

# ANDERSON Insights

THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

AUGUST 2021

## HOMEARAMA® 2021 Calls Anderson Township Home

**Anderson takes the spotlight during two-week event showcasing community as well as five luxury residences.**

For two weeks this fall, Anderson's exceptional neighborhoods and quality of life take the spotlight, as the Cincinnati 2021 HOMEARAMA® event and surrounding festivities unfold in the Coldstream area.

Five luxury homes starting at \$1.3 million are currently nearing completion for the show, produced by the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati. This is the 58<sup>th</sup> year for the new home showcase that last visited Anderson Township in the late 1970s. The location features "tranquility and natural beauty, plus the noted high-quality amenities found in Anderson Township," said Dan Dressman, executive director for the home builder's organization.



*Parkside Estates in Coldstream hosts HOMEARAMA® this September.*

### HOMEARAMA® Parkside Estates at Coldstream

SEPTEMBER 18-OCTOBER 3

*Five fully decorated, landscaped luxury homes*

#### WEEKDAY HOURS

(Mon. - Thurs.) 4-9 p.m.

#### WEEKEND HOURS

(Fri. - Sun.) Noon- 9 p.m.

Besides touring luxury homes, Anderson Township and the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati have created a calendar of special events to showcase some of the highlights of living well in Anderson Township. A dedicated year of planning by the township's volunteer member Economic Development Committee has resulted in special promotions to make the event memorable, according to Jeff Rosa, committee member.

"HOMEARAMA® is going to be an amazing event for Anderson," he said. "We are excited to have potentially 35,000 people visiting our incredible township and learning why Anderson is the place to be."

Food trucks will be onsite, with more than 15 vendors and suppliers hosted in the HomeZone exhibitor tent. Special events focused on parks and recreation offerings in the area, Anderson nonprofits and "hometown heroes," an OctoBEERfest experience, a "retail therapy" opportunity and food adventures make each day unique, noted Josh Gerth, township trustee chair.

Gerth sees the event as being a positive outcome of hard work initiated by township trustees, volunteers and staff to further support and create a high quality of life here. "The fact that the Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati has chosen Anderson Township this year, proves that we are doing the right things and remain one of the most desirable places to call home."

Anderson Township residents receive a special \$3 discount at the gate with proof of residency on Friday, Oct. 1.

*(See Calendar of Events on page 7)*

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# TOWNSHIP NEWS

## Top Themes Emerge for Anderson's Future

**Committee shaping future initiatives, goals for community; August open house scheduled for public participation.**

*What do Anderson residents envision when they think of the township's future?*

The Anderson Tomorrow Steering Team, a group of residents, business owners and stakeholders who are guiding the township's updated Comprehensive Plan, have spent the past few months drawing out themes from the hundreds of answers to this and similar questions.

As part of the five-year update to Anderson's Comprehensive Plan, the public was invited to answer seven questions on a wide scope of topics related to township infrastructure, quality of life, art and culture, and more. This 2021 comprehensive plan update is the third update since 2005.

"The public meetings brought together hundreds of Anderson residents to share what was important to them, what they cared about and how Anderson Township is a part of their families and lives," said Committee Chair Karen Ringswald Egan. "The discussions were energetic and fun, and I've heard from participants how much they appreciate being able to share what's important and be a part of the planning process."

"I was so heartened hearing the voices of friends and neighbors in our beautiful township," she said.

Community members were invited to react to the comprehensive plan vision from 2016 and provide commentary on new topics or focus of interest this spring. Township planners have tapped into a myriad of methods of gathering information and opinions, including virtual meetings through Zoom, an online survey, and targeted outreach to students and seniors in the community.

In the coming weeks, the steering team, staff and consultants will develop both visionary and practical plans to maintain the township's high quality of life, said Planner P.J. Ginty.



Anderson Center is a multi-purpose facility for events, theater productions and government services.

Responses from the more than 625 public comments were grouped into themes, Ginty said. The top four that emerged included inclusivity, social infrastructure (third spaces such as community gathering spots), design and appearance, and green infrastructure.

Interested in learning more and providing comments about what you would like to see in the future? A public open house is planned for 4-6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 30, at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, for citizens to review the findings and proposed initiatives emerging out of the 10-month study. The next round of public engagement also will provide an online opportunity at [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov).

### Students Contribute Ideas on Township's Future

Nearly 750 Anderson and Turpin high school students provided a variety of responses to questions about their hometown. According to Ginty, "Students are most interested in gaining new experiences and living in a new place, while family and friends have them interested in coming back in the future." In addition to the online survey, township staff members and consultants connected virtually with the Turpin High School Student Council. "This input from the students was extremely valuable as we look to the future of Anderson Township," he said.



Quality schools



Excellent parks

## Clough Pike Improvements Continue Through Fall

**Pedestrian safety upgrades near Julifs Park area targeted with grant application.**

An ambitious effort to upgrade the drive down the busy Clough Pike corridor started this summer.

Birthered out of a 2019 survey seeking residents' opinions about this stretch of roadway, the township has initiated changes that will improve traffic signals, sidewalk and pedestrian safety, turn lanes and more.

First up is a traffic signal enhancement project, where five major Clough intersections from Five Mile Road to Eight Mile Road will receive signal optimization this September. The goal is reduced time delays for each intersection.

GPS clocks will be installed on each of the signals, according to P.J. Ginty, planner, to help improve timing between signals. "That means less stop and go on your ride on Clough," Ginty said. Pavement striping changes also are planned in the next few months, which will enhance pedestrian safety, he noted. "These projects are an outgrowth of the response from our residents in 2019, which led to a comprehensive study of the Clough Corridor," said Trustee Chair Josh Gerth.

### Pedestrian-activated Signal Considered

Although a pedestrian crosswalk is marked on the intersection of Clough Pike and Endovalley Drive, across from Julifs Park, users know drivers do not always stop for those in the walkway, Ginty said. That issue could be remedied through the use of a pedestrian refuge island and/or a High-intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) signal, which would in essence be a pedestrian-activated traffic light, he noted.

### Grant Applications for Improvements

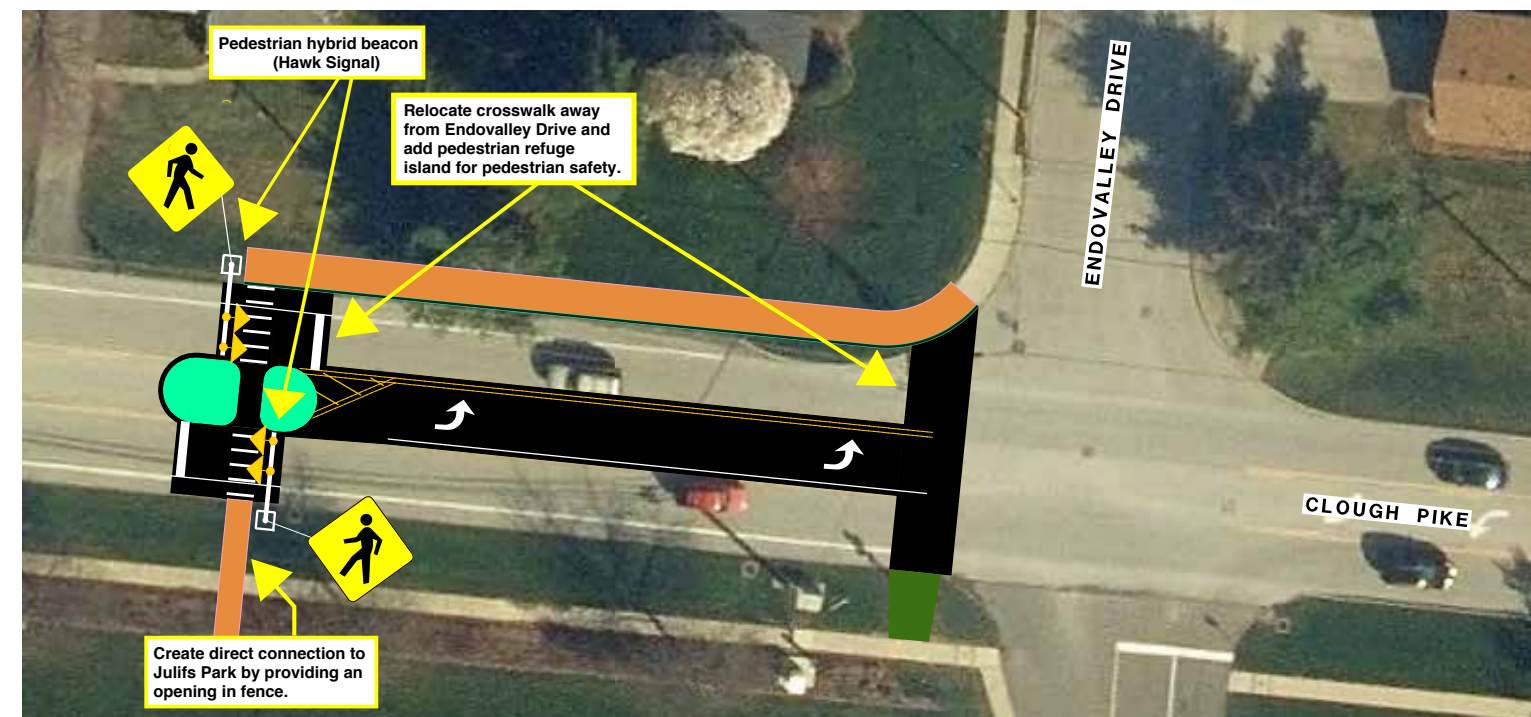
Looking down the road, Anderson has applied for two grants through the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments.

The first would be to help fund crosswalk improvements at Clough and Endovalley Drive/Julifs Park entrance. In conjunction with this and previous Anderson Trails Plan recommendations, the project also includes a new sidewalk on the north side of Clough from the ME Lyons YMCA to Eight Mile Road. The goal is to connect nearby subdivisions to destinations in the area.

A second project, a welcome addition for pedestrians and motorists along Clough Pike, includes proposed upgrades at the Newtown Road intersection. Construction of a left turn lane on eastbound Clough to Newtown Road would be included. An expansion of sidewalks on the south side of Clough from Newtown Road to Copperleaf Drive that would link to these being built by the new Harmony at Anderson Senior Living community.

Gerth noted that as a part of the Harmony at Anderson Senior Living rezoning process, concerns were expressed about traffic delay at the Newtown Road intersection and the need for an additional pedestrian connection. "This project, if funded, will help to address the concerns expressed by our residents, by using grant funds and revenues generated by the new Harmony development," Gerth added.

"Through community surveys and other feedback, our residents and business owners have identified a myriad of traffic and safety enhancements for Clough Pike," said Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations. "We're thrilled that in a very short time frame, during the COVID pandemic, we were able to conduct an engineering study of this corridor, adopt a plan for improvements, and begin implementing some of these high-priority recommendations," he added.



The crosswalk at the entrance to Julifs Park will be enhanced for safety. (Rendering courtesy of Stantec)





Work continues on the Turpin site near the Little Miami Scenic Trail.

## Greenspace Archeological Dig Open Through Aug. 21

### Exploration continues at the ancient village sites near the Little Miami Scenic Trail.

A continuation of an archeological dig on Greenspace property known for its abundant artifacts is open to the public this summer for the first time. The site has been home to numerous prior digs, starting in the 1880s.

Through August 21, new excavations will be ongoing at the site, most of which will be very close to the Little Miami Scenic Trail. The public is invited to learn more about the project, share their memories of the property and to see current discoveries from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

The excavation is a follow-up event to revisit the work already completed on previous projects, according to Greenspace Inspector Suzanne Clingman. “The front fields of the 109-acre Greenspace includes a terrace along Ohio 32 known by archaeologists as the Turpin site. The site contains the remains of ancient villages and mounds mainly from the Late Woodland and Fort Ancient time periods,” said Clingman. The dig site property is located on the north side of Ohio 32 and the entrance is just east of Clough Pike. Parking is available on the west side of the Speedway gas station.

Bob Genheimer, the curator of archaeology at the Cincinnati Museum Center, noted that three major excavations have been

undertaken since 1885. Harvard University’s Peabody Museum conducted the earliest excavations of the area and located postholes, wall trench house segments, house basins, trash pits and burial sites on the property. One of the village areas that Harvard excavated early on will be further investigated to gather key information left behind. Additional work on the Greenspace will explore the Turpin farmstead to better understand the lifestyles of the region’s first Euro-American inhabitants. From 1946 through 1949 and then again in 1969 through 1972, the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History hosted large-scale excavations on the Turpin property. Excavations beginning in the late 1960s focused on additional domestic areas.

Ohio State University conducted a small-scale exploration in 2014 and 2015, focused on locating prehistoric houses by excavating wall trenches. The findings of this study revealed information on how village life and agriculture developed in the Ohio Valley and surrounding areas.

The current project is co-directed by Dr. Robert Cook of Ohio State University and Rebecca Hawkins, president of Algonquin Consultants. Dr. Aaron Comstock and Dr. Michael Sherfy are principal investigators for archaeology and history, respectively.



Greenspace property known as the Turpin site has yielded many interesting artifacts over the years.

Genheimer and other staff from the Cincinnati Museum Center will assist with the project. Project members will be at the site to discuss findings.

According to Cook, “The Turpin site has long factored into the history of American archaeology but suffered by mostly being excavated before modern methods were developed. By revisiting these earlier excavations, we can greatly increase the usefulness of existing collections without excavating undisturbed parts of the site.”

Research at the site has also lacked descendant involvement, which is being prioritized in this project, said Hawkins “We strongly feel that by doing so we will begin to more fully and truly understand the site’s significance,” she said.

Check out progress on the Turpin site dig on Facebook: [facebook.com/MVRR.OhioArcheology/](https://www.facebook.com/MVRR.OhioArcheology/).





# Getting Connected: Trail Projects Advance

## Work continues on pedestrian-cyclist bridge over Little Miami River, with completion next year.

Construction is ongoing and continues on a dramatic pedestrian and cyclist bridge under construction on the Beechmont Levee. This critical link in the Greater Cincinnati regional trails system should be complete next summer.

Sweeping drone photos captured by Anderson Township earlier this summer show the grand scope of the project, which will connect cyclists riding on the Little Miami Scenic Trail from the Ohio River to Lake Erie in northern Ohio via the Ohio to Erie trail. Besides the Beechmont bridge widening project, which provides a new protected lane of about 500 feet, a retaining wall is being built underneath the bridge for pedestrian use. A tunnel also is under construction below the Ohio 32 ramp headed to westbound Beechmont Avenue.

The project is a joint venture between Great Parks of Hamilton County and the city of Cincinnati. “This project has drawn a lot of conversation because so many people see it on their daily drive,” said Planner Brad Bowers. “We anticipate heavy use of this amenity once cyclists can easily and safely access the city via this completed regional system of bike trails.” Construction on the bridge and tunnel began in early 2021.

Anderson Township also continues to lead planning efforts for another project that extends the bridge-tunnel upgrade to Elstun Road. The “Elstun Connector” is a quarter-mile section running from sidewalk on Beechmont Avenue near Elstun Road and the Skytop Pavilion Shopping Center, to the Little Miami Scenic Trail/Beechmont Bridge widening project. The new Elstun Connector project will help link the redeveloping Skytop Pavilion site and Mt. Washington neighborhoods to the regional trails system, Bowers said.

A \$750,000 federal grant provides more than half of the estimated cost of \$1.6 million for the improvement, with Anderson Township contributing more than \$600,000, and the Ohio Department of Transportation adding about \$213,000.



A key statewide trail connection is under construction near Beechmont Avenue and Ohio 32.

This summer Anderson Township is conducting initial feasibility work in the project area, as a preferred alignment for the trail extension is developed. Anderson Township is working with ODOT, the Hamilton County Engineer’s Office and the city of Cincinnati for this extension.

A public hearing will be announced later this summer to collect citizen feedback on the project. ODOT is working with the city of Cincinnati to extend the Elstun Connector into Mt. Washington via a shared use path adjacent to Beechmont Avenue from Elstun Road to Ranchvale Road.

Along with plans for the Elstun Road connector, Anderson Township is working on developing a funding plan for a new sidewalk on Elstun Road from Beechmont Avenue to Spindlehill Lane. Anderson is seeking SORTA Transit Infrastructure grant funding for construction costs.



Looking west on Beechmont Levee, new trail added to south side of bridge.



Current terminus of Little Miami Scenic Trail where tunnel will be built under the Ohio 32 ramp.

## HOMEARAMA® SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

(Continued from page 1)

**Tickets:** \$19 each.  
Discounted tickets available online at [cincyhometarama.com](http://cincyhometarama.com).  
Children 12 and under free if accompanied by an adult.

**GPS Address:** 8010 Parkside Lake  
A free shuttle will be offered from Belterra Park, 6301 Kellogg Ave., Fridays through Sundays.

**SEPTEMBER 18**  
*Battle of the Bands – 2- 6 p.m.*

Duke Energy sponsors area bands that take the stage to entertain the crowds on HOMEARAMA®’s opening day.

**SEPTEMBER 19**  
*Hometown Heroes Day*

Day to thank military, frontline medical workers and first responders, with half off admission to the show. Also features community education opportunities from the township’s Fire and Rescue Department and Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office.

**SEPTEMBER 24**  
*Anderson Township Park and Rec Day*

Learn more about abundant local sports and all the community’s recreational opportunities on its Greenspace, parkland and natural areas.

**SEPTEMBER 27**  
*Anderson Township Senior Center Day – 4-9 p.m.*  
Senior Center members can purchase discount tickets for \$10 good on September 27 only.

**SEPTEMBER 30**  
*Give for Good Day*  
Learn about and support local area nonprofits while touring HOMEARAMA® homes.

**OCTOBER 1**  
*Chamber of Commerce Day*  
Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce members can purchase tickets at [cincyhometarama.com](http://cincyhometarama.com). Click on events for a \$3 discount (good on Oct. 1 only).

**OCTOBER 2 AND 3**  
*OctoBEERfest and FURever Friends FOREver Home Weekend*  
Five signature craft brews are on display along with great food during OctoBEERfest. Chat with craft beer experts knowledgeable about the local craft beer scene.

Furry friends are included in the festivities, available from local rescue groups.

## Anderson’s Domain Name Now ‘AndersonTownshipOH.gov’

Anderson Township is now sporting a new domain name for its web address.

Like many local governments current relying on “.com” “.org” or “.us” addresses, Anderson Township and government agencies are being encouraged by the federal government to move to a “.gov” address to eliminate confusion and to promote cybersecurity.

The new web domain is [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) for the official township government website.

“We’ve found over the years that many internet users are confused about which web address is the official government site for Anderson Township,” said Administrator Vicky Earhart. Government officials

have noted that while federal and state government agencies often use the .gov domain, local jurisdictions do not widely use it.

“Using the ‘.gov’ address will alleviate user confusion and designate our official website, which eliminates ‘spoofing’ from bad actors and cyber criminals. Moving to [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) will stop that sort of impersonation that leads to confusion for our residents and other users.”

Legislation passed in 2020 provided federal assistance to government agencies to initiate the change through the DotGov Program.

“The .gov URL is a trusted signal to users that a site is legitimate and can be relied on for official information,” Earhart said.

## Public Meetings

ALL MEETINGS ARE HOSTED AT ANDERSON CENTER, 7850 FIVE MILE ROAD (688-8400) UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

**Board of Township Trustees** (Times and dates subject to change with notice)  
**Regular Monthly Meeting:** Thursday, Aug. 19, 5 p.m. • **Interim Meeting:** Thursday, Sept. 5, 2 p.m.

**Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee**  
Thursday, Aug. 19 • 2 p.m.  
Meets at Anderson Township Senior Center  
7970 Beechmont Ave.

**WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee**  
Wednesday, Aug. 18 • 6 p.m.  
**Zoning Commission**  
Monday, Aug. 23 • 5:30 p.m.

**Board of Zoning Appeals**  
Thursday, Sept. 2 • 5:30 p.m.  
**Transportation Advisory Committee**  
Tuesday, Sept. 7 • 6:30 p.m.

**Tree Committee**  
Monday, Sept. 13 • 7 p.m.  
**Economic Development Committee**  
Tuesday, Sept. 28 • 3 p.m.



# Summertime Seen Through the Lens of History

A photo collage inspired by the variety of experiences through the past decades of Anderson Township residents in summer is brought to you by the Anderson Township Historical Society. Learn more at their new website at [AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org](http://AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org).



Island Queen ferry unloading at Coney Island



Ebersole family eating watermelon



PEP Club circa 1925



July 4th celebration at "Campus Park" in 1922



Mt. Washington July 4th Parade - 1922



Holiday parade



Ferris wheel at Coney Island circa 1920

## Tour Local Historic Log House



Tour the Miller-Leuser Log House at 6550 Clough Pike during open houses sponsored by the Anderson Township Historical Society. The log house is open from 1 to 4 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of the month through October.

Visit the oldest home in the township and one of the very few remaining houses built by the pioneers who settled in the Ohio River valley in the late 1790s. Docents available inside the log house will explain the old interesting tools and how they helped the settlers thrive in the early wilderness.

Free tours are offered by volunteers from the society who share historical information about the area and its pioneer past. Visit the barn with an extensive collection of early farm equipment, a two-seater outhouse and learn about Anderson's farming heritage. Volunteer gardeners maintain the Memory Garden and other areas around the house and barn. For more information on the historical society's new website, visit [andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://andersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org).

## Township History Room Reopens

The History Room at Anderson Center has reopened. Community history from Native peoples to the present is displayed at this special room with artifacts, hands-on displays and more.

The room is open from 1-4 p.m. the second and fourth Sundays of the month.



Anderson Township History Room at Anderson Center



## COVID and Government Operations: The Focus Was to Keep Things Normal

To say the events of the last 15 months have been unprecedented would be an understatement. The pandemic has impacted each of you, our community and the world in ways that will have lasting effects. Through this process, your township government has done its best to maintain “business as normal,” while planning for the future. As we prepare for what lies ahead, we take a moment to review 2020.

### Administration/Fiscal Office

- Anderson Center remained open and staffed to address in-person requests for assistance.
- With the exception of March 2020, public commentary continued during virtual meetings of the Board of Township Trustees.
- Anderson Township staff members continued their response to citizen requests for information, on-site meetings, etc. in a timely manner and maintained an active social media and phone presence.

### Planning and Zoning

- Continued planning and work on Kellogg Gateway Study and Community Art Plan.
- Received online commentary from more than 800 people and ultimately adopted Clough Improvement Plan, with initial implementation underway.
- Initiated five-year Comprehensive Plan update, and recently engaged more than 1,300 stakeholders with virtual public commentary opportunities.
- Continued progress on numerous bike trail projects, including the Ohio River Trail from Salem to Sutton, and the Little Miami River Trail bridge connection across the Beechmont Levee.
- Organized the Great American Cleanup, with more than 65 volunteers and provided supplies for informal cleanups.
- Citizen committees shifted to virtual meetings throughout COVID, including public hearings before the Board of Zoning Appeals or Zoning Commission, with public opportunity for commentary.

- The 2020 Garden and History Tour and History to Schools programs were offered as an online experience through videos.
- The History to Schools annual program distributed 600 tree seedlings to students in 2021.
- More than 600 zoning certificates were processed in 2020, an 11 percent increase from 2019, and code enforcement continued with COVID safety precautions.
- More than 60 trees were planted through the annual fall planting program.
- Planning began for an arboretum at the Anderson Township Heritage Center in 2020 and this center was recently certified.

### Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

- The Sheriff's Office continued service throughout COVID, responding to almost 14,500 dispatches, with changes in procedures including handling some public interaction via telephone or modified for safety.
- Officers continued to serve the public and be responsive to the township's needs, continuing an active community policing model of civic engagement and responsiveness.



The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office conducted Drug Take Back Day.

### Township Facilities

- Events continued with weddings and memorial services throughout the pandemic, consistent with state guidelines. Anderson Center remained open (except for holidays) every day since March 2020.



Weddings continued at Anderson Center, with restrictions in place.

- When event restrictions were eased, smaller events returned, with Anderson Township providing larger rooms and extra space to clients at no additional cost, to allow for safer events with social distancing.
- Many civic groups started utilizing Anderson Center for meetings, when their previous options were not available due to safety concerns. The outdoor space at the Heritage Center was encouraged for use, weather permitting.
- Anderson Township Events remained flexible, working with clients to adjust, move or cancel more than 350 events, in order to accommodate the public in whatever ways were possible at the time.
- Facilities staff worked to quickly complete upgrades to Anderson Center meeting spaces, such as new flooring and room partitions, when daily use of these spaces was suspended.



Anderson Center was used as a vaccination clinic during COVID-19.

- The Anderson RecPlex, purchased by Anderson Township in 2019, was completely remodeled in early 2020, coinciding with state orders limiting the Anderson Park District's operation of the facility.



The Anderson Township RecPlex was remodeled in 2020.

### Fire and Rescue

- Extensive safety plans and potential contingent alternatives, as well as operational procedures, were developed, followed and adjusted since March 2020.
- Workable safe response procedures were created and modified as new guidelines and information became available.
- Anderson Township Fire and Rescue continued response to more than 5,149 calls for service without any changes in emergency responses.

### Public Works

- Crews maintained their normal schedule, riding in separate vehicles last year, and resolved more than 240 requests for work/repairs from March through the end of 2020, and in excess of 140 in 2021 (through May).
- Curb work was managed on 14 streets in 2020, and in 2021 resurfacing or pavement sealing has occurred on nearly 40 streets.



Road crews continued their daily tasks during COVID.

### Anderson Township Senior Center

- Senior Center services quickly shifted to a virtual format during initial months of COVID, with staff and volunteers working to connect members to exercise, art and discussion groups.
- The center was one of the first in Greater Cincinnati to reopen in November 2020 to in-person services. Staff and volunteers offered well-being phone calls to members.



Exercise classes continued with restrictions.



Anderson Garden and History Tour



# Emergency Care: First Responders Work to Improve Cardiac Arrest Outcomes

**Department emphasizing bystander intervention and improved procedures.**

Nearly once a week, the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department responds to an individual in cardiac arrest. As a leading cause of death in the United States, a victim's chances of survival improve when they immediately receive CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) from someone nearby.

In recent years the department has taken a deep dive into many factors surrounding cardiac arrest management, creating a multi-faceted approach to increase a victim's likelihood of survival. This includes measuring performance, community involvement, adding defibrillators to Hamilton County Sheriff's Office deputies' cars, and examining department operations.

"We realize there are numerous factors that impact the outcome of a cardiac arrest," noted Battalion Chief Chris Kasperczyk. "We want to use the information to make a difference with factors we can control," he said.

Kasperczyk said the department now measures its outcomes through the CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival) program. "We can't improve what we don't measure, so we had to establish a baseline to provide direction. This registry will push us to constantly improve our performance," he said.

CARES is a community network which provides a data-driven process that leads to improvements. It can track Anderson's performance related to other departments.

Increasing bystander knowledge of CPR is another goal of the CARES program. Besides restarting the department's CPR class program this July, a series of pop-up classes explaining the "Hands-Only CPR" method is planned.

"The goal of the pop-up site is to demonstrate how simple it is to make a difference in someone's life and to make people comfortable with doing chest compressions," Kasperczyk said.

"About 70 percent of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests happen in homes," noted Chief Rick Martin. "That is why it is vital for family members to learn CPR to potentially make a difference for someone you love."

"Hands-Only CPR can be learned quickly and uses musical examples that help people remember the correct compression rate when trained to the beat of a familiar song," he added.

Kasperczyk said a recent example of bystander intervention made a difference in a stranger's life. The bystander, who was CPR-certified for 20 years, provided chest compressions at a park until EMS crews arrived.

Kasperczyk said Anderson's paramedics now have more defined roles during such an event. "The care that we provide on the scene is similar to the care a cardiac arrest patient would receive in the ER," he said. "We have made great strides for these patients."



## Return of First Aid Classes Includes New Option

The Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department resumed offering its in-person monthly classes on first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in July.

In addition to the traditional courses hosted at the township's fire stations, the department will teach a new blended learning option known as HeartCode. HeartCode allows online instruction with an in-person hand-on skills exam at the end of the program.

Check out the class scheduled at [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov), key words: fire and rescue CPR.

## Consider Anderson Township Venues for Your Next Event

**Anderson offers many amenities for residents and visitors – superior services, quality schools and premier parks.**

Within the township's government buildings are many wonderful event spaces. If you are seeking a venue for a special event, large or small, consider Anderson Center Events.

The Anderson Township Heritage Center at the corner of Forest and Eight Mile offers indoor seating for up to 45 people in a charming house. At the Heritage Center, larger events are perfect outside on the patio or under a rental tent for additional room. The newly certified Level 1 Arboretum provides an inviting backdrop for events.

Anderson Center, on Five Mile Road, offers multiple rooms for rent within the building. The recently reopened theater includes seating for 223 people, along with a full sound and lighting system ready for your performance or business meeting. The Community Meeting Room serves as a banquet room and can be subdivided into three smaller spaces for intimate gatherings or break out rooms. It also can be connected as one large space for events up to 150 guests.

Two smaller rooms at Anderson Center, the Large Conference Room and the Lower Level Meeting Room, are available for rent for meetings and seminars. These two rooms are available for free for Anderson area non-profits up to 12 times per year.

Lower and Upper Anderson Center Atriums can be rented as well as the South Plaza for unique venues, conveniently located, with easy parking and access.

When you are ready to host an event, these venues are available and close to home. Anderson Center Events offers a variety of rooms to fit everything from small meetings to weddings.

For more information, visit [AndersonCenterEvents.org](http://AndersonCenterEvents.org) or contact Jennifer Sanders, events coordinator, at [jsanders@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:jsanders@AndersonTownshipOH.gov) or 688-8444.



Anderson Center



Anderson Township Heritage Center

### Board of Township Trustees BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME YOUR CALLS!



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# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## Oil Painted Cutouts Inspire, Delight Senior Center Artists

Retired professional billboard artist and commercial sign painter Frank Huguelet has tackled many projects in his 30-year professional career painting movie stars and television personalities.

Now during a different stage of life, the 70-year-old inspires and encourages fellow artists who take part in painting classes at the Anderson Township Senior Center. Recently, the retired artist took on a new challenge- creating oil paint cutout replicas of his fellow painters who normally attend an oil and watercolor painting class with him each week.

After painting a cheerful WELCOME BACK sign for the center once COVID-related restrictions were eased, Huguelet started recreating images of fellow painters on plywood, using oil paint and his knowledge of each person. Working from poses chosen by the artists who sent him their photos, each painter was then carefully depicted with professional style and care.

Some artists chose to include paintbrushes and paper as props. Others provided a photo that definitely hints of a little attitude. And props or no props, the artists report something of their own character was transmitted through the final paintings created by Huguelet.

Senior center activities manager Claire O'Connell joked that Huguelet "missed his friends so much (during COVID) that he made them out of wood."

Artist Marilyn Bishop said she appreciates the way the senior center has mounted the paintings on the soffits above the large room of artists. "I call the display, 'The Watercolor Angels.'"



Through both Zoom classes and in-person meetings, painters have enjoyed a space where they can ask fellow painters questions and solicit advice on their artwork, said Nancy Anderson. "This is a very cooperative group... a very good group for advice and suggestions," she said.

Benefits of receiving advice on painting have definitely only been part of the positives experienced by painters, said painter Verna Akin. The group has become a "refuge" for many, some who are providing caretaking for an elderly relative or spouse, even while they themselves are in their advanced years.

"This group saved me," said Juanita Benik. In some months during COVID, life was very bleak and she said, "I came here, and they made me feel at home. I really love the people."

Said Huguelet of the project, "It's nice to paint people you know. I thank each one of them for having the courage to allow me to paint their portrait."

Anderson's Senior Center, 7970 Beechmont Ave., resumed in-person operation in the fall, after providing services digitally since the beginning of the COVID pandemic. Currently the center is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and offers some classes and experiences online as well.



Members of a painting class offered at Anderson Township Senior Center were depicted on plywood by a senior center member.

## A Fair of the Arts Is Back

The Anderson Park District hosts its 20th annual A Fair of the Arts on Saturday, Sept. 18. Visitors enjoy original works of art such as fine jewelry, stained glass, paintings and pottery at Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road.

Changes for 2021 include an evening event time, 4-8 p.m., to feature a concert that complements the art fair. Performers include Clark Jenkins at 4 p.m. and Anna & the Deeper Well at 5:30 p.m. Admission is free. Visit [AndersonParks.com](http://AndersonParks.com) for additional event details. A complete artist list is posted on the website.



## Library Sports 'Refreshed' Look With Summer Makeover



An updated children's area offers a welcoming entryway.

Thanks to the recommendations of more than 3,000 people during community engagement sessions in 2019, the Anderson Branch Library has been renovated inside to better serve customers.

After closing temporarily in mid-April, the interior of the branch received updates to its carpet, paint, furniture, shelving, bathrooms and more. The drive-thru remained open during construction to serve customers until the branch reopened for inside service June 16.

The upgraded children's area includes a walk-in playhouse, a stationary STEM car for learning parts of an engine, new display units, brightly decorated shelving units, open seating and a section of carpet that looks like a roadway, complementing the playhouse and car.

Take a look at the new marketplace for many high-demand items for adults, including new arrivals, Lucky Day books, movies, holds, as well as music. More quiet spaces for study, reading and small meetings

have been added. An adult quiet reading room sponsored by the Anderson Township Library Association has also been fashioned and is home to the library association collection. That collection includes books with a focus on art, history and culture. The area includes comfortable seating and is now home to the library association's periodical collection. Soon, a cozy fireplace will be installed.

In addition to the Quiet Reading Room, two new study rooms have been added. The reservable spaces are near the new teen area and study pod. The teen area is now spacious with more comfortable seating and computers. Soon, there will be a television that can be used for teen programs.

Come see the changes or view them view them online at [CincinnatiLibrary.org/Next-Generation/Anderson](http://CincinnatiLibrary.org/Next-Generation/Anderson).





# NEWS & NOTES

## Hucker, Downs Retire from Fiscal Office



Debbie Hucker

Debbie Hucker and Nancy Downs have retired from the fiscal office.

Hucker served as fiscal officer manager. She started part time as a data entry clerk with Anderson Township in 1991 and moved to fulltime in 1997 as assistant to the fiscal officer. Her role as fiscal office manager started in 2015.

Under her tenure the fiscal office upgraded from manual recording to a new BUCS system undertaken in 1996. Anderson Township's budget in 1991 was \$13 million; today the budget is \$52 million.

During her years in the fiscal office, the township grew from 57 full and part-time employees to 119 full and part-time employees.

Nancy Downs, the assistant fiscal office manager, has retired after 24 years. She started part time in 1997 and then went fulltime in 2001 as senior accounting clerk.

"Nancy has been instrumental in converting an accounts payable check process to online payments for many vendors. This has been more time efficient and less costly for the township," noted Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz.

"Each year the township has earned great state audits, from the start to its present audit with no findings," noted Dietz. "This was the result of two outstanding fiscal office employees working together with administration and department heads."

## Cpl. Wolf Named as School Resource Officer



Ryan Wolf

Corporal Ryan Wolf, a graduate of Anderson High School, is the new school resource officer for the Forest Hills School District.

Wolf started with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office in July of 2004. Although stationed in other parts of the area, he also has worked in Anderson Township quite extensively during his tenure. He attended Maddux Elementary School and is a 1998 Anderson graduate.

He fills the position previously held by school resource Officer Bob Goettke. Anderson Township fully funds the school resource officer position.

## Thomas Retires After 20 Years



Spencer Thomas

Firefighter-paramedic Spencer Thomas retired from the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department after a 20-year career. He earned his EMT in 1991 and was hired fulltime to the department in 2001 after working with Union Township Fire and Rescue for several years.

In addition to emergency care, Thomas earned his LPN from Cincinnati State and was a certified hazmat technician. He also served as one of Anderson's leading fire investigators and he earned certification as a fire safety inspector, CPR instructor, juvenile fire setter interventionist and obtained advanced training in Critical Incident Stress Debriefing.

"Spencer Thomas's file is full of accolades and 'thank-you' notes from countless individuals who he helped over the years, many noting his calming and reassuring approach to their situation," said Fire Chief Rick Martin.

## Three Join Fire and Rescue Department

Three firefighter-paramedics have been hired for fulltime work in the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department. They are Ryan Merrill, Mark Holmes and Logan Howell.



New recruits Ryan Merrill, Mark Holmes and Logan Howell

## Baker to Lead Fiscal Office Staff



Jennifer Baker

Jennifer Baker has been named as the new Fiscal Office manager, replacing Debbie Hucker who retired this month.

Baker comes to the Anderson Township Fiscal Office role from 22 years in governmental auditing with the Ohio Auditor of State's Office. She was previously the audit manager for the state office for the past four years.

## Moxley Now Fulltime Fiscal Office Assistant



Michelle Moxley

Michelle Moxley, previously a part-time fiscal office assistant for Anderson Township's Fiscal Office, has transitioned to full-time. She has worked for Anderson Township in the Fiscal Office since 2019 working on payroll, accounts payable and receivable and purchase orders. She started her new position in July after Nancy Downs retired.

## Mental Fitness: A Discussion

The Anderson Township Mental Health Collaborative presents a seminar on identifying factors in mental wellness at its next meeting set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14. Meetings are hosted at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.

Psychotherapist Leann Barkman discusses core areas of mental wellness and priorities. Barkman has more than 17 years of experience in clinical social work. She has extensive experience working in inpatient, outpatient, residential, emergency psychiatry, community mental health and forensic settings.

The event is part of the group's Mental Wellness Speaker Series.

## Help Wanted: Building Attendants

Anderson Township is hiring for building attendants for Anderson Center. Building attendants will set up and break down tables and chairs, perform light janitorial duties and assist renters and event attendees. For all details, go to [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov).

## Take Senior Center Survey

The Anderson Township Senior Center wants to hear from you!

Share your knowledge and interest in the center via a brief online survey. Your response will help the senior center plan programming and gauge interest in this community organization. The center has been operated by Anderson Township since 2016.

Go to [www.AndersonTownshipOH.gov/senior-center](http://www.AndersonTownshipOH.gov/senior-center) to access the survey.

## Tree Canopy Promoted Through Annual Fall Tree Planting Program

Since its inception in 2009, Anderson Township's tree planting program has planted more than 700 trees in township front yards. The citizen-led Tree Committee begins this work again in the fall, the best season to plant trees.

The benefits of trees are many and are well-researched. Trees enhance the environment by using their leaves to filter the air by removing dust and other particles. Deciduous shade trees cool homes in the summer and allow the winter sun to heat homes when they lose their leaves.

Tree roots absorb rainwater and allow it to evaporate back into the atmosphere through tree leaves. This action mitigates flash floods and water drainage issues for communities. Additionally, trees add beauty and help people feel serene and more tranquil; and their presence can reduce stress and fatigue.

*"To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, to live as a people, we must have trees." Teddy Roosevelt*

Trees also increase wildlife habitat. In the Midwest, trees are an essential part of the natural ecosystem and covered much of Ohio when it was first settled.

From another perspective, trees have a financial benefit as they increase your home's street appeal and home value.

Property owners whose street was part of the township's Street Rehab Program in 2021 are eligible to participate in the program. If your street was rehabbed this year, a letter will be sent at the end of August with tree installations scheduled for December.

Property owners commit to water the trees; water bags also will be provided.

Anderson Township is proud of its trees, parks and Greenspace that make it a more livable community. Anderson's tree planting program is one way to maintain the important role that trees play in our community. There is an old saying, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second-best time is now."

*-The Anderson Township Tree Committee*



Annual trustee tree planting in May



# Little Miami Trails Pieces Falling into Place

**After two decades, key connection between Little Miami-Ohio River bike-hike trails coming soon.**

Step by step, piece by piece, the Little Miami Scenic Trail and Ohio River Trail have come together, with the final piece soon taking shape. Once completed, Anderson Township will sit at the intersection of these popular trail networks.

However simple it seems now, as the last .6 mile link over the Little Miami River started construction this summer, the planning and coordinated effort put into this comprehensive regional trails has spanned some 20 years. It has also involved integrated efforts with state, regional and local officials in government, park systems and non-profit trails advocacy organizations.

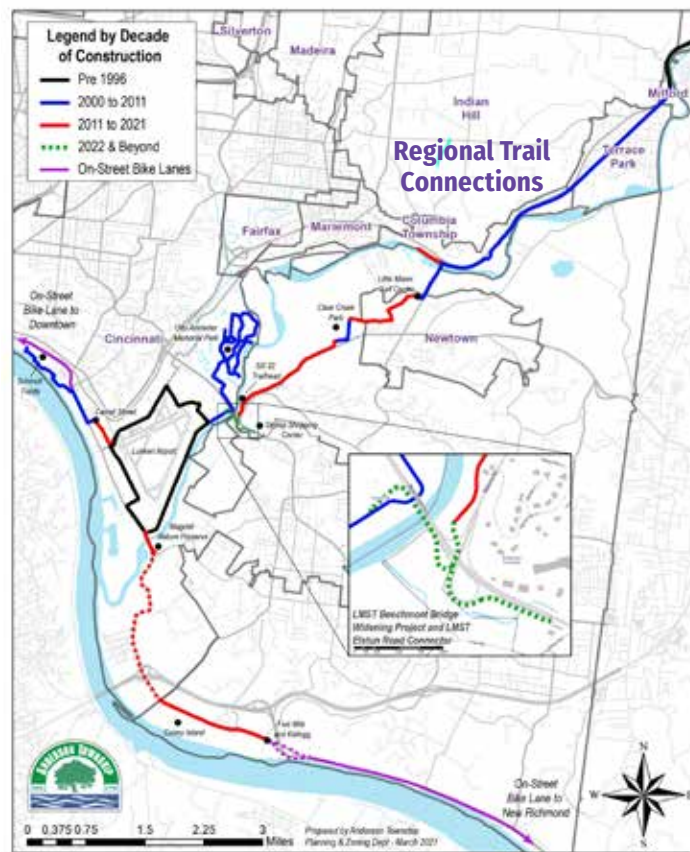
“This effort to connect our extensive Anderson Trails network with regional links has transcended all political boundaries,” said Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations. “Our cumulative efforts have been a unifying project, working with ODOT (Ohio Department of Transportation), park districts, villages, cities and townships,” he said.

“One by one, we all completed our pieces. And the sum of this effort is a jewel for our region, a continuous nearly 80-mile trail network along the Little Miami and Ohio rivers,” Sievers noted.

“This trail system has been built with the vision and strategic planning of public and private trail supporters,” said Great Parks of Hamilton County CEO Todd Palmetier. “While some wondered if it would ever become a reality on the ground, we are glad to report that hundreds of thousands in southwest Ohio will soon have nearby access to these key regional trail spines,” he added.

As the pedestrian bridge over the Little Miami and a tunnel under the SR 32 westbound ramp is completed by fall 2022, a connection to downtown Cincinnati will be created.

“Anderson Township has been an advocate and helped fund several of these key connections, and is proud to help bring these segments online,” noted Trustee Chair Josh Gerth. “All trails lead to Anderson, some may say,” added Gerth, “and with this key link, we’re thrilled to have this amenity along miles of our riverfronts for the benefit of our residents and the region. It is one of the best examples of government collaboration out there.”



## New Bike Repair Station on Ohio River Trail Assists Riders

Whoops-your bike tire is looking kind of low there! No need to worry if you are riding along the Ohio River Trail on Kellogg Avenue, though. Anderson Township recently installed a bike repair station to assist you in your hour of need.



Now stationed in one location the new bike repair (or “bike-fix-it”) station will provide a stand to hold your bike, along with the tools essential for basic bicycle maintenance, including a tire pump and repair devices. The tools (hex key set, tire levers, Philips head/standard

screwdrivers, headset/pedal wrenches, etc.) are secured to the stand via retractable steel cables so they don’t get lost and also for ease of use.

The repair station grew out of an idea generated by the township’s volunteer WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee. It was installed this spring at the Ohio River Trailhead across from Belterra Park Cincinnati.

“We partnered with Tri-State Trails to install the new repair station in Anderson’s Entertainment District, as we anticipate increased ridership on the Ohio River Trail after the Salem Avenue to Sutton Road segment is completed later this summer,” noted Brad Bowers, planner.

“Coordinated planning efforts have led to more than 20 miles of dedicated bike lanes and shared-use trail facilities along the Ohio River, stretching from New Richmond to Downtown Cincinnati with completion of the new link this summer. The bike repair station will complement this extensive buildout of the Ohio River Trail network,” Bowers said.

# Completed Projects Changing Face of Anderson Township

## Completed New Construction/Tenants:

- Pappas Seafood and Spirits - 7500 Beechmont Ave., Anderson Towne Center
- Wonderland Playground - 8253 Beechmont Ave.
- Stonegate Phase 3 - 7911 Stonegate Drive

## New Building Tenants/Expansions Under Construction:

- Pure Barre - 7494 Beechmont Ave., Anderson Towne Center
- OrthoCincy - 7735 Beechmont Ave.
- VIP Wireless & Smoke Shop - 8080 Beechmont Avenue
- Cabo Taco - 7625 Beechmont, former Izzy’s
- Gloss Salon - 7231 Beechmont Ave.
- Buff City Soap - 7414 Beechmont Ave., Anderson Towne Center
- Stellar Street Eats - 6663 Salem Road
- Fine Wine and Spirits - 8435 Beechmont Ave.
- Inspiring Kind Bakery - 8006 Beechmont Ave., former ERA Realty
- Simply Power Yoga - 7745 Five Mile, Five Mile Center



Buff City Soap



Pappas Seafood and Spirits



Gloss Salon



Stonegate Apartments - Phase 3



# Independence Day Parade



Winning parade photo from Barb Benkert



Photo by Jessica Cunningham



Photo by Ashleigh Shepka



# Garden Tour



# Great American Cleanup





## Great Parks: Change Coming as Master Plans Finalized

**Upgrades suggested for Withrow Nature Preserve, Little Miami Golf Center and Woodland Mound Park include improvements to trails, education center.**

Great Parks wraps up its two-year project to complete its Park and Facility Master Plans this summer. The project follows through on a commitment to plan for the future of every park. Through a collaborative process, Great Parks engaged the public in creating plans that build on the goals and priorities outlined in its Comprehensive Master Plan and specify improvements for enhancing experiences in every park.

Building on community commentary received during the development of its first Comprehensive Master Plan in 2019, Great Parks engaged with more than 2,200 county residents, park visitors and stakeholder groups between June 2019 and September 2020.

Feedback was gathered through a combination of in-person and virtual meetings and online surveys. These opportunities for public comment were promoted through signs in Great Parks, as well as signs, posters and sidewalk stickers at libraries, rec centers, bus stops and other gathering places throughout the county.

Four main themes emerged: conservation projects, more trails and adventure, refreshed harbors and experiences, and new nature, education and event centers. These overarching themes are expressed in specific improvements and recommendations that will enhance

the current park user's experience and will attract new visitors to the parks.

For eastside parks, plans include improvements to trails, tree canopy and stormwater management at Withrow Nature Preserve. Plans for Woodland Mound include new trails and tree canopy, improved disc golf, enhanced play areas, mature woodland management, and a new nature and education center. At the Little Miami Golf Center, possible upgrades include conservation projects, improved river access and enhanced trails. Great Parks will continue its work with community members and stakeholder groups including Anderson Township and Anderson Park District, as plans are unfolding.

Draft plans presented in spring 2021 were met with favorable feedback, according to Becky Osinski, regional planning coordinator, with the master plan scheduled to be finalized this summer.

Park and Facility Master Plans illustrate general park enhancement concepts, and all projects will require further exploration, community comment and planning, she said. Implementation of these enhancements is subject to available funding balanced with other Great Parks' priorities. To learn more and sign up for project updates, visit [mygreatparks.com](http://mygreatparks.com).



Conceptual plans for Woodland Mound Park

## Cleanup Almost Complete at Anderson Lake on Five Mile

Cleanup work on Anderson Lake at Anderson Center is almost finished. The project removed sediment deposited over the last 14 years since the lake was constructed. This process will help restore the lake's stormwater holding capacity.

The cleanup project was targeted for completion in early October, but work progressed quicker than expected.

Anderson Lake is an important part of the township's plan to mitigate downstream flooding and overflow of sanitary sewage into Clough Creek. It holds thousands of gallons of water during storm events.

For more information visit [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) and search for lake cleanup.





## Township Working ‘In Concert with Nature’

Anderson is working in concert with nature to protect its tree canopy and create beautiful spaces where green things thrive.

A quick trip down Five Mile Road reveals the most visible recent project - the 225<sup>th</sup> Heritage Tree Grove. Created during the township’s 2018 celebration of its 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the tender tree grove along the Five Mile Trail and Five Mile Road reflects native tree species historically populating Anderson Township.

At Anderson Center, also on Five Mile Road, a small open space was transformed into a buckeye grove several years ago. The area honors a longtime supporter of Anderson Township’s Greenspace program, Fred Kiel. The Fred Kiel Memorial Buckeye Grove now blooms at the end of the Anderson Center parking lot and offers a quiet place for reflection and relaxation.

One of the earliest township projects supporting the tree canopy involves reforestation of the Five Mile Trail soon after it opened. Paul Hemmer Companies, through the Freedom Tree program, planted 40

young hardwood trees at the beginning of the trail by the Anderson Branch Library. Now more than a decade old, the trees provide an appreciated buffer from the road.

The most current project involves a newly certified arboretum hosted at the Anderson Township Heritage Center on Eight Mile Road. This neighborhood oasis sports a wide variety of trees, shrubs and flowers labelled in an official collection. Visit the arboretum and learn more about this collection at 890 Eight Mile Road.

Anderson’s own fall street tree planting program has planted 741 trees in the past 11 years, contributing greatly to the benefits of trees in neighborhoods.

Additionally, the organization Trees in Gratitude has donated trees for many locations in the township including the Heritage Center Arboretum, three Greenspace properties and three cemeteries. Their work added a total of more than 110 trees to the canopy just on these Anderson Township properties, plus some donated to parks and other locations.



225<sup>th</sup> Heritage Tree Grove



Fred Kiel Memorial Buckeye Grove

## Creating Beauty: Anderson Steps Up by Developing Art Plan

Love art and want to see more of it in public areas of our community? Anderson residents are engaged in creating the township’s first art master plan, a document to guide the township as it incorporates visual art into community spaces.

Over the last several months, the WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee has worked with consultant Designing Local to learn what kinds of art township residents want to see. Two public engagement sessions were hosted in July that provided feedback on how to incorporate visual art in public spaces.

According to Sarah Donovan, planner, the township and committee now will formulate the guiding policy for public art, determine funding opportunities, as well as consider potential projects for the community.

“This is a unique planning process,” said Dee Stone, trustee vice chair. “We are looking at the township from a different scope and envisioning creative ways to incorporate art in everything we do, from bike racks to sculptures and artwork. We’re even considering sidewalks as an artistic element.”



Donovan noted that the Art Plan and the Comprehensive Plan update are running concurrently to incorporate possible ideas into the Comprehensive Plan, they decided to launch this initial public art plan. In fact, Anderson is the only township in Hamilton County to create an art plan, she said, leading the way in government planning.

Your voice can still be heard on the Art Plan. The survey is open until August 31 at [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov); search for “art plan.”

## Recycling, Reuse Hub Opens to Find Homes for ‘Untraditional’ Items

Looking for a home for extra art supplies, medical products, eyeglasses, Styrofoam, plastics and more? Cincinnati has a new option for items like these that cannot be recycled in conventional recycling programs.

The Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub hopes to revolutionize how people think about “things” and to provide a place where almost anything can be recycled or reused.



The big picture idea involves collecting items and then finding new homes for these things. “We donate items for reuse to over two dozen local and national nonprofits, helping them better serve their constituents,” said Colleen McSwiggin, managing director and

recycler -in-chief of the center. “By collecting and sending materials for recycling and reuse, we help increase the landfill diversion rate for our region and decrease the effects of climate change.”

Habitat for Humanity, ministries, organizations that distribute school supplies and bookstores all benefit from the products that are donated.

At this hub on 911 Evans Street, volunteers sort construction materials, games, metal pieces, home and beauty products and much more. All these products can be recycled for free. For a nominal fee, the organization also recycles other items like electronics.

For more information about the non-profit organization, go to [cincinnati recycling and reuse hub.org](http://cincinnati recycling and reuse hub.org) or call 538-3798.



## New Recycling Bins Coming Soon

Anderson’s faithful recyclers know that community enthusiasm for recycling sometimes “spills over” at the 24/7 Anderson Township Recycling Center on Beechmont Avenue.

To solve the problem and following similar success with recycling bins in other areas, Rumpke will soon trade out the old recycling bins for new ones. One set of bins will be marked “Cardboard Only.” Other single-stream recycling bins will use smaller openings, helping to control what is placed in the bins. “The hope is these new containers will alleviate people placing unrecyclable items in the bins, which often prohibits recycling of the contaminated material and costs taxpayers’ money,” said Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone.

Approved uses for each bin are listed on the outside of the containers. Place items in the recycling containers loose, not inside of a plastic bag. Plastic bags hinder the recycling equipment and contaminate the recycled materials.

This almost 20-year service is a taxpayer-funded amenity supplemented by recycling funds from Hamilton County. Today, Anderson operates the largest recycling facility in southwest Ohio, collecting more than 362 tons of material each year.

## RECYCLING CENTER NEEDS YOUR HELP TO STAY OPEN!



Bring only recyclable items to the center. Use your residential trash service for non-recyclable materials including electronics, tires, furniture, Styrofoam or other debris.



Break down cardboard boxes to create more space for fellow recyclers to use the bins.



Place recyclable items in bins without the use of plastic bags. If you bring your items to the center in a plastic bag, place loose items inside the Rumpke bins and recycle your plastic bag where accepted or dispose of it with your trash service.



Hold those recyclables for your next trip if the bins are full. Items left next to the bins will not be picked up by Rumpke and ultimately may restrict Rumpke from servicing the full container.



## Ride and THRIVE! Family Bike Ride Event Planned in October

Learn about bike safety and enjoy riding Anderson's bike trails during a new family-friendly fall event.

The Ride and THRIVE! bike ride is scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 2. It kicks off from the pickleball courts at Clear Creek Park and continues about 1.75 miles along the Little Miami Scenic Trail and back, totaling approximately 3.5 miles round trip. Riders of all ages are encouraged to attend.

Ride and THRIVE! is sponsored by Anderson's WeTHRIVE! Committee. The event will promote bike safety, teach children about hand signals and trail etiquette, and also will feature historical sites along the Little Miami River.

Child-size helmets will be given away to the first 40 children at the event through a grant with the Ohio Chapter of the American Pediatrics Society's "Put a Lid on It" Program.

"We are so excited to host this event in conjunction with Great Parks of Hamilton County and the Anderson Township Park District," said Sarah Donovan, planner. "A community bike ride event has been an



initiative of the WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee since 2019 and the committee is thrilled to host the event in October."

One goal of organizers is to remind participants about Anderson's extensive trail network. "The ride will also showcase the new Little Miami Scenic Trail extension known as the 'Beechmont Connector,' which is currently under construction," said Brad Bowers, planner. Between designated bike trails and on-street bike lanes, Anderson Township is home to more than 20 miles in bicycle paths and sidewalks built since the late 1990s.

For more information go to [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov).

## Fall Fun Planned for Emergency Services Day

Safety comes first this year, at a family-friendly Emergency Services Day where children can play and explore props and equipment at the Beechmont Fire Station.

Save the date for the annual event (cancelled last year), now returning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23. Both the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and Anderson Township Fire and Rescue will be on hand with equipment and personnel, to answer questions and educate.

Several new events are planned for the day, including a visit by the University Hospital Mobile Stroke Unit and from Goldfish Swim School, teaching water safety. Also, information about a course focused on learning how to do CPR in 10 minutes will be offered through University Hospital.

Firefighter/paramedic Doug Eagan said the department is using the day to kick off the third annual Stuff the Medic Unit Toy Drive and will be ready to accept toy donations benefitting Interparish Ministries for its holiday drive.

"After being absent last year, both the township fire and rescue team and the sheriff's office are excited to get back to our annual Emergency Services Day, which is where we have the most interaction with our community," Eagan said.

### Things to do this year include opportunities to:

- Check out vehicles from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.
- Use a fire extinguisher simulator.
- Roll out in real fire gear for a photo shoot.
- Get your picture taken with Lt. Big Ben, the fire department mascot.
- Climb on water rescue boat, a ladder truck, a fire engine and go inside an ambulance.
- Learn about what a smoke alarm sounds like and what to do when you hear one. Explore the Fire Safety House.
- Spray water from a fire hose and knock down a pretend fire in windows of the Flame House.
- Meet Deputy Brian Hayes, the township's crime prevention officer and learn about community policing programs in Anderson Township.

## Dinner, Entertainment Highlight of Veterans Day Event

The Patriot Center in Anderson Township once again is the place to be for a special free Veterans Day Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 11.

Sponsored by the Anderson Township Veterans Memorial Committee, the evening includes a complimentary dinner for veterans, a cash bar and a live performance. The center hosting the even is at 6660 Clough Pike, a venue owned and operated by Post 318 of the American Legion.



The dinner is open to Anderson Township veterans who may bring one other attendee for free. Reservations are first-come, first-served up to 200 attendees.

A cash bar is open between 5 and 6 p.m., with dinner served at 6 p.m. Entertainment follows the dinner. Reservations are requested by calling Anderson Township at 688-8400 ext. 8444.

## CONNECT

### AUGUST

#### Performing Arts, Inc. - *Shrek the Musical*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Seussical Kids Show*

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

AUG. 9-15

Check [performingartsinc.net](http://performingartsinc.net) for performance details.

Tickets: \$10 at [pai.seatyourself.biz](http://pai.seatyourself.biz)

#### Twelve Angry Men - Merit Theatre Company

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

FRIDAY, AUG. 27, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, AUG. 28, 2 P.M. AND 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, AUG. 29, 3 P.M.

WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY, SEPT. 1- 3, 7:30 P.M.

Tickets: [merittheatre.org](http://merittheatre.org)

### SEPTEMBER

#### Mental Health Speaker Series

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road

TUESDAY, SEPT. 14, 6:30 P.M.

Psychotherapist Leann Barkman discusses core areas of mental wellness and priorities. Event is free and open to the public.

Sponsored by Anderson Mental Health Collaborative.

#### HOMEARAMA®

Parkside Estates at Coldstream

SEPTEMBER 18 - OCTOBER 3

Tickets and info: [Cincyhomearama.com](http://Cincyhomearama.com)



### OCTOBER

#### Ride and THRIVE! Bike Ride (family-friendly)

6200 Batavia Road- Pickleball Court on Clear Creek Park

Ride is a 3.5 mile loop

SATURDAY, OCT. 2, 9 A.M.

Free

#### Anderson Township Urban Farm Fall Harvest Festival

Urban Farm- 2550 Bartels Road

SATURDAY, OCT. 16, NOON- 6 P.M.; RAIN DATE OCTOBER 17

\$5 per person or \$10 per family

#### Emergency Services Day (family-friendly)

Beechmont Fire Station, 7954 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, OCT. 23, 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Free



Urban Farm Fall Harvest Festival



Emergency Services Day

### NOVEMBER

#### Veterans Day Dinner

Patriot Center, 6660 Clough Pike

THURSDAY, NOV. 11, OPENS AT 5 P.M.

Free for veterans and a guest.

Reservations: Call Anderson Township at 688-8400, ext. 8444.





## Anderson Insights

the Newsletter of Anderson Township

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Anderson Township, OH 45230

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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  
688-8400

[info@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:info@AndersonTownshipOH.gov)

#### 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  
474-3100

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

#### PUBLISHER

Vicky Earhart

#### EDITORS

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Nancy Caine

## Tech Upgrades Transforming Senior Center

**Obsolete technology to be replaced with brighter screens for older eyes, better sound systems eliminating ancient cassette decks.**

Tech advancements are coming to the Anderson Township Senior Center, ushering in a new era of sorts for the organization. "I'm using the term 'revolutionize' to describe us moving from an old school senior center to an organization that embraces technological advancements that will better serve our members," said Advisory Committee Member Steve Long, who is helping usher in transformative change to the organization.

Once COVID-19 restrictions hit, Long said the center scrambled to adjust some of its services online. The need for new equipment became real during this time, confirming the advisory committee's notion that change was needed.

Thanks to funds supplied by the Ayer Family Trust, \$41,000 recently was used to purchase a quality projection system, enhanced with more effective speakers for two large rooms that are used every day. Projectors will be mounted in the ceiling once the project is completed, making it possible for programs to be streamed into the center, supplying older adults with "great materials that can be accessed via Zoom," Long said.

For example, one program to be accessed via Internet includes a trip to the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, allowing members to feel like they are at the zoo, while another recent program involved an interview up close and personal with former Cincinnati Reds team member Tom Browning.



*Senior Center programs are benefitting from tech upgrades.*

"Using the new system will allow us to bring in talent we could probably not afford to bring into the center," said Claire O'Connell, activities manager.

Long noted that it has been at least 20 years since the center had a significant tech upgrade, except for small projectors. "Some of the equipment looks like the old cassette deck kind of stuff," he said.

The addition of updated projectors, microphones and speakers will significantly enhance the everyday experience of those who attend. "There will be a brighter screen for older eyes and improved quality of sound for the ears," noted Long.

*The Anderson Township Senior Center, 7970 Beechmont Ave., is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. To learn more about programs, classes and membership, go to [AndersonTownshipOH.gov/senior-center](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov/senior-center).*