime Prevention Officer Brian Hayes with the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office said once an alarm is received by the communications center, two patrol units are automatically dispatched, thus taking multiple cars off the street. “By working together with your alarm company and

False Alarm Dispatch Calls

Originating from Anderson Township to the Hamilton County Communications Center



local law enforcement, these false alarms can be reduced, so that our patrol cars can be used to their maximum benefit for our Anderson residents,” Hayes said.

Contact Hayes at 513.688.8400 ext. 1191 for troubleshooting alarm matters, or for fire alarm service problems, contact Herrlinger at 513.688.8400 ext. 1470.

Residents Diverted 3,272 Tons from Landfill in 2021

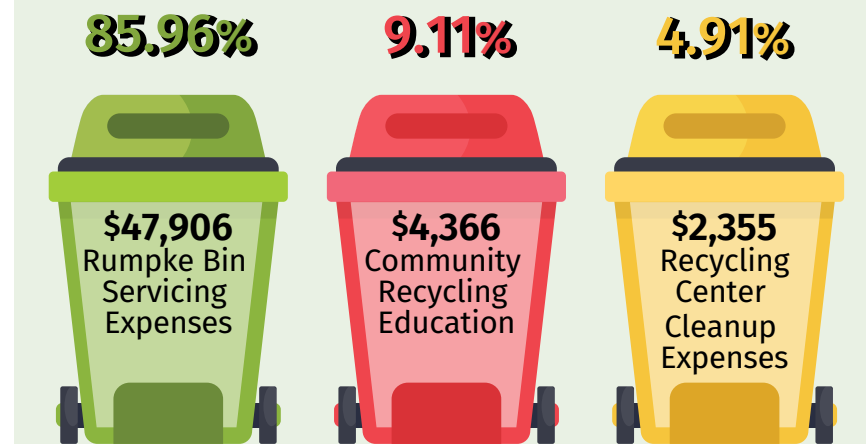
Residents who recycle at the curbside helped conserve energy and reduce pollution by their actions each week.

In 2021, Anderson residents diverted 3,272 tons of paper, plastic, metal and glass from the landfill. This means we:

- Conserved enough energy to power every home in the township for 13 days
- Reduced air pollution equal to all household members riding their bicycle to work for nine weeks
- Saved 27,247 trees from being harvested

The average township resident diverted 441 pounds of recyclables in 2021. That number equals 15.92 percent of all waste generated locally.

Township Annual Recycling Expenses



Beechmont Crosswalks Funded for Greater Bus Access, Safety

Access to METRO buses and pedestrian safety along Beechmont Avenue west of Salem Road will receive a boost, thanks to local funding supplied for two new crosswalks.

A grant from SORTA (Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority) will pay almost all of the costs associated with crosswalk improvements, scheduled for construction near Voll Road and the Anderson Parks RecPlex/Mt. Washington Care Center area.

SORTA, Cincinnati's transit organization, was granted authority by taxpayers in 2020 to fund enhanced local infrastructure projects. This crosswalk project includes pedestrian refuge islands and flashing beacons with SORTA committed to \$141,708 of the \$154,454 cost, 90 percent of the total expenditure. The project could be scheduled for 2024.

Steve Sievers, Anderson's assistant township administrator for operations, said the crosswalks are critical for bus riders who use Route 24, allowing them to cross Beechmont and board the bus more safely. "This pedestrian connection will serve residents on Beechmont Avenue and in surrounding subdivisions to connect to METRO bus stops along this high-speed section where there have been an increase in crashes," he noted.

Currently there are no pedestrian-protected crossings between traffic signals in the one-mile stretch between Birney Road and Salem Road and virtually no sidewalks in the area. "We hope these crosswalks are the beginning of further improvements for infrastructure in this section



A crosswalk is proposed in the vicinity of the Anderson Parks RecPlex/ Beech Acres area, near Mt. Washington Care Center.

of Beechmont," Sievers said. Anderson has already benefitted from SORTA project funding. In 2021 the township was granted more than \$300,000 to construct a new sidewalk on Elstun Road and Spindlehill Lane. That improvement benefits two METRO bus route bus stops near the Skytop area. Construction on the Elstun Road project began this year.

Other transportation improvements in Anderson include upgraded bus service which within a year could be operating out of an underground facility at the Vantage at Anderson Towne Center luxury apartment community on Five Mile Road. The covered park and ride center and passenger waiting area will provide more convenient overflow parking for Anderson Center events.

Protecting Healthy Tree Canopy Benefits Us All

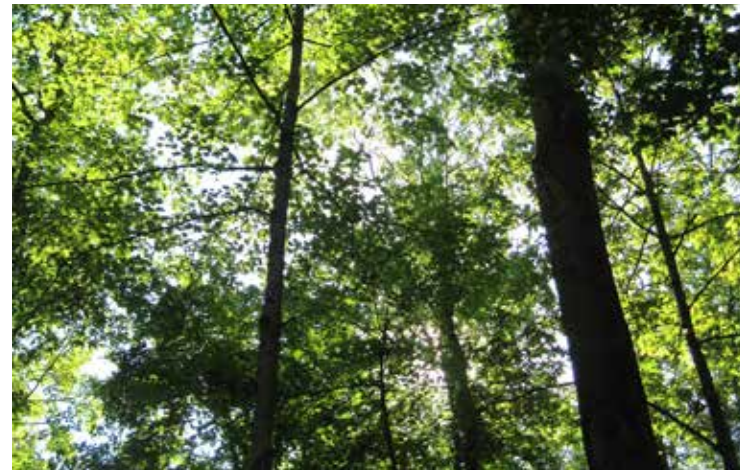
By planting trees and caring for trees, we as a community are adding to and taking care of our tree canopy. You might ask yourself, "What is a tree canopy?"

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, a tree canopy is "the layer of leaves, branches, and stems of trees that cover the ground when viewed from above." The tree canopy provides a key part of infrastructure and includes economic and environmental benefits.

Trees in your yard in good condition may add 10-20 percent resale value to your home as well as save the average Anderson Township household \$56 a year in energy costs. A return on investment factor can be considered, because for every \$1 spent on community trees, residents receive a return of roughly \$4.44, according to the Arbor Day Foundation.

The volunteer-led Anderson Tree Committee is tasked with protecting the tree canopy and planting trees to enhance the quality of life here, plus to beautify the community and uphold property values. A vibrant tree planting program supplements the work undertaken by the township's Planning and Zoning Department and volunteer-supported Greenspace program. Maintenance staff continually care for public trees (trees planted in the right-of-way or on township properties) as part of the township's plan to protect this investment.

From 2009 to 2022, Anderson's **Fall Planting Program added 972 trees** to the township's tree canopy.



Have you considered the quality-of-life benefits garnered from trees?

Trees planted in neighborhoods and public areas can help reduce stress and promote physical activity. Seeing a tree as you look out a window, taking a walk on a shady trail, or driving by trees reduces stress. Trees also beautify streets, residences, businesses, parks and even parking lots!

While you may not spend a lot of time thinking about trees, their existence affects you every day. The township staff and Anderson Tree Committee plan to continue in the work of adding more trees and keeping our community's tree canopy healthy so everyone who lives in and visits Anderson Township will benefit from our trees.

Information provided by the Anderson Tree Committee.

Bikes and Scooters-Sidewalks or Streets?

Bike riders and scooter enthusiasts may be unclear about whether they can legally ride in the street or on a sidewalk in Anderson.

Rules to remember when heading off on your next adventure:				
✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Low-Speed Mobility Devices like Lime or Bird Scooters	Bicycles	Electric Bicycles	Motorized Bicycles (aka Mopeds)	Mini Bikes (aka Pocket Bikes)
Allowed on the sidewalks, but must obey laws pertaining to pedestrians.	Allowed on sidewalks, streets and shared use and bike paths.	Allowed on sidewalks but cannot use electric motor.	Cannot be used on sidewalks or bike paths.	Prohibited from use on sidewalks, streets, shared use and bicycle paths.
Allowed on streets, but must obey laws pertaining to vehicles.	On streets must follow laws pertaining to vehicles.	Allowed on the streets but must obey vehicle laws. Cannot operate more than 20 mph when motor is in use.	Allowed on streets- must obey vehicle laws.	Only allowed on private property.
Limited to a maximum speed of 20 mph.		<i>In Anderson Township, electric bicycles are not allowed on the Five Mile Trail and Ohio River Trail.</i>	Age and license restrictions in place.	
Allowed on shared use and bicycle paths.				

New Housing on the Horizon



Work continues at the Vantage at Anderson Towne Center Apartments and park and ride project on Five Mile Road.



Skytop Apartments on Beechmont Avenue near State Route 32

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

'Better Balance, Safer You' Program Builds Confidence

An innovative program that combines exercise and self-defense called "Better Balance, Safer You" is helping seniors gain confidence and feelings of safety at the Anderson Township Senior Center.

Taught by George Zabrecky, a fifth degree black belt in Taekwondo, the class has been offered for the past four years.

The class focuses on using a ready stance to improve balance. Exercises to work muscle groups double as self-defense moves. Focused breathing also is taught.

"The class has a non-judgmental environment with the men and women members assisting and encouraging each other. Activities are adapted to all physical levels," notes Claire O'Connell, activities manager.

"The program also supports cognitive growth, social interactions, friendships, and most importantly is fun," Zabrecky said.

Over the past few years, classes have evolved based on feedback from participants. Zabrecky recently completed a book on the Better Balance, Safer You program, focused on facilitating other senior centers to start their own classes. Photographs and quotes from Anderson's senior center class participants are a main part of the new training manual.

"This class has helped my posture, my walking, and my balance. My confidence has improved, and we really have fun," said senior center member Joan Musio.

The program started as a **class using walking canes as self-defense tools**. It now covers a variety of situations in which older adults may not feel comfortable. The lessons have also expanded to seniors breaking boards and completing special sequences of Taekwondo moves. Two members have earned their black belts.

The exercise class meets at 11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and includes a \$5 fee. Call the center at 513.474.3100 or visit the site at 7970 Beechmont Ave. to observe a class and take a tour.



Teaching Ethics Takes on a Fantastical Feel at Library

The Center for Ethics at the University of Cincinnati has partnered with the Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library to **teach ethics to children and teenagers**.

Through role-playing, participants will become adventurers who help an imaginary fantasy village or town deal with problems that usually involve helping them fight off the evil force that threatens the town. **This role-playing also requires that players engage in critical moral thinking and dialogue**. The program is designed explicitly by a team at the ethics center to teach young people how to make ethical decisions and engage in moral conversation in a fun and interactive way.

Also, be on the lookout for the Social Seniors program one Saturday per month at the branch. Participants aged 55+ enjoy connecting with community members over refreshments, puzzles and games. Social Seniors is hosted first Saturday of each month from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The first program is May 6. No registration is required.

A monthly scavenger hunt for children, the monthly tween Graphic Novel Book Club, the STEM-focused Curious Kid's Club and the adult crystal programs are coming soon as well. The library offers two study rooms, a study pod and a meeting room that can be reserved online.

For information about the Anderson Branch Library, call 513.369.6030 or visit CHPL.org/anderson.



Mental Health a Chamber Focus

Businesses, non-profits and township residents all are learning more about how to create a healthy community this year. One important way is through partnerships.

The Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce and the Anderson Mental Health Collaborative are working together to break down stigmas about suicide and get people talking about the topic. They are **joining hands with IN5, a local organization providing mental health and suicide prevention education to organizations, schools and communities**.

"We are working together to bring mental health to the front of the table," said Matt Owen, executive director of the Anderson chamber.

Last fall the chamber, in partnership with the Mental Health Collaborative, hosted a QPR Institute suicide prevention training session. IN5, a suicide prevention non-profit, equipped participants with lifesaving knowledge. The chamber and the Anderson Mental Health Collaborative are planning to schedule more sessions such as these in the future, Owen said.

The Anderson Mental Health Collaborative was created to educate, share resources and create a supportive environment around mental health in Anderson Township. The organization serves as a platform to allow key stakeholders, community partners and service providers to work together.

Hands-On Experience Available for Students

Forest Hills School District is rolling out a revamped Community Partnership Program this spring. The updated approach and format are intentionally designed to offer valuable, hands-on experiences for students. The program also serves as a strong connection between the school district and many community partners.

Local businesses and organizations from a variety of industries have offered to work with the district to provide diverse learning experiences to high school students. Volunteer representatives include personnel from fields such as medicine, engineering, architecture, law, non-profits, small business and more.

The three pathways (internships, shadowing and workshops) allow students to benefit from these experiences in a way that fits their personal schedule best. The goal is to allow students to grow in their professional skills, experience new challenges, and discover their interests and passions. Students also can prepare for college, a career or the military, and receive mentorship and feedback from leaders in their field of interest.

Businesses and organizations in and around Anderson Township have the opportunity to inspire and influence the next generation of employees who will step into these different industries. As a by-product, businesses will benefit from the knowledge, time and efforts of Forest Hills' students.

To learn more, contact Melanie Hartong at melaniehartong@foresthills.edu.



Climb, Explore Trucks & Tractors on May 17

Join the Anderson Park District at Riverside Park to explore trucks and tractors! Kids, young and old, will be able to climb and discover the different types of equipment used in the Anderson Park District.

Friends of the park also will provide access to their trucks and emergency vehicles on-site for exploring. Pets are not permitted.

This event requires families to register online and reserve a time for their visit. Time slots start at 4 p.m. Children 10 years and under may participate.

Trucks & Tractors is hosted at Riverside Park, 3969 Round Bottom Road. Cost is \$8 per child. For registration information, visit AndersonParks.com.



Tour Historic Log Cabin Starting in May

Tours of the Miller-Leuser Log House owned by the Anderson Township Historical Society resume in May.

The historic cabin at 6550 Clough Pike will be open from 1-4 p.m. the first and third Sundays of the month starting May 7. Visit the oldest home in the township and one of the very few remaining houses built by pioneers who settled in the Ohio River valley in the late 1700s.

Free tours are offered by volunteers from the historical society who share information about the area and its pioneer past. Visit the barn, corncrib and outhouse and learn about Anderson's farming heritage.

For details, visit andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org/log-house.



EVENTS

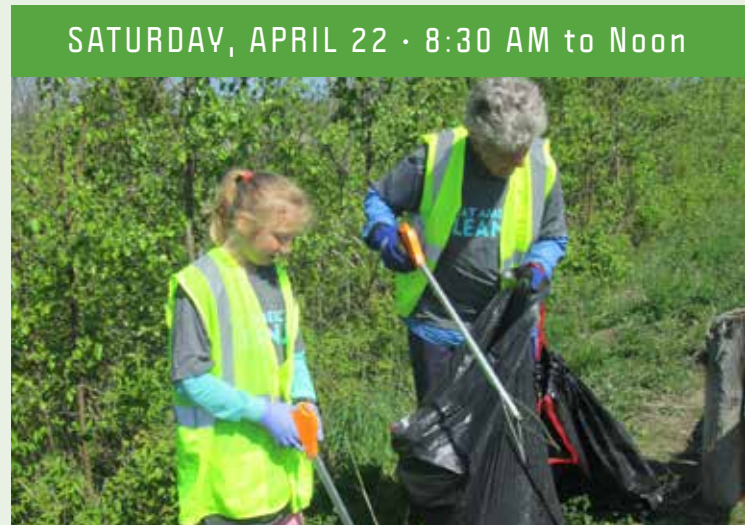
Cleanup: Volunteers Tackle Litter

After a long winter, spruce up the community and get some sunshine! Join others helping beautify Anderson Township on Saturday, April 22 during the Great American Cleanup.

Anderson's Greenspace properties and roadway berms are targets of the cleanup from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are welcome to participate during all or part of the event. Older children are welcome but will need adult supervision.

The WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee provides supplies and you provide the energy! Can't make it that day? No problem. Groups or individuals can obtain supplies for a cleanup date/time that works best for you.

To pre-register a large group, contact Planning and Zoning Assistant Director Sarah Donovan at 513.688.8400 ext. 1181 or email Donovan at sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.



Clean Out Prescription Cabinets for 'Drug Take Back Day' April 22

Wonder how to dispose of prescription or over-the-counter drugs from your home? Anderson Township and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office have an option for you.

The annual Drug Take Back Day offers you a safe disposal method rather than throwing unneeded pharmaceuticals down the toilet or in the trash. Clean your cabinets and bring all your expired or unwanted prescriptions to the annual Drug Take Back Day set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 22 at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.

The following items are not accepted at the site: liquids, aerosols, inhalers, needles or (plastic/glass) bottles. Place pills and tablets into a zip-close style bag for disposal.

For more information, contact Deputy Brian Hayes at 513.688.8400 ext.1191 or bhayes@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.



Community Garage Sale Day: May 6

Buy, sell or just browse the bargains at Anderson Township's annual Communitywide Garage Sale Day, set for Saturday, May 6.

Anderson Township makes it easy to participate by providing a list and interactive map of all garage sale sites. Advertise your sale for free on AndersonTownshipOH.gov by contacting Betty Cowan before May 1 at bcowan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov. Provide your address and start time to be included in the listing.

Note: Only Anderson Township locations can be listed on the website.



Farmers' Market Opens May 27

Featuring farm-fresh produce, home-baked goods and other products, cottage vendors begin their summer selling season at the Anderson Township Farmers' Market on Saturday, May 27.

The market kicks off the year with live music, a petting zoo and several returning vendors.

Weekly markets are hosted at the St. Timothy Church parking lot, 8101 Beechmont Ave., from 9 a.m. to noon. The market runs through October 21.

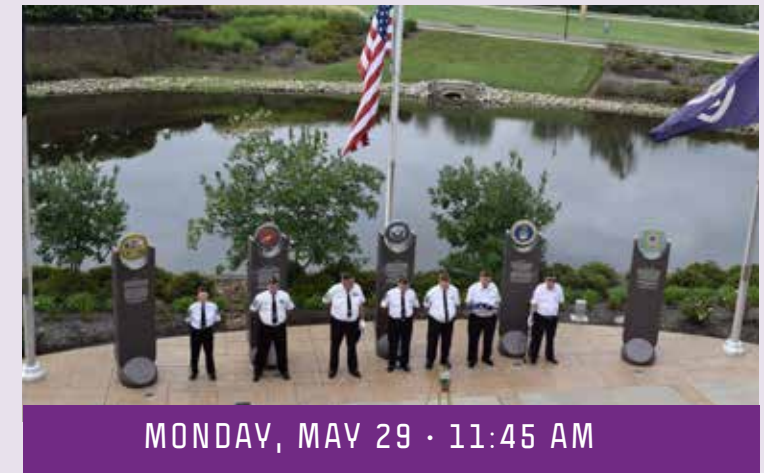
For details, go to Facebook: [Anderson Township Farmers Market](https://www.facebook.com/AndersonTownshipFarmersMarket).

Remembering Heroes: Memorial Day Ceremony on May 29

Fallen veterans and those who have served in the armed services are honored and remembered during the annual Anderson Township Memorial Day Bell Ceremony.

This solemn remembrance is hosted by the Anderson Township Veterans Memorial Committee at noon Monday, May 29. It takes place on the Anderson Center's South Plaza, the site of the Anderson Township Veterans Memorial.

Names of deceased members of the armed forces will be read during the ceremony. Sign in by 11:45 a.m. if you wish to have your loved one's name read during the ceremony.



Fine Arts and Crafts Return to Summerfair at Coney Island

Fine arts and crafts artists return to Summerfair 2023 at historic Coney Island on the Ohio River.

The annual event is scheduled for Friday-Sunday, June 2-4. More than 325 juried artists from around the country show and sell their creations, including photography, ceramics, jewelry, fibers, paint and wood.

Enjoy local music on an acoustic stage along with food vendors and special activities. Cost is \$10. The event is hosted rain or shine. For details, times and ticket information, go to Summerfair.org.

Mother Nature Shines in Anderson Garden and History Tour

Bountiful summer blooms, beautiful gardens and creative landscaped settings in Anderson Township are showcased during the Anderson Garden and History Tour, scheduled for Sunday, June 11.

Gardeners share the fruit of their hard work on the self-guided tour that runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This free event, highlighting eight mature gardens as well as newer ones, also includes opportunities to visit some of Anderson's historic locations including the Anderson Township Historical Society's Urban Farm and the Miller-Leuser Log House.

A brochure detailing this year's gardens will be available after June 1 at AndersonTownshipOH.gov or for pickup at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.

Interested in sharing your beautiful space? If so, contact Sarah Donovan at 513.688.8400 ext. 1181 or email her at sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

The Garden and History Tour, now in its 19th year, is sponsored by the volunteer WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee.



EVENTS

Safety First at June Bike Rodeo

Bike safety mixes with fun for a Community Bike Rodeo, sponsored by Anderson Township and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

This year's bike rodeo is set for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 17 at Nagel Middle School, 1500 Nagel Road. The free event includes bike safety games, raffles, door prizes and a bike giveaway.

Bring a bike and helmet if you can, but if you can't, equipment will be provided. The event is free and geared toward children ages 3-12.

Six Hours of Fun at Returning Anderson Day Festival



After a popular return last year as a one-day festival, Anderson Day again will be hosted at Beech Acres Park at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 29.

The festival packs six hours with music, expanded food and drink options, and game section for kids both young and old. Fireworks are scheduled for 10 p.m.

Watch for more updates at AndersonParks.com. Admission and parking are free.



Plan Your Red, White and Blue Entry for 2023 Parade

Mark your calendar for a highlight of the summer season- Anderson's signature Independence Day Parade!

Applications for parade entries open on April 24. The 10 a.m. parade follows the same path as in previous years, starting at the Anderson Township Operations Center, 7954 Beechmont Ave., ending at the Anderson Towne Center.

Pick up parade registration forms after April 24 at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, or on the township's website, AndersonTownshipOH.gov (under the What's New section). To volunteer, contact Steve Sievers at ssievers@AndersonTownshipOH.gov or 513.688.8604.

LOVE A PARADE? Help Out This Year and Volunteer!

Do you love a parade? Join the volunteer team of the Anderson Township Independence Day Parade to make this year's parade a memorable experience for Anderson residents.

Volunteers are needed for approximately four hours on the day of the parade.

To sign up or learn more, contact Steve Sievers at 513.688.8604 or at ssievers@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.



Discover Art Right Around the Corner in Anderson Township

Have you explored art in Anderson Township? Sculptures and murals are ready to be discovered right in your back yard!

A helpful online tool, called the Anderson Township Story Map interactive guide, allows you to learn more about what artwork is currently displayed in the township, both outside and inside township businesses.

Anderson Township recently completed a two-year process creating a Public Art Master Plan that will guide direction for the future of artwork in the township. Check out plans for more information on initiatives and projects at AndersonTownshipOH.gov and click on "Quick Links," then navigate to the Public Art Master Plan section.

If you know of local public art not represented in this interactive guide, contact Sarah Donovan, sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov or 513.688.8400 ext. 1181.



Public Art Implementation Steering Team Seeks Applicants

A new volunteer opportunity is opening up for township residents and business owners. Volunteers are sought to serve on the Art Plan Implementation Steering Team which will serve as the selection team for works of art around the township.

The steering team will follow the recommendations of the Public Art

Master Plan, adopted in December 2021 by the Anderson Township Board of Trustees.

If you are interested or would like additional information, send your resume to Sarah Donovan, sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov by Monday, April 24.



Public Meetings

ALL MEETINGS ARE HOSTED AT ANDERSON CENTER, 7850 FIVE MILE ROAD, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Board of Township Trustees *(Times and dates subject to change with notice)*

Interim Meeting: Thursday, May 4, 2 p.m. • **Regular Monthly Meeting:** Thursday, April 20, 5:30 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals
Thursday, May 4, 5:30 p.m.

Zoning Commission
Monday, April 26, 6:30 p.m.

Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee

Transportation Advisory Committee
Wednesday, April 12, 6 p.m.

WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee
Wednesday, April 19, 6 p.m.

Tree Committee
Monday, May 8, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 20, 2 p.m.
Meets at Anderson Township Senior Center
7970 Beechmont Ave.

Economic Development Committee
Tuesday, May 23, 3 p.m.

CONNECT

APRIL

Donate Day

Anderson Branch Library, 7450 State Road
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 9 A.M.-NOON

Drug Take Back Day

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.

Not accepted: liquids, aerosols, inhalers, needles or plastic/glass bottles. Place pills, tablets inside a zip lock bag for disposal.

Info: Deputy Brian Hayes at 513.688.8400 ext. 1191 or AndersonTownshipOH.gov

Great American Cleanup

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 8:30 A.M.-NOON

Info and signup: Sarah Donovan at 513.688.8400 or sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



Encore! 2023: Sounds of the 70s-

The Forest-Aires Women's Chorus

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1:30 P.M. AND 7:30 P.M.

Tickets: \$15 at theforestaires.com

Urban Farm Seed Bash and Youth Showcase

Anderson Township Historical Society Urban Farm
2550 Bartels Road

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, NOON-6 P.M.

Suggested donation: \$5 per person, \$10 family

Info: [Facebook-Anderson Township Historical Society Urban Farm](https://www.facebook.com/AndersonTownshipHistoricalSocietyUrbanFarm)

MAY

Backyard Composting 101 - for beginners or a refresher

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Free. Info: AndersonTownshipOH.gov, search "News"



Miami Valley Recollecting and Reconnecting

Ongoing archeological dig on Anderson Township Greenspace on State Route 32 and Clough Pike. (Use bike trail parking next to Speedway.)

MAY 15-JUNE 9, 10 A.M. TO 3 P.M. OPEN WEEKDAYS

Volunteer: miamivalleyrecollections@gmail.com

Facebook: [MVRR Ohio Archeology](https://www.facebook.com/MVRR_Ohio_Archeology)

Beechmont Players-The Matchmaker

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MAY 5-6, 8 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 7, 3 P.M.; FRIDAY, MAY 12, 8 P.M.

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 3 P.M.

Tickets: \$20; Students, seniors (ages 60+) and active military, \$18. Tickets: Beechmontplayers.org

Communitywide Garage Sales

Various locations across township

SATURDAY, MAY 6, TIME VARIES

Info: bcowan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov. Sales listed on AndersonTownshipOH.gov. List your sale in an interactive map app by contacting Betty Cowan by May 1 with your information.

Anderson Township Historical Society Plant Sale

Anderson Township Pet Center, 6666 Clough Pike

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 9 A.M.-4 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 14, NOON-4 P.M.

The Little Mermaid Jr., Moana Jr., Into the Woods by Performing Arts Inc.

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
MAY 15-MAY 20

Check online at performingartsinc.net/anderson to confirm dates and times. Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door

Tickets: pai.seatyourself.biz

Anderson Township Farmers' Market

St. Timothy Church, 8101 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 9 A.M.-NOON

Market runs through October.

Info: [Facebook.com/AndersonTownshipFarmersMarket](https://www.facebook.com/AndersonTownshipFarmersMarket)



Lejeune Dance -La Sylphide

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MAY 26-27, 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2 P.M.

Tickets: \$20, \$15 seniors 65+ and children 10 and under.

Info: lejeunedance.com/tickets/

Memorial Day Remembrance and Bell Ringing Ceremony

Anderson Center South Plaza, 7850 Five Mile Road

MONDAY, MAY 29, 11:45 A.M.

Info: Jennifer Sanders at 513.688.8444 or

jsanders@AndersonTownshipOH.gov

JUNE

Anderson Community Band Concert

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 3 P.M.

Info: John Fecker at 513.207.8506 or andersoncommunityband.org

Free

Musical Arts Center: Young Artist's Preparatory Program

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

JUNE 8-JUNE 11

Tickets and info: musartscenter.com

Seussical the Musical, Frozen Kids, Seussical Kids Camp: Performing Arts Inc.

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

JUNE 11-JUNE 18

Info: performingartsinc.net/anderson to confirm dates and times

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door at pai.seatyourself.biz

Anderson Garden and History Tour

Variety of locations throughout township

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 10 A.M.-4 P.M.

Free self-guided tour. Brochure online after June 1 at

AndersonTownshipOH.gov



43rd Annual Summer Used Book Sale-Anderson Township Library Association

Nagel Middle School, 1500 Nagel Road

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 10 A.M.-7 P.M.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, NOON-3 P.M.

Info: cincinnati.library.org/about/atla/

JULY

Anderson Township Independence Day Parade

Beechmont Avenue, starting at Beechmont Fire Station, 7954 Beechmont Ave.

TUESDAY, JULY 4, 10 A.M.

Info: AndersonTownshipOH.gov



Anderson Day Festival

Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 4-10 P.M.; FIREWORKS AT 10 P.M.





Anderson Insights
 the Newsletter of Anderson Township
 Anderson Center
 7850 Five Mile Road
 Anderson Township, OH 45230

Presorted Std
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ANDERSON TOWNSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

To provide services which protect and enhance the quality of life in our community.

**Government Services
 at Anderson Center**
 7850 Five Mile Road
 Anderson Township
 Ohio 45230
 513.688.8400
info@AndersonTownship.org

**Administration and
 Fiscal Office**

Planning and Zoning

Public Works

Fire and Rescue

**Hamilton County
 Sheriff's Office**

**Anderson Township
 Senior Center**
 7970 Beechmont Ave.
 Anderson Township
 Ohio 45255
 513.474.3100

Anderson Insights represents a continuing effort to improve communication between you and your township officials.

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 Vicky Earhart**

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Check With Township Before You Build

Anderson Township's zoning certificate requirements cover certain exterior construction projects. Before you start your spring and summer projects, check out whether you need to obtain a certificate for your home improvement.

Q: What types of structures require a zoning certificate?

Most improvements/expansions to a building, plus the addition of outside structures such as sheds, fences, pools, decks, etc., require a zoning certificate.

In addition, some temporary signs on either residential and commercial property may require a zoning certificate.

Q: How long does it take to get a zoning certificate?

Most zoning certificates are processed within two business days. There is no application form for a zoning certificate, but a site plan is necessary. Fees vary depending on the structure. Apply at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, during weekday hours.

Q: How high can I build a fence on my property?

In front and side yards, residents can build fences up to 4 feet high; they need to be 75 percent open. In the rear yard, a 6-foot tall fence is permitted and can be of solid or privacy style. Remember, however, you need to obtain a zoning certificate before construction of any type of fence.

Q: How do I obtain more information?

Anderson Township has prepared a helpful document breaking down the steps in applying for a zoning certificate. Go to AndersonTownshipOH.gov and search for Planning and Zoning Department. Information can be found under "Reference Guides-How to Apply for a Zoning Certificate."

To speak to planning and zoning personnel about a zoning certificate, call 513.688.8400. ext. 3.

Some improvements may require a building permit from Hamilton County Planning + Development at 513.946.4550.

Structures under this requirement include, but are not limited to:

- Single family residence
- Fences
- Decks and uncovered patios
- Pools
- Driveway modifications
- Temporary dumpsters or pods
- Solar panels
- Small accessory structure such as a greenhouse, she shed or shed
- Large accessory structure such as a detached garage, pool house, pole barn
- Additions including covered patios and decks, front porches and sunrooms

