ANDERSON **INSIGNATION** THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

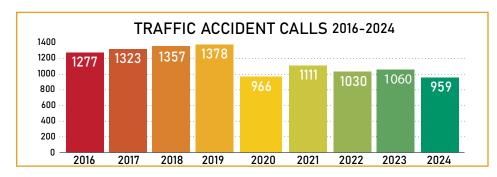
AUGUST 2025

Township Transportation Improvements Paying Off

Longstanding focus on enhancing safety and accessibility on township roadways is proving valuable



The Continuous Flow Intersection at Beechmont Avenue and Five Mile Road under construction in 2017



Decades of transportation improvements in Anderson Township appear to be paying off.

Since the late 1980s, the township has developed and implemented communitywide recommendations to enhance traffic flow and safety for all users.

The benefits have been widespread. A recent statistical analysis of emergency calls to the county's 911 emergency center revealed that dispatch requests for traffic accidents decreased by 25% from 2016 to 2024. "Even with today's concerns regarding increases in distracted driving, this data demonstrates the planning and transportation improvements we have made in Anderson Township are working," said Trustee Chair Lexi Lausten. Traffic accidents are down, with a notable decrease at many major township intersections, she added.

According to data from the Hamilton County Communication Center, there were 1,277 calls made to the county dispatch center in 2016 concerning traffic accidents. Last year, the center received 959 calls.

Perhaps one of the most visible safety and traffic flow projects completed during this period, the Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) at the corners of Beechmont Avenue and Five Mile Road, has reduced the crash rate at that intersection. Every year, the number of accidents is trending downward, from more than 50 accidents per year to about 30 today. The severity of injuries due to the accidents has also dropped, according to information from the Hamilton County Engineer's Office.

Other Traffic Safety Projects Completed since 2000

Eight Mile Road and SR 32 intersection reconfiguration.

Beechmont Avenue traffic signal changes, lane reconfigurations, turn lane additions and continued driveway closures.

Clough Pike enhancements, led by changes in the area near Hunley Road and realignment of the intersection at Wolfangel Road.

Salem Road roadway restriping and completion of sidewalks east of Sutton.

Pedestrian-activated crosswalk flashing light installations at nearly 20 intersections in the township, as well as changes to pedestrian signals.

Construction of more than 25 miles of sidewalks and trails.

Safety improvements around schoolsincluding safety elements that allow children to walk to school in a more protected manner.

INSIDE











TOWNSHIP NEWS

Anderson Center Station Opens Soon for **METRO Riders; Overflow Parking Open Now**



Using the

Park and Ride

and Ride will be open during

For more information, contact

METRO at 513.632.7575 or

METRO's operation hours:

5 a.m. to midnight.

and 81x.

go-metro.com.

METRO bus at Anderson Center Station Park and Ride

The Anderson Center Station Park and Ride is coming back late this fall, relocating to the lowest level of the parking garage at the Vantage at Anderson Towne Center apartment community, with close access to Anderson Center.

METRO, Hills Properties, Anderson Township, and several regional, state and federal transportation agencies collaborated on the transit center's rebirth through a public-private partnership. The lower-level of the garage provides 125 parking spaces, Anderson Center Station Park plus amenities that commuters appreciate: a covered, climate-controlled waiting area, restrooms and Four routes currently serve Anderson Township: 24, 30x, 75x benches, and a water fountain.

More Overflow Parking

Besides the added convenience for bus riders, Anderson Township now enjoys a

much-needed overflow parking option for events at Anderson Center. "This version of Anderson Center Station will be much more convenient and accessible for those enjoying the many theater events or other activities at Anderson Center," Administrator Vicky Earhart said. "The vibrancy brought to the center of our community with the Vantage apartment complex and public parking garage is amazing" she said.

Fiscal Officer Brian Johnson noted that another benefit of this new parking area and waiting area/restroom facility is that it brings online a brand-new facility, constructed with private funds, so it was at no cost to taxpayers.

The previous park and ride facility relocated in late 2022. Since then, METRO riders utilized a temporary parking situation along Towne Center Way in a designated area near AMC Theater, behind the TriHealth offices.

Facility is More Accessible

"Having the township park and ride return with such dramatic upgrades is a win for everyone," said Trustee Chair Lexi Lausten. "The facility is more accessible and comfortable for riders, and helps support the reduction of overall commuting traffic, which is an environmental plus," she added. "Anderson Township has always had a very strong number of METRO customers who utilize the express bus options," Lausten said. "We welcome them back to their new home, the Anderson Center Station, an amazing facility."

Brandy Jones, METRO's chief communication and marketing officer, noted the organization is seeing ridership increases. "The ridership gains we're seeing are a direct result of the community's investment in METRO," said Jones.

"While most systems are cutting service, that support allowed us to reimagine transit in our region, expanding service, increasing reliability, and making it easier for more people to choose METRO," she said.

Share Your Thoughts on Future of Former Beech Acre Site Survey to help shape master plan for the 23-acre recreational parcel



The public survey study area at Beech Acres Park is outlined in red.

What recreational opportunities would you like to see on the site of the former Beech Acres Parenting Center? The Anderson Park District, in conjunction with Anderson Township and the Forest Hills School District, is seeking thoughts from residents on ideas for this site.

The Anderson Park District recently collaborated with Anderson Township and the Forest Hills School District to provide a community engagement study that would address the use of the 17 acres of park property purchased in 2023 by the Anderson Park District, plus six acres around the Anderson Parks RecPlex.

A committee of staff and officials from the park district, Anderson Township and the school district selected Brandstetter Carroll Inc. for this community engagement study "because of their experience and knowledge in this line of work," noted Amy Broghamer, park commissioner. The study is expected to be finalized by early 2026.

Brandstetter Carroll Inc. has created more than 200 park master plans, 300 park designs and 100 park and recreation system



plans. Their project team has extensive experience in public engagement and consensus-building, according to a release from the Anderson Park District.

"The township had a storied history of support for the Anderson Park District; significantly over the last decade," said Josh Gerth, trustee vice chair." This is not about one person's vision or even the Anderson Park District Board of Park Commissioners vision; it's about the community's vision, which is why I have advocated for this process for the last two years."

Gerth noted, "We now have the people in place who also support this initiative and it's a great time for our community to do

To participate in the survey, scan QR code or go to https://bit.ly/beechacres.

something special that represents the majority of our residents and taxpayers."

ETC Institute will develop the survey. The institute specializes in the design and administration of market research for government organizations with an emphasis on citizen satisfaction surveys, park and recreation surveys, focus groups and stakeholder interviews, per the park district release.

"Township trustees were united in their call for a public engagement study so that the residents who own the Beech Acres property have a say in planning for future recreational amenities," noted Township Administrator Vicky Earhart.

"This type of community engagement is consistent with the township's Comprehensive Plan initiative to continue to collaborate with parks and recreation organizations to promote and enhance the community and regional park systems," she added.

For questions or comments about the survey, contact Earhart at vearhart@AndersonTownshipOH.gov or 513.688.8423.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

License Plate Reader Technology Successfully Fighting Local Crime

Anderson to expand its network of Flock cameras in the next few years

The use of license plate reader technology to combat crime in Anderson Township offers the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office personnel what they describe as a highly effective tool for fighting crime.

Since 2022, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office has been utilizing license plate reader technology in Anderson Township, with 16 Flock system cameras now operational along various roadways in Anderson.

Anderson currently pays for 10 cameras, each costing \$3,000 annually, using funds from the 2024 Public Safety levy. The township will cover the cost of additional cameras in the future. The sheriff's office paid for the original six.

Spurred by the impact this technology has had in solving crimes and likely deterring criminal activity, township trustees recently voted to add eight locations this year.

These automatic license plate reader cameras are fixed cameras that provide actionable, objective evidence to prevent and solve crimes, according to Lt. Dave Downing, officer in command of the District 5 substation in Anderson Township. He says the license plate reader program is so helpful that "it is like having multiple officers in the field."

Officers using the system can create a "hot list" of license numbers. Once a camera identifies that number, a notification is sent to an officer's phone.

With the Flock license plate reader system, deputies have found wanted felons or missing persons, located stolen vehicles and identified cars potentially used in retail theft, Downing said. Utilizing an easy-touse format available on officers' in-car computer systems or on a mobile app, the officers say they can quickly familiarize themselves with the system and utilize its capabilities.

The plate reader system is not just reactive in tracing a person suspected of a crime, it is also proactive and investigative in the



Cpl. Matt Alexander employing the Flock camera system

Flock Technology Fast Facts

What's Detected

Vehicle identification of license plates, vehicle make and color, last visit date/time, number of days seen.

What's Not Detected

Facial recognition, people, gender, race.

Prohibited Uses

Data may not be used for immigration enforcement, traffic enforcement, harassment or intimidation, usage based solely on a protected class (i.e., race, sex, religion), or personal use.

undertaking of their job, according to Deputy Jarod McCarty. By employing technology that makes it much easier to locate and apprehend suspects, deputies observe that much of the associated drama and risk, including hazardous pursuits and collisions, can be mitigated.

However, Downing noted that the license plate reader technology also raises concerns about privacy and data collection.

"I am very aware of the checks and balances that must occur in the balance

of privacy and public safety. It's an area in which we need to be extremely careful," he said. Flock cameras have safeguards in place to limit access to law enforcement, he noted.

Local cameras are linked to a larger network of more than 26,000 Flock cameras nationwide, including hundreds in the greater Cincinnati area. If a vehicle was entered into the system in another state, the Flock system could identify that vehicle if it passed a Flock system camera in Anderson Township. Law enforcement would receive a notification as it passed a Flock camera.

Cpl. Matt Alexander said the combination of Flock camera information and good police work has increased the reach of his police agency in doing its job. For example, in Anderson Township, more than 20 stolen vehicles have been recovered since 2023 without incident through the use of the Flock system. Hit-and-run crimes also have become easier to solve once a license plate has been identified via the Flock cameras, he said. In another case, a convicted sex offender with an outstanding warrant was located via assistance from a Flock camera.



What to Know About the **Flock Camera Safety System**

- Cameras only collect objective information from publicly traveled roadways in the county.
- The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office considers jurisdictional boundaries, traffic volume and crime statistics in choosing camera locations.
- Cameras are all plainly visible in the right-of-way along public roads where they are placed; however, the cameras are moved when needed.
- Flock data is encrypted with safeguards in place to limit access to law enforcement.
- The Flock system does not connect to other databases to identify people by name, address or any other personal identifying information.
- Every search must have a legitimate criminal justice purpose and searches can be audited by administrators.
- Collected data is only stored for 30 days in compliance with state and federal laws.

"The majority of these arrests were made because of alerts sent by the Flock system after a vehicle with entered warrants passed a camera. Officers responded to the area immediately and looked for the vehicle in the photograph," Downing noted.

"We really appreciate working in a community that prioritizes public safety and provides the tools necessary to do a good job," Downing said. "The Flock system is one of those tools that has increased our abilities to prevent, intervene and investigate crime in Anderson Township."

While many of the county sheriff's office services remain the same, Anderson reorganized its staffing to include a second crime prevention officer by eliminating the community resource officer position. Both officers will have the same responsibilities, including those formerly assigned to the community resource officer, which will allow for more overlap in duties. Anderson's deputies operate from the District 5 substation on Beechmont Avenue, next to the Beechmont Fire Station, with some specialty officers housed at Anderson Center.

As a new contract element, the township calls for a significant increase in the use of Flock cameras. A Flock camera is a solar-powered license plate reader that connects to a vast network of other Flock cameras, which gather data about the plates that pass through their locations.

County Sheriff's Protection Contract Renewed



Anderson Township has renewed its contract for police protection services with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for the next three years. Under the agreement approved in April, Anderson will pay \$4.9 million this year, a 5.5 % increase over last year. The projected yearly cost in 2028 will rise to \$5.9 million



Police departments use this information to help solve crimes and other entities are prohibited from using it.

Administrator Vicky Earhart said the township needed "flexibility to increase the number of Flock cameras as we determine the need." Currently, the cameras provide

> crime prevention information in 16 locations throughout the township.

The sheriff's office provides community policing 24/7, specialty officers and additional resources when needed. Thirty-six officers are stationed at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 substation. Specialty officers include a drug interdiction officer, two traffic safety officers, two crime prevention

officers, two school resources officers (one of which is paid for by the Forest Hills School District), two power shift patrol officers and a patrol officer clerk.

"The depth of services offered by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, combined with the community policing model that our entities jointly developed over time, benefits our residents and businesses. It is a cost-effective way to deliver outstanding law enforcement services to our community," noted Earhart.



TOWNSHIP NEWS Trustee Planning Meeting Covers Many Topics: Vape Stores, Property Tax Relief and More

This spring's semi-annual planning meeting of Anderson Township Trustees delved into a variety of topics, including property tax relief, plans for the future of the township's Little Miami riverfront property, creation of more community gathering spaces and taxes on Airbnb-style short-term rentals.

Key points from the discussions: **Short-term Rental Fees:**

Anderson has identified approximately 15 township properties that are currently operating as short-term rentals (Airbnb-style). Anderson will now expand a 2006 resolution to allow a 3% "lodging tax" to these and future short-term rental facilities. The previous resolution taxed only hotels.

Small Business Grants or loans

Anderson's trustees have inquired about providing economic tools such as small business grants or loans to local businesses. It was noted that lending was prohibited in the Ohio Constitution, meaning the township could not use taxpayer dollars to provide loans or grants to businesses. However, the state of Ohio and Hamilton County offer various programs that have benefited and continue to support small businesses in Anderson Township.



Old Fort Conceptual Design Proposal Anderson Township is exploring opportunities to develop a passive park along the Little Miami River in the Old Fort area near Clearcreek Park. Possible amenities might include river access, fishing, and picnic shelters, along with vehicular access and a parking area. The board authorized hiring a consultant to develop a plan for this area.



Anderson Center Third Place Anderson's Comprehensive Plan calls for the creation of "Third Places" at both public and private properties. Third Places are spaces outside of home or work where people connect, spend time together, exchange ideas and feel a sense of belonging. Anderson Township is adding additional elements to Anderson Center's south plaza, including new seating options, shade structures and decorative lighting to meet the need for gathering spots. The installation is scheduled for completion later this year.



Stormwater District

Unfortunately, some residential properties near ravines or streams are undergoing property loss because of erosion. Based on changes to Ohio law, staff are exploring the creation of a stormwater district to help properties affected by flooding. This entity would provide up-front financial assistance for mitigation activities that would then be assessed to the benefited properties.

Vape Stores

Residents have been asking trustees to limit vape stores in Anderson Township. The township has no legal authority to restrict the number of vape stores and could face lawsuits if attempts were made to limit the number of these businesses through zoning regulations.

Operations Center Update

Plans are in motion to update the Anderson Operations Center at 7954 Beechmont Ave. The initial proposal involves construction of a new public works garage to replace the 1940-era facility. Fire Station 6, the Sheriff's District 5 substation, the Recycling Center, and the Anderson Senior Center are also located on the Operations Center campus. The Anderson Township Zoning Commission approved a Planned Unit Development for the entire campus through which key services are provided to the whole community.

Hamilton County Engineer Road Resurfacing

Although nearly all higher-traveled roadways are the maintenance responsibility of Hamilton County or the Ohio Department of Transportation,

Top Questions About Anderson Township



How do I report a junk vehicle parked on the street?

If you have questions about junk vehicles or cars parked on the street for an extended period, contact Deputy Jacquelyne Campbell at jcampbell@AndersonTownshipOh.gov.

If a vehicle is legally parked, it cannot be removed unless it meets several criteria related to its condition and time on the street.

Where can I place a temporary sign?

Signs are permitted on private property with the property owner's permission. They must be set back out of the right-of-way, which is

HERE usually 10 feet from the

pavement edge or curb, but the right-of-way can be greater in some areas. It's always best to check with the township's Planning and Zoning Department at 513.688.8400, ext. 3, before placing temporary signs.

Temporary signs cannot be placed on public property or in public rights-of-way, attached to utility poles, or located in places where placing a sign creates a safety hazard. (See page 17.)

Do I need a permit for my home project and how do I apply for one?

Improvements/expansions to a building and outside structures such as sheds, fences,

pools, signs, etc., require a permit. All the details you need can be found by visiting AndersonTownshipOH.gov, and searching key words: "residential zoning certificate," Or call Anderson Township

For building permit information, contact Hamilton County Planning + Development, Inspections division at 513.946.4550.



Planning and Zoning Department with questions at 513.688.8400, press 3.

Where can I learn CPR in Anderson Township?

Anderson offers several options for learning CPR through the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department.

Some classes are taught in person, while others include an online learning option with a final test conducted by CPRcertified instructors.

including first aid. For details on all the classes and location, contact Lisa Farrar at lfarrar@AndersonTownshipOH.gov or 513.688.8620 with questions.

Board of Township Trustees BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME YOUR CALLS!



(W)513.688.8628

llausten@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



IOSHUA S. GERTH Vice Chair (C)513.833.3010 jgerth@AndersonTownshipOH.gov it was noted that the safety and condition of these corridors is paramount. Anderson historically has provided providing funding assistance for the rehabilitation of such roadways. Staff members presented various roadways and options to work cooperatively with these agencies for critical resurfacing and improvement projects.

Legislative Update and Property Tax Relief

Township trustees continue to advocate in Columbus for alternative funding sources that will reduce the property tax burden on township residents. One method involves a host community fee to be paid through an excise tax on adult-use cannabis dispensaries. The Ohio General Assembly has yet to establish a payment mechanism for communities hosting dispensaries.

Trend for Planners Discussion

Anderson's leadership continues to prepare for the future and consider trends in its decisions. A variety of topics were discussed including health, AI, demographics, energy and impact from the state legislature. These trends will shape future township planning efforts.

Other classes are available as well,





R. DEE STONE Trustee (W)513.688.8438 dstone@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



BRIAN M. JOHNSON Fiscal Officer (W)513.688.8425 bjohnson@AndersonTownshipOH.gov

HISTORY NOTES

General Protestant Orphan Home Has Deep Roots in Township

Many township residents will remember the Orphan Feast parade which traveled down Beechmont Avenue



Aerial view of the Orphan Feast, which drew tens of thousands each year to its fall event

The general landscape of Anderson Township has undergone significant changes over the years, and it continues to evolve as community needs shift. A notable example of this is the relocation of the Beech Acres Parenting Center, formerly the General Protestant Orphan Home, to a location closer to the families it serves.



This relocation led to the acquisition of the land by the Anderson Park District. The purchase and demolition of cottages on the site expands the size of Beech Acres Park and will enable the park district to offer additional amenities to township residents.

The orphanage has a fascinating history that dates to 1849, the year of the devastating



cholera epidemic in Cincinnati. In the city alone, 6,000 people died, roughly 5% of the entire population. The German community was especially hard hit, resulting in a high number of orphaned children. In response, the German Protestant Aid Association established the German General Protestant Orphan Society to raise funds to purchase land in Mt. Auburn and build a facility to care for these children. The orphanage opened in 1851 with a significant amount of funding coming from an annual event called the Orphan Feast.

The Orphan Feast became the city's big fall event each year. Residents could plan their attendance in advance because it was always hosted the first Sunday after Labor Day. By the 1940s, the Orphan Feast brought in \$50,000 thanks to the involvement of many vendors, business owners, politicians and well-known citizens. Leadership roles were coveted.

In 1948, the German General Protestant Orphan Home purchased "The Beeches," a 60-acre farm on the boundary of Mt. Washington and Anderson Township. At the site, the children would come to camp for a few weeks each summer, enjoying outdoor activities amid pasture and beech trees.

Board Chair Everett Townsley donated one-third of the purchase price for the new location, which came to be called Beech Acres. The facility consisted of six cottages, each housing 10 to 12 children, and a handsome administration building arranged around a grassy circular lawn. The cottages were age and gender-based and could house up to 16 children. House mothers lived with the children. In 1950, 104 children moved into the new orphanage and attended school in the Forest Hills School District.

Today, the cottages are gone, but the Townsley Administration Building remains. In 1950, the Orphan Feast relocated from Mt. Auburn to its new home "in the country," attracting a record 80,000 people with hundreds of volunteers. Many township residents will remember the Orphan Feast parade, which traveled down Beechmont Avenue.



Remembering the Orphan's Festival

Every year, my father and other volunteers from the Cincinnati Fire Department would spend a day prior to the event assembling booths. We would sit on our porch on Glade Avenue hearing the PA announcer from the festival while simultaneously smelling ripening fruit from a nearby apple grove. We knew then that summer was over.

-Craig Eggers



Above: What's a festival without a raffle? For many years a new car was the grand prize.

Orphan Feast Facts:

- Hosted annually for 137 years on the Sunday after Labor Day to solicit financial donations to care for orphans
- Evolved into Cincinnati's big fall event
- Netted over \$50K in the 1940s
- Set an attendance record in 1950 (the year it moved to Anderson Township, the 100th anniversary)
- Became the largest one-day fundraiser of any not-for-profit organization in the Midwest in a 40-year period
- The home closed in 1986, after years of diminishing attendance

Text by Tom Brown. Photos courtesy of Beech Acres

Parenting Center unless noted.

Some of the best years of my life! -Jenny Zeis

We lived on Beechmont across from what was then called St. Gregory Seminary and the parade went by our house. We always had company over to watch the parade so it was almost like a holiday. -Trish McCormick

My grandpa used to have a booth there every year for Freeman Foods. They gave away fruit baskets. I marched in the parade once with "Little Steppers" baton group. -Dawn Pfeffer Malone





For years, the Shriners, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars were an important part of the kick-off parade, as seen in this parade along Beechmont Avenue.

I marched in the parade every year from the age of five to 21 with Little Steppers and Hi-Steppers. Two years I marched it twice, with AHS Color Guard then ran back to join the rifle line with Hi-Steppers. After the parade ended we always stayed to listen for parade results and hang at the festival.





Goldfish and parakeets were prizes that many children won at the festival games.



Rides were a favorite activity at the feast. Photo courtesy Dick Swaim, Cincinnati Enquirer.





NEWS & NOTES

Thinking All Things Buckeye for Your Yard? Check out Tips for Choosing the Right Tree

After Ohio State's championship season, are you thinking about a buckeye for your yard? Well, rule out the Ohio Buckeye (Aesculus glabra). It isn't a great tree for the yard or garden, but there are other notable choices.

If you are looking for a reasonably fastgrowing shade tree, Yellow Buckeye (Aesculus flava) is a very good choice. It grows tall and narrow, about 70' high by 40' wide. The foliage stays green and clean all summer; the fall color is best described as pumpkin. Large creamy/yellow flower panicles will probably go unnoticed because of their color and their placement high up in the canopy.

Pollinators, on the other hand, know exactly where they are and show up in droves. The tree usually produces abundant crops of large nuts that drop in the fall, so you will not want it near places where people and cars tend to loiter underneath. They are a reliable source of food for wildlife. Yellow Buckeye is native to Anderson Township, especially along the Ohio River.



The Red Buckeye (Aesculus pavia) is another North American buckeye species to consider. It is a much smaller tree, reaching a height of about 15' and a width of 12'. The panicles of flowers are large, red and striking, blooming in late April. In years with exceptionally wet spring weather, it can develop significant fungal leaf infections by mid to late summer. Although fungal problems diminish the tree's appearance, it is not fatal. There isn't any effective treatment, unfortunately.

Another buckeye, the *Bottlebrush Buckeye* (Aesculus parviflora) is a fabulous large shrub. It thrives in sun or shade in soils that do not remain excessively wet or dry for prolonged periods. A slow grower, it eventually mounds up to about 12' by 12.' Long panicles of very showy white, fluffy flowers appear after most other shrubs bloom (in late June or early July) and are a favorite of butterflies. Fall color is a clear, lemon-yellow. This species is native to the southeastern United States and is an excellent choice for naturalistic plantings.

All three of these buckeyes are reasonably easy to grow and offer beauty to the garden. Like any new tree or shrub, they will need proper aftercare. Despite toxic foliage that deer avoid, they are otherwise great for wildlife. None of them are utilized as frequently as their aesthetic value, ecological role and practicality suggest.

Information submitted by the Anderson Tree Committee.

Transportation Improvements (Continued from page 1)

Strategies have also included targeting signal timing, pavement modifications, additional sidewalks, improving crosswalks, signage, creating paved and unpaved shoulders and adding additional road markings for pedestrian and driver identification. This work was implemented by the township, Hamilton County or the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Larger safety projects are often the most visible and impactful, notes Assistant Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers. Anderson's safety planning efforts are ongoing, involving continued monitoring of data and trends, he said.

Projects are financed by Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds generated by new growth that must be used for capital improvements. "We've also been very successful in the last 20 years in seeking out and obtaining grants that support these enhancements," Sievers added.



Sidewalks contribute to public safety efforts

Coming in 2025 and 2026

The current Avers Road reconstruction **project** will widen the travel lanes and enhance safety for this roadway, which has seen increased traffic due to new residential development.

In late summer, a new pedestrianactivated hybrid traffic signal will be installed for the crosswalk on Clough Pike in front of Juilfs Park, across from Endovalley Drive. Pedestrians activate the hybrid beacon signal when they want to cross, providing a signal that requires motorists to stop.

Also coming in 2026 at the busy Newtown Road and Clough Pike intersection, the township will add left turn lanes and complete the sidewalk on Clough from Newtown Road to Copperleaf Lane, linking to Turpin Hills.

"Making Anderson Township safer by adding sidewalks and other traffic enhancements has been a township priority. We'll continue to look for more ways we can help our residents be safe as they move around our community," added Trustee Dee Stone.

'Great Trees' Help Create a Beautiful Community The 2024 winners and their categories include:





EVERGREEN TREE: Norway Spruce at 6165 Stirrup Road

Anderson's Great Trees Awards again were given to recognize the many notable trees ts in Anderson Township. Awards are presented in April for the previous year's achievements. Any private or public property tree is eligible if the property owner agrees to the nomination.

Nominations are always open. If your tree flowers or is otherwise at its best before you submit your nomination form, please take photos for the committee to review. You can capture photos at any time of the year, but the annual submittal deadline is December 31.

Email your nominations to Joe Willging at jpwillging@gmail.com or email Stephen Springsteen at sspringsteen@AndersonTownshipOH.gov for more information.

See What New Businesses Are Coming to Anderson

Now Open

Anderson Carryout 8006 Beechmont Ave.

Contrast Studios 7426 Beechmont Ave. First Commonwealth Bank 7391 Beechmont Ave.

Leaf to Ash Cigar Lounge 6183 Salem Road

SHADE TREE: Ash Tree at 7941 Heatherglen Drive



FALL COLORS TREE: Ginko at 1075 Nimitz Lane



ORNAMENTAL TREE: Crabapple at 1169 Birney Lane

Mobility Plus 8314 Beechmont Ave.

Coming Soon —

Crisp & Green 7414 Beechmont Ave.

Tous le Jours Café 7721 Beechmont Ave.

GREENSPACE

Ohio's First Greenspace Township: 35 Years of Protecting Our Natural Treasures



NEW! Explore Greenspace with Access Points Map

Love to explore the woods without trails? For suggested parking and access points for township Greenspace, look for "Greenspace Access Maps" on the Greenspace page at *AndersonTownshipOH.gov*.

Anderson Township Greenspace properties are open to the public, but please note that they are not recreation areas; they are natural environments, said Suzanne Clingman, Greenspace inspector. There are no developed trails, but the spaces are open for non-trail exploration. Massive oak trees and delicate wildflowers are just a couple of the treasures hidden within them.

"If you don't mind meeting and accepting nature on its own terms, blazing your own trail and being careful of these natural treasures as you go, then come and explore," said Clingman.

Check *AndersonTownshipOH.gov* for suggested access points for some of these properties and for more information on the Greenspace program.





Thirty-five years ago, Anderson Township enabled all Ohio townships to own undeveloped natural areas. The township drafted and presented legislation to the state that made this possible.

As a result of this historic legislation in 1990, residents approved a levy to acquire and preserve natural area properties. This levy's passage marked the birth of the first Greenspace program in an Ohio township. Five years later, Anderson residents renewed the levy for five more years. Properties are still being acquired and maintained with existing levy funds, with more than 80 acres added in just the past three years.

The 72 Greenspace properties total 780 acres. These preserved woodlands, creeks and fields help protect and define the beauty of Anderson Township while promoting air and water quality, hillside stability, and wildlife habitat.

State law and township policy grant these properties perpetual protection, and the longer they remain undeveloped, the more valuable they become.

"The township's Greenspace program has matured over the past 35 years from 'active' acquisition through bargain sales and land donations to keeping our 72 parcels natural and undamaged," said Ron Edgerton, longtime Greenspace Committee chairman. However, occasional acquisition opportunities do arise, he added. "Without the support from township residents through two successful Greenspace levies to fund the program, Greenspace preservation as we know it would likely never have gotten off the ground."









Anderson Independence Day Parade



Best Neighborhood or Organization – Forest Hills Marching Band-Sponsored by the Anderson Towne Center



Best Float – Anderson Park District- Sponsored by Kroger



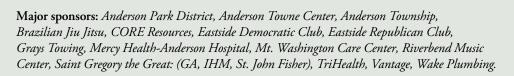
Best Patriotic – American Legion Post 318- Sponsored by Riverbend



Best Business – Pet Vet 365- Sponsored Mt. Washington Care Center



Most Spirited – Nagel Cheerleaders- Sponsored by Mercy Health



Supporting sponsors: Anderson American Legion Post 318, Anderson Hills Church, Anderson Hills Pediatrics, Anderson Hills Plumbing, Christ Hospital, Clough Crossings, Cushman & Wakefield, Dunkin' Donuts, Forest Hills Local School District, Forestville Baptist Church, Jersey Mike's Subs, Kingston Development Group, LaRosa's, Musicologie Anderson, Victory Investments.

*** Thank You



Beechmont Bolt Run



Garden and History Tour





Memorial Day Remembrance



NEWS & NOTES

Firefighter-Paramedic Scales Retires After 25 Years of Service



Firefighter/paramedic Bill Scales retired this spring after more than 25 years of fire service. He began his career with Anderson Township in 2001, following his previous experience in Union Township, Clermont County.

Bill Scales

Scales served most of his career with Anderson Township at the Hunley

Road Fire Station, serving as a firefighter/paramedic as well as a fire apparatus and ladder truck operator. He also mentored newly hired employees and was known for his good humor.

Eagan Completes Fire Executive Program



Lt. Douglas Eagan recently completed the Ohio Fire Executive Program. This comprehensive two-and-a-half-year program prepares chief officers and company officers for future leadership in the fire service.

Eagan was one of 23 fire officers to complete the program in 2025. The program's highlight is five one-week residency sessions that teach students

Douglas Eagan

lessons in leadership, public and media relations, budgeting and finance, ethics and legal issues. Eagan's applied capstone research project was "Improving the Preparedness for Company Officers at Anderson Township." The Ohio Fire Chiefs Association sponsors the program.

Department Adds New Firefighters/Paramedics/EMTs



From left to right, new fire and rescue employees are: Conner Duté, Dawson Haynie, Justin Andler, Austin Taylor, Connor Lowry, Zoe Chapman.

Six new Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department members have joined the department as firefighters/paramedics/ EMTs. They include:

CONNER DUTE is a McNicholas High School graduate who earned his firefighting-EMT certification from the U.S. Army/JBSA Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Dute is a medic in the U.S. Army Reserves and a staff sergeant for the Civil Air Patrol. He previously worked for the Milford Community Fire Department.

DAWSON HAYNIE is an honors graduate of the Great Oaks Fire Academy. He has obtained numerous professional certifications, including hazmat technician, heavy vehicle operator and hazard recognition officer/fire inspector 1.

JUSTIN ANDLER served in the U.S. Marine Corps for six years before coming to Anderson Township Fire and Rescue. He was an honors graduate of the Great Oaks Fire Academy, where he was class president. His previous job experience includes work at the Goshen Township Fire and EMS, Green Township Fire and EMS and Forest Park Fire Department.

AUSTIN TAYLOR earned his EMS and firefighter certification at the Great Oaks Fire Academy. He has served on both the Goshen Township Fire and EMS department and the Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District. He holds many professional certifications, including hazmat recognition officer and hazmat technician.

CONNOR LOWRY graduated from the Cincinnati State Technical and

Community College Fire Science Program and also completed the Cincinnati Fire Department Paramedic Program. Lowry has worked for fire departments in Delhi Township, Green Township and Union, Kentucky.

ZOE CHAPMAN graduated from Great Oaks Fire Academy where she was class president. The West Clermont graduate has served in the Pierce Township Fire Department and has earned numerous professional certifications including hazard recognition officer and hazmat technician.



Home Address Signs Offered to Residents

Will first responders easily identify your residence in the event of an emergency at your home? A program sponsored by the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department offers reflective signage to help ensure your home is found quickly.

The department is selling address signs for mailboxes in two options. The signs are highly visible and reflective both day and night.

Due to minimum order requirements, orders will be placed when the township receives three orders, so there may be a wait for the signs.

To learn more or to order, visit AndersonTownshipOH.gov and search for mailbox signs.

Deputy Wanner Selected as New Crime Prevention Officer

DEPUTY KEVIN WANNER is



Anderson's new crime prevention officer. He has worked with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office since 2003, starting in the

Kevin Wanner corrections division and then working in the patrol division.

Wanner joins Deputy Jacquelyne Campbell as one of two crime prevention officers assigned to the township.

Wanner spent most of his patrol time in Anderson Township, except for the past year, when he served as the School Resource Officer for Rockwern Elementary School in Sycamore Township.

New Rescue Boat Enhances Ohio River Assistance



New technology and advanced capabilities are features of the township's new rescue boat.

The Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department recently launched a new rescue boat for Ohio River calls.

The 24-foot Munson landing craft replaces a 21-year-old Zodiac open bow boat and includes the latest technology.

Some of the new vessel's advanced capabilities include an Automatic Identification System, a Forward-Looking

Understand Sign Rules for the Political Season

Anderson Township's political season is here and with that come temporary signs. The township's sign rules control signs to a degree, so they

character through overuse. Signs are not regulated based on their content or message, but rather on size and location, noted Paul Drury, director of the Planning and Zoning Department.

Reminders about the use of temporary signs:

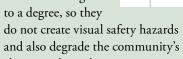
New Billing Company Chosen for Medical Transports

Anderson Township is working with a new billing company to process all emergency medical transports. The new company, Medicount, has been serving other Fire/EMS departments in the Tristate area since 1995.

The township previously used Change Healthcare as its billing agency. "We

Infrared camera, a radar system, SONAR, a chemical detection system and a fire pump.

FEMA supplied a \$256,605 Port Security Grant for the purchase. U.S. Coast Guard crews assisted with instruction on the new boat, training the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department staff on skills needed to operate in a maritime environment for first responders.



VOTE

• Temporary signs cannot be placed on public property or in public rights-ofway, attached to utility poles, or in places where placing a sign creates a safety hazard.

- Temporary signs placed on public property may be removed by the township and stored.
- Signs are permitted on private property with the property owner's permission. They must be set back out of the right-of-way, which is usually 10 feet from the pavement edge or curb, but the right-of-way can be greater in some areas. Check with the township with questions.
- Signs greater than 8 sq. ft. in residential areas and 16 sq. ft. in commercial areas require a zoning certificate. No signs are permitted greater than 32 sq. ft.

For details, search "temporary signs" on AndersonTownshipOH.gov. Info: 513. 688.8400 ext. 3, or info@AndersonTownship.org.

wanted to inform our residents of this change, so they know any correspondence received from Medicount is legitimate and not a scam," noted Lt. Brian Jones, the department's EMS billing manager.

Questions? Contact Lisa Farrar at lfarrar@AndersonTownshipOH.gov, or 513.688.8400 ext. 1195.

NEWS & NOTES

Self-reporting Online Tool Now Available for Public Works Issues



A new program rolled out by Anderson Township Public Works makes it easier for residents to report potholes, road obstructions or sidewalk repairs around Anderson Township.

To report a public works or road maintenance issue, visit the front page of AndersonTownshipOH.gov, and look for the "Report a Public Works Issue" link on the right side of the page.

Please note that this reporting tool is solely for public works issues, not zoning issues such as sign violations or property maintenance.

Anderson's Public Works team responds to more than 300 resident requests for assistance each year.

Residents can also continue to call 513.688.8613 to report problems.

New Pedestrian Signal at Popular Crosswalk On **Clough Pike at Juilfs Park to be Installed Soon**

With significant pedestrian traffic near Juilfs Park, walkers and cyclists often look for a safe spot to cross Clough Pike, namely at the crosswalk at Endovalley Drive.

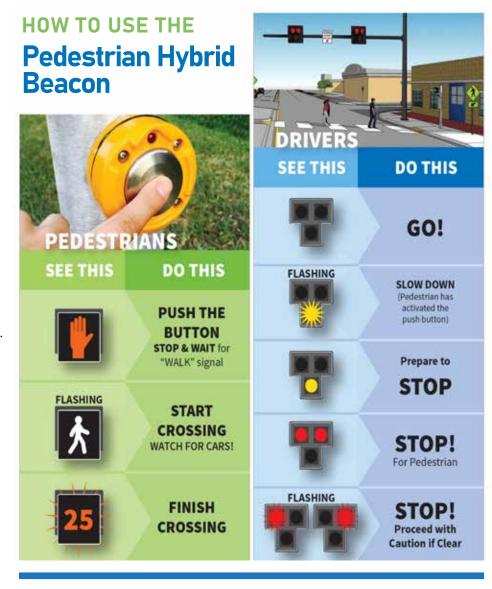
A new pedestrian hybrid beacon at this location, one of the first in Greater Cincinnati, should greatly help. The signal, funded in part by a grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation, will be installed late this summer. The signal, when activated by a pedestrian, will initially display flashing yellow caution lights followed by a red light, requiring drivers to stop. It can only be activated by pedestrians, as traffic studies did not warrant a traffic signal at this location.

Anderson has ramped up its safety around busy intersections and school crosswalks over the last several years with the introduction of pedestrian-activated crosswalk warning lights.

Please note, the flashing warning lights alert motorists that pedestrians are in the area, but it does not require them to stop for those waiting to cross.

Over 20 warning lights are now in place with four additional sets to be implemented later this year

- Clough Pike and Harcourt Drive
- Asbury Road and Coldbrook Drive
- Four Mile Road and Phillips Road
- Hunley Road and Bretton Drive/ Turnberry Drvive



Here's What Acceptable for Rumpke Curbside Recycling

These items can be placed in your curbside service bins and should not be in plastic bags.



Besides Curbside, Where Else Can I Recycle My Stuff?

If you have excess batteries, computers, old paint or furniture, where can these items be safely recycled?

Several options are available in the Cincinnati area.

A non-profit, Cincinnati-based recycling hub accepts a wide range of hard-to-recycle household items. The Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub provides a donation site for items that cannot be recycled curbside. These include metal, gym shoes, glasses, soft and rigid plastics, Styrofoam, packing peanuts, garden pots and prescription pill bottles, which are taken at no cost. Some other items, like batteries, electronics and tires, can be recycled for a fee.

Cincinnati Recycling 4 & Reuse Hub

Located at 911 Evans Street in downtown Cincinnati, the recycling hub is open for limited hours on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. The organization relies on donations to sustain its operations. For more information, visit *cincinnatirecyclingandreusehub* or call 513.629.9040.

An additional curbside program called the Hefty ReNew Program offers an option to repurpose hard-to-recycle plastics that are not accepted by Rumpke. For information, go to Hefty.com and search for ReNew Program to learn how the program works.

Closer to home, two recycling events are planned in Anderson Township later this summer and in the fall:

This is a great opportunity to dispose of old household chemicals and prepare for winter. Go to AndersonTownshipOH.gov after August 17 for all details and to complete the signup form.

This event provides a recycling opportunity for hard-to-recycle electronic items, in partnership with Cohen Recycling.

This list outlines the items that Rumpke will recycle.



Newspaper, magazines, cardboard, mixed office paper and envelopes, paperboard (cereal boxes), pizza boxes free of food debris and grease, telephone books and catalogs



Paper cups

(Remove/discard lids. straws and stoppers). Fast food beverage cups. coffee cups, Dixie cups



Plastic cups (Remove/discard straw, reattach lid): Fast food beverage cups – colored party cups are not accepted



Cartons

(Remove plastic caps and straws): Food and beverage cartons, such as milk, juice, soup, wine, broth and other cartons

Household Waste Drop-Off Day -Saturday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. to noon, at Nagel Middle School, 1500 Nagel Road.

Great Parks E-Waste Collection Event - Saturday, Oct. 11, 9 a.m. to noon, at Woodland Mound Park, 8250 Old Kellogg Road.



Go to AndersonTownshipOH.gov, after August 17 for a list of acceptable items.

Looking for more recycling guidance? Hamilton County ReSource offers a comprehensive online tool that suggests potential outlets for household items. Several outlets will accept gently used or new furniture.

Information includes ways to recycle paint, electronics, hazardous waste, batteries, furniture and more. To access the tool, go to *hamiltoncountyresource.org* and search "recycling and reuse tool."

TOWNSHIP NEWS

New Anderson Native Planting Initiative Urges Focus on Wildlife Habitats Around the Home



Cheerful Black-Eyed Susan named native Plant of the Year

Have you heard about the benefits of growing native plants in your yard? Native plants support birds, butterflies, bees and other pollinators, which have been suffering dramatic declines.

A new local initiative, the Anderson Native Planting Initiative, encourages residents to create wildlife habitats in their yards by focusing on native plants. Native plants are adapted to survive in this area, resist deer, generally need lower maintenance than non-natives and build soil health.

With this new initiative, Anderson's volunteer-member Anderson Plan Implementation Committee also has identified its first Anderson Native Plant of the Year, the cheerful Black-Eyed Susan, Rudbeckia. A volunteer committee of township residents chose the Black-Eyed Susan after talking with local nurseries and gardeners about the plant's ease of care and many benefits. The plant is widely available locally.



Anderson is also seeking property owners to join the Homegrown National Park program, a nationwide grassroots effort that supports Americans in planting native species and maintains a national "Biodiversity Map." Take part by simply adding one native plant, shrub, or tree to a yard or patio container and you will be listed. Many Anderson residents and churches already are listed.

"One Black-Eyed Susan plant supports more than 40 butterflies, moths and bees, and one oak tree supports more than 400 species, according to the National Wildlife Federation," said Peg Fenner, a committee member.

"Let's get our own 'national parks' started for the sake of wildlife-and for the beauty that these plants will bring to Anderson," added Trustee Dee Stone.

HOW CAN I GET STARTED?

Check out AndersonTownshipOH.gov for native plant suggestions, local examples of native plant gardens and links to various programs.

WEBPAGE LINKS

Homegrown National Park homegrownnationalpark.org

Cincinnati Zoo: cincinnatizoo.org/gardens/ plant-for-pollinators/

Connections, Collaboration and Community Service Combine at Anderson Township Senior Center

Members of Anderson Township Senior Centers and local 10th-grade students shared a special day this spring through a student leadership development program called Aspire.

The Forest Hills School District partners with the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce to implement the Aspire Youth Discovery Initiative. This program series is designed to expand self-awareness, employability skills and leadership potential in students.

Sophomores in the Aspire program from Anderson and Turpin high schools spent the day at the center, engaged in a variety of activities. Projects included working with the members or beautification of the senior center grounds.



Senior center members and students play cornhole.



Turpin and Anderson high school students helped with the garden at the Anderson Township Senior Center this spring.

KITCHEN SAFETY REMINDER: If There's a Fire in the Oven, Don't Open the Door!

What should you do if there are flames emanating from your roast in the oven? Most importantly, do not open the oven door, call 911 immediately!

Opening the door will introduce more oxygen, potentially fueling the flames and causing a larger, more dangerous fire. Fires need oxygen to burn.

Fire Chief Rick Martin from the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department reminds residents that if an oven fire is found, leave the door closed, turn off the appliance (if safe to do) and call 911 while evacuating the residence.



Martin noted that while it has been a common practice to store fire extinguishers under the sink, a better location would be along the exit path to the outside.

"When a fire exists, time is of the essence and is best spent evacuating everyone from the structure (and calling 911) instead of searching for a misplaced extinguisher or going to another residence floor for a fire extinguisher," he said.

The 10th graders also manned a tech table, answering questions and sharing their expertise on cell phones and other devices. Another student group worked in the gardens at the back of the center, mulching and planting flowers. Students played cornhole, ping pong and other games and visited with the members at lunch, who recalled their teenage years.

Seniors shared too, displayed their skills in playing tone chimes and the ukulele, performing sequences in Tai Chi and adapted Taekwondo and singing in the choir.

Senior center member Mary Kay Messeroll said she enjoyed the day with the students. "It was great to have young people come to the senior center," she said. "They shared their skills in technology with older adults." She also told students about her career in nursing and suggested they consider that field as a vocation.

"The value of instilling service in younger people is critical to spreading kindness outside the classroom," noted Senior Center Activities Manager Claire O'Connell. "Our members are already looking forward to next school year when we will enjoy a whole new group of Aspire students visiting the center."



Students brought greetings of goodwill to the senior center.

CONNECT

Check Out Farmers' Market Schedule for the Season

Anderson Township Farmers' Market is open from 9 a.m. to noon every Saturday through October 4 at the St. Timothy Church parking lot, 8101 Beechmont Ave.

The schedule for the rest of the season is as follows:

Aug. 9- Salsa competition

Aug. 16- Where-in-the-market is Waldo-melon? (A hide-and-seek game with veggies for kids), Market Taste-a-thon

Aug. 30- Great Parks visit

Sept. 13- Fire truck and/or touch-a-truck day

Sept. 20- Fall Fest

Sept. 27- The Great Pumpkin Give-Away

Oct. 4- Customer Appreciation Day and chili cook-off

For details on vendors and more, visit Facebook: Anderson Township Farmers Market.

Music on the Farm Summer Series Continues Through September

Anderson Township Urban Farm 2550 Bartels Road Doors open at 6 p.m., music at 6:30 p.m.

Classic rock with Blu Million Saturday, Aug. 16

Country with Dusty and Backwoods Drive Saturday, Sept. 20

For details, visit AndersonUrbanFarm.com. The Anderson Township Historical Society and the Anderson Urban Farm sponsor the event. Free; donations accepted.



Blu Million

Focus on Safety and Fun During Emergency Services Day

If your child has always wanted to sit in a fire engine, sheriff's vehicle or ambulance, do not miss the annual Emergency Services Day this fall when they can try all three!

The October 11 event is set aside for kids to learn about safety and explore props and equipment at the Beechmont Fire Station, 7954 Beechmont Ave.



From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Anderson Township Fire and Rescue personnel and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office deputies will educate and answer questions, providing firsthand experience for children to access safety equipment.

Check out these activities:

- Explore vehicles from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, including patrol cars, the bomb truck, and a SWAT Vehicle.
- Learn how to stay safe with instruction from other public safety organizations in the county, including area hospitals,
- Use a fire extinguisher simulator,

- Roll out in real fire gear for a photo shoot,
- Climb on the water rescue boat, a ladder truck, a fire engine, and go inside an ambulance,
- Spray water from a fire hose and knock down a pretend fire in windows of the Flame House,
- Pretend to be a firefighter with a firefighter agility course,
- See a live fire demonstration that teaches home fire safety.

For more information, visit AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

EVENTS

AUGUST

Performing Arts Inc.-The Prom School Edition, Little Mermaid Jr., Alice in Wonderland, The Addam's Family School Edition, Jungle Book Kids **Anderson Center Theater** 7850 Five Mile Road August 9-16

Info: performingartsinc.net

Merit Theater- Bright Star Anderson Center Theater 7850 Five Mile Road August 22-30 Tickets and information: merittheatre.org

SEPTEMBER

Household Waste Drop-off Day Nagel Middle School, 1500 Nagel Road Saturday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m. to noon Go to Anderson Township OH.gov, after August 17 for a list of accepted items and to sign up.





Household Waste Drop-off Day

A Fair of the Arts Beech Acres Park. 6910 Salem Road Saturday, Sept. 20, 4-8 p.m. Free. Info: AndersonParks.com



A Fair of the Arts

OCTOBER

E-Waste Collection Event Woodland Mound Park 8250 Old Kellogg Road Saturday, Oct. 11, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.



Emergency Services Day 7954 Beechmont Ave. Free

Trick or Treat Time Set time on Friday, Oct. 31.



Great Parks/Cohen Recycling -

Go to Anderson Township OH.gov after August 17 for a list of accepted items.

Beechmont Fire Station (Station 6) Saturday, Oct. 11, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Anderson Township has designated 6-8 p.m. as its official Trick-or-Treat



NOVEMBER

Anderson Township Urban Farm Harvest Fair and Holiday Market Anderson Township Urban Farm 2550 Bartels Road

Saturday, Nov. 1, noon-6 p.m. Free



Harvest Fair and Holiday Market

Historic Log Home Open Houses Run Through October

Tour the historic Miller-Leuser Log Home, 6550 Clough Pike, from 1-4 p.m. the first and third Sundays of the month through October.



Ongoing Trustees Meetings

Anderson Township Trustees meet monthly on every first Thursday at 2 p.m. and every third Thursday with the public portion of the meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.



Anderson Insights the Newsletter of Anderson Township Anderson Center 7850 Five Mile Road Anderson Township, OH 45230 Presorted Std U.S... Postage **PAID** Cincinnati, OH Permit No. 9689

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

Anderson Township Senior Center

Finance Fire and Rescue Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Planning and Zoning

Public Works

Fiscal Office

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

> **PUBLISHER** Vicky Earhart

EDITORS Steve Sievers Nancy Caine

AndersonTownshipOH.gov

Facebook: Anderson Township, Ohio

Changes Planned for Five Mile Road and I-275 Interchange



Aerial view looking northbound on Five Mile exist 60. The middle lane southbound will become a second left turn lane for southbound traffic onto eastbound I-275.

After completing a comprehensive upgrade of the I-275 Kellogg Avenue intersection last year, Anderson Township is developing plans for roadway improvements at another busy location.

Construction is anticipated for a series of roadway enhancements next year, which will create a second turn lane from Five Mile Road onto the eastbound I-275 ramp. Additionally, the township plans to slightly widen the road to create a new second turn lane for northbound Five Mile traffic exiting I-275 west.

Planning and Zoning Director Paul Drury noted that the I-275 eastbound lane has been experiencing more backups, especially during rush hour, which extend to Woodcroft Road. The new turn lane will move traffic more quickly onto the I-275 east ramp and allow more "green time" for traffic exiting the ramp from I-275 east turning left to Five Mile, he said. "In the last 10-15 years, the township has experienced an influx of daytime population, a factor that affects this area," noted Drury. "More people are coming in and out of the township," in part due to added employment opportunities and medical facilities, he added.

Drury noted the beautification efforts at the two I-275 Five Mile Road intersections, initiated in the late 1990s, have not been updated since then. New township gateway

signage was added as part of the township's Bicentennial celebration in 1996, when all welcome signs in the township were installed and landscaping was added.

The Kleingers Group designed roadway improvements implemented on Kellogg Avenue last year and will also work with Anderson on plans for Five Mile Road, Drury said. The Five Mile interchange in-field area is not as large as the ones at Kellogg. Therefore, the landscape design elements and signage will mimic those of Kellogg and 52, but not to the same detail.

Underpass lighting at the location is also proposed, and the plan includes duplicating the same improvements as those installed on Kellogg Avenue last year.

Financing for the upgrades comes from Tax Increment Financing (TIF) revenue, which can only be spent on capital improvement projects.