

ANDERSON Insights

THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

JULY 2023

Anderson Prepares as Public Service Needs Change

Staff additions, facility upgrades to best deliver top-notch services and plan for future

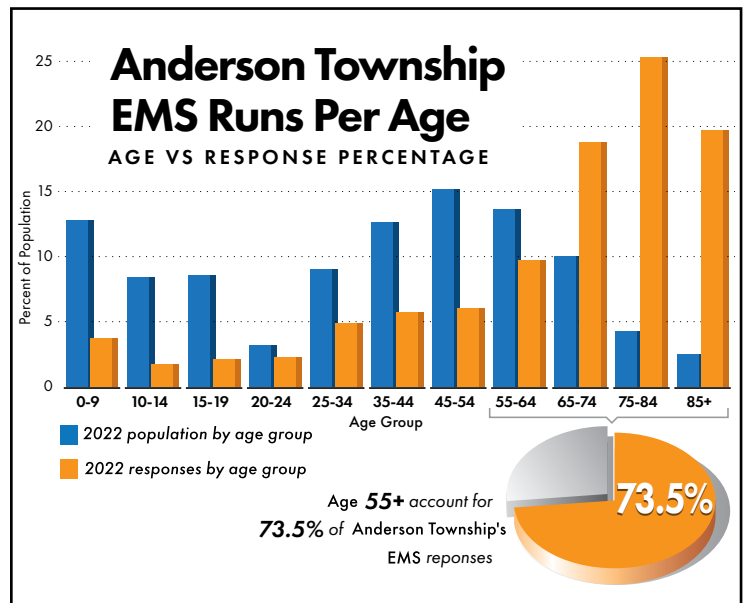
The changing nature of Anderson Township is factoring into planning for future safety service needs.

Several themes have unfolded in recent years, highlighted by an increase in the number of older residents, growing needs of the community's youth, a much higher daytime population, and an upturn in entertainment and dining attractions. With changes in these areas, public officials are discussing ways to "right size" public services.

"As we have been tracking changes in our community, we've also been focusing on continuing cost reduction and stretching our tax dollars. Those efforts defer the need to request voters consider a tax levy," said Administrator Vicky Earhart. "At the same time, we're striving to provide quality public services in the next generation," she added. "It's a balance."

"Anderson Township is a changing community," noted Fire Chief Rick Martin. "We have an aging population needing more services," he said.

Census 2020 data showed 31.7% of the township's population was 55 and over, compared to the 2000 Census when 20.9% fell into that same category. "Unfortunately, those over 55 are prone to falls, and whether they age in place or reside in a growing number of senior care facilities, they represent a disproportionate share of EMS calls," Martin added.



Last year 73.5% of Anderson Township Fire and Rescue's runs involved residents 55 and older. That equals around 30% of the total population that falls in that age bracket, Martin noted.

Another area being monitored is the location of responses. As Anderson Township has built out, development has occurred on the eastern side of the township, said Assistant Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers. As a result, the Beechmont Fire Station (Station 6), though centrally located, receives about 50% of all calls for service, he added.

When other stations are called into backup service when firefighter-paramedics at the Beechmont Station are already out on a run, response times in those areas are therefore longer. "This affects all parts of the emergency response system," Earhart noted.

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Public Works employees repair township roads

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TOWNSHIP NEWS

Anderson Joins 'Ohio River Way' Effort to Push Riverfront as a Tourist Destination



Summer evenings at Riverbend Music Center

One of Anderson's enduring natural assets—its location on the Ohio River—has been targeted as an opportunity for economic growth.

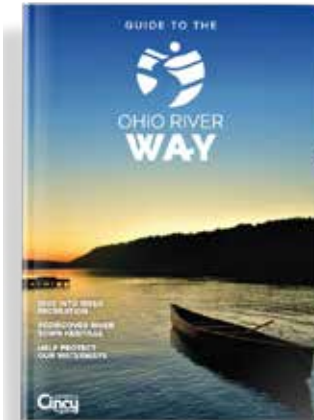
With the township's projected **\$6 million comprehensive investment in infrastructure** in the Entertainment District along Kellogg Avenue starting this year, the area is being upgraded for future growth and tourism, according to Dee Stone, trustee chair.

A focus of Anderson Township's effort to better market its riverfront recreational opportunities includes connecting with a regional non-profit called the **Ohio River Way**. This organization touts riverside fun from Portsmouth, Ohio, to West Point, Kentucky, enlisting strategic connections on both sides of the river in three states.

Brewster Rhoads, chair of the Ohio River Way and a longtime advocate of and participant in recreation along the river, says the organization is devoted to building these partnerships. Partners include water conservation organizations, river towns, park districts and other entities that promote safe, healthy outdoor recreation, education about the river and tourism.

Anderson Township has joined almost 100 dues-paying groups focused on helping others "enjoy the majesty of the river," Rhoads said.

"The Ohio River Way is doing a tremendous job highlighting all the wonderful things happening already up and down the Ohio River area," Stone said. "With our successful longtime riverfront venues already in place, and our growing network of trails which includes



the Ohio River Trail in the Entertainment District, we believe the improvements to our 'front door' coming soon to Anderson Township will further welcome guests and residents to recreate here," she added.

Construction on Anderson's Kellogg Gateway Plan projects begin this summer, starting with improvements to the I-275 Exit 72 interchange and the U.S. 52 ramp leading to Kellogg Avenue. Future aspects of the vision described in the township's Kellogg Gateway Plan involve upgrades highlighting beautification, landscape, signage and lighting.

The numbers of people who visit this area is a significant economic driver, notes Stone. Visitors to Coney Island, Riverbend, and Belterra Park collectively equal nearly 2 million each year. About 500,000 people attend concerts over the course of the summer at Riverbend Music Center and PNC Pavilion.

Various events hosted at Coney Island, plus day-to-day attendance, equals 469,000 to 619,000 attendees per year, with the biggest event at Coney being the winter Coney Island Night of Lights. Weeks-long attendance at that event totals 175,000, according to Tricia Mullen



Paddling the Ohio River

with Coney Island. According to information from the Cincinnati visitors and tourism bureau Visit Cincy, the majority of visitors to Coney Island, Belterra and PNC Pavilion in the Entertainment District are driving from Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus and Lexington.

"Millions of investment dollars have already started the transformation in this area," said Trustee Josh Gerth. "There's been a vibrant response by businesses and key property owners, ranging from Belterra Park, Riverbend Music Center, Coney Island, to the Anderson Park District, Cargill and Grove Park Grille, and others in between. They are all realizing the great potential this area has for growth."

One of the goals of the Ohio River Way is to identify the Ohio River as a national destination for those interested in adventure tourism, Rhoads said. Other elements involve sharing culture and learning about this region of America, and exploring its rich history.

"We believe the Ohio River can become a nationally recognized destination for people who love the outdoors," Rhoads said.

"We have this incredible resource, to fish, boat and paddle, water ski and to observe nature, right in the middle of river communities. We want to help communities grow and prosper by promoting these assets, festivals and special events, and tours of unique historic sites that can be explored in your own backyard," Rhoads added.

In recent months, the Ohio River Way has launched a hardcopy and online magazine called **Guide to the Ohio River Way**. (Copies are available at Anderson Center.) The publication details conservation efforts, recreation opportunities and ways to explore the Ohio River. A new website, ohioriverway.org, also provides a digital guide to the river including events, as well as details about river towns. Anderson is highlighted in this digital guide.

"The Ohio River has been called a 'stage for enjoyment,'" Stone said. "We're very excited to take the next step to partner with others as we promote one of our greatest assets and historic areas to our community and region."



Belterra Park Cincinnati live racing on the Ohio River

Need Aggregation Details? Local Programs Explained

Anderson Township's electricity aggregation program renewed for 23 months in May of this year. The new electricity rate provides group savings, which will be reflected on your July electricity bill.



In this opt-out program approved by township voters in November 2016, the township pools eligible resident accounts to buy electricity at a more competitive price for residents. Since 2017, residents have realized savings through aggregation. Participants in the program for the last two years alone have saved an average of \$138 compared with Duke's standard rates.

Rich Surace, the chief operating officer of Anderson's broker Energy Alliances, noted, "The main objective of any aggregation program is to provide an alternative to Duke Energy Ohio's default supply rates."

Due to rising energy costs, Duke's default supply rate will exceed 10¢ per kWh starting with the June 2023 bill, he said. "Energy Alliances was able to negotiate a rate of 7.145¢ per kWh starting with the July bills. (Note the current program of 4.98¢ per kWh expired on the June 2023 bill for Anderson Township.)

"We understand that the jump from 4.98¢ to 7.145¢ is significant," he added. "However, the alternative of paying Duke's default rate of over 10¢ would be even worse. The aggregation program offers residents a more than 25 percent lower rate than Duke."

More than 11,000 of Anderson's 18,000 households are enrolled in the electricity aggregation program, and property owners always have the choice to opt out of the program and select their own supplier. **Residents can opt-out at any time by calling Energy Alliances at 513.794.5555 or Dynegy at 888.682.2170. There is no fee to opt-out.**

Gas Aggregation Update

Anderson voters **approved an opt-out natural gas aggregation program in the November 2022 election**. The gas program is in the midst of the approval processes as outlined by the Ohio Revised Code and may or may not be implemented. A decision whether to move forward will be made by the Anderson Township Board of Trustees, based on receiving rates advantageous to residents in comparison to Duke Energy's rate(s).

For more information about other opportunities, the website Energychoice.ohio.gov allows comparison on third party energy suppliers and purchasing options for individual customers who may choose to opt out of the current electric or possible future gas program.

Expanded Trails Plan Charts Way for Improvements



The spine of the Anderson Trails Network—the Five Mile Trail

Residents living in Anderson Township almost three decades ago may remember a transportation landscape quite different than the one they utilize today.

Sidewalk projects throughout the community benefit Anderson residents' quality of life, community spirit, property values, health and so much more.

That's because more than 50 projects since that time have not only resulted in 25 miles of sidewalks and trails but have created a new feel to Anderson Township. In recent years, greater numbers of residents are freely enjoying leisure bicycling or walking on the expanded network of sidewalks linking both neighborhoods and community destinations.

Thanks to the vision of the award-winning and trailblazing 1999 Anderson Trails Plan, Anderson has garnered public support and funding to create an interconnected network of trails that has become extremely popular and well-utilized.

“Through the years, we’ve worked to ‘liberate’ people from confined neighborhoods,” said Dee Stone, trustee president and liaison to the township’s volunteer Transportation Advisory Committee. “Data and informal discussion indicates our trails and sidewalks remain one of the most popular quality-of-life factors mentioned in discussion of our township,” she said.

“We are committed to building on this energy to even further develop our network in a strategic way and to connect our community, literally and socially,” Stone added.

The Anderson Trails Plan, now in its sixth update, remains a legacy of Anderson’s 1993 bicentennial celebration. Energized with funding from a 1998 road/hike/bike levy, volunteers from the Transportation Advisory Committee and staff immediately launched into getting new trails projects started.

The efforts birthed in 1993 continue 30 years later, with a continued “best bang for the buck” philosophy when it comes to prioritizing links.

The township also has a long track record of grant funding for larger projects outside the township’s budget, notes Brian Gay, chair of the Anderson Trails Subcommittee. The effort has paid off with nearly \$10 million in grant dollars being secured by the township since the early 2000s. “Funds are limited, so it’s been a continued effort to maximize how many households may benefit from a project, while seeking to distribute improvements in all parts of our community,” Gay added.

Anderson’s recent five-year update to the Anderson Trails Plan lays out a long-term direction, but that’s not all. Outlined are more specific recommendations, including a timeline of projects that can be initiated in the next five years. Among recommendations are specific roadway shoulder improvements, the expansion of natural trails, and a new focus on roadway striping and crosswalk safety enhancements, said Planner Chris Cavallaro.

Recommendations from the Trails Plan:

Pedestrian Lanes

Utilizing pavement markings to identify pedestrian walking lanes on select township roadways, where right-of-way does not exist or to provide increased awareness and safety until such time that sidewalks may be built.



New crosswalk on S.R. 32 from Turpin Lake Place to the Little Miami Scenic Trail

Shoulders and Bicycle Improvements

While the updated plan identifies more than a dozen prioritized possible shoulder improvement sites, work on these enhancements often depends on external factors such as improvement of roadways by Hamilton County. Therefore, while desired as an area for development, township planners acknowledge that desired projects may not occur for many years, dictated by the repaving or improvement plans of Hamilton County or the Ohio Department of Transportation.

Planned sidewalks

In 2023, Anderson has already completed Phase 1 on the Elstun Road Connector, and a one-third mile sidewalk on Rambling Hills, connecting Sherwood Forest to Beechmont Avenue. Also, on the books for 2023 is a long-planned sidewalk on Lawyer and Little Dry Run, linking many neighborhoods to one another, Wilson Elementary School, the Five Mile Trail and other destinations.



Construction of Rambling Hills Drive sidewalk this year

2024 Sidewalk Construction Plans

- Wolfangel Road south of Clough, with possible links to Delas Cove and Clough Chase Drive
- Crosswalk signal on Clough Pike between Endovalley Drive and Juilf’s Park
- Elstun Connector, Phase 2, linking Beechmont Avenue and the Skytop area to the Little Miami Scenic Trail

2025-26 Sidewalk Construction Plans

- Clough Pike between Copperleaf Drive and Newtown Road
- Birney Lane from Watch Point Drive to Wetheridge Drive

Crosswalks

A noted focus of this plan is the improvement of many existing crosswalks. Upgrades consist of standardizing pavement markings at existing crosswalks, enhanced crosswalk markings around schools and additional pedestrian-activated flashing crosswalk signs.

Crosswalk projects considered a high priority for pedestrian-activated signals include:

- Eight Mile Road and Little Harbor Drive
- Little Dry Run Road and Wilson Elementary School
- Hunley Road and Royalgreen Drive

Natural Trails

Enhancing natural trails is a low-cost way to create connections. Natural trails include unpaved areas which can provide important neighborhood links without the benefit of typical asphalt or concrete construction. Paths could be developed by the application of improved mulch or a possible natural paver to define the trail.

A new high-profile pedestrian connection from Forestlake Drive to Eight Mile Road near Stoney Bridge Drive could be an element of the development of natural trails. The path would meander through potential Anderson Township open space and an existing trail through township Greenspace.



Natural pathway at Anderson Township Heritage Center Arboretum

Corridor Improvement Priority List

Anderson Township will continue to advance sidewalk-related aspects of larger corridor plans, such as those for Beechmont Avenue and Clough Pike.

An ongoing and long-term goal is to connect the Five Mile and Little Miami Scenic trails, as well as expand the Ohio River Trail east of Five Mile Road to Clermont County.

High-priority corridor improvement projects cited include sidewalks on Beechmont Avenue from the Mt. Washington border to the Anderson Parks RecPlex, and from Voll Road to Tallberry Lane. The township also continues to pursue possible connections between the Five Mile Trail and Little Miami Trail in the Turpin Hills and Newtown Road areas.

Drones Called into Service for Anderson Township Projects

While drones were originally developed for use by the armed services for complex military strategies, Anderson Township has found its basic models useful for a variety of more routine, but important tasks at hand.

The township's planning and zoning department introduces drones into many activities, from plotting out an undeveloped trail corridor to checking progress on developments. Other uses include Greenspace property inspections and for providing depictions of traffic flows and patterns on busy township roadways and surrounding areas. Each of these has greatly enhanced staff productivity, says Assistant Township Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers.

Two years ago, Anderson Township integrated drones into daily duties, with township staff members from each department undergoing training provided by a licensed FAA (Federal Aviation Agency) instructor and hours of hands-on practice. Ultimately six staff members received federal licenses to operate the township's two drones.

Since that time, Steve Sievers noted the drones have been helpful in many ways, **from enhancing public safety or better facilitating traffic flow, to helping inform and educate decision makers and community residents.** "They've also greatly improved productivity from routine inspections to efforts that formerly involved multiple staff to observe a situation at one time, such as a measurement of traffic flow."

Deputy Brian Hayes with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office notes that while the township does not receive many calls about drone usage. "All drone usage is regulated by the FAA," he said.



Mercer Elementary School traffic assessment assisted by a drone

The FAA does not allow drones to be flown over people and users must follow FAA guidance to operate the unpiloted aircraft.

And while helpful in many ways in government services, it should be noted that drones cannot be used for residential zoning inspections due to ethical concerns about privacy.

"Responsible drone usage is important, and there are specific rules from the FAA about airport safety, drone licensing testing and certification," said Sievers. "Although drones have many benefits, they must be used in a proper way so that community safety is maintained and the privacy rights of others are not violated."

For details about drone usage, check out licensing and more at faa.gov/uas.

Greenspace Donation Adds to Greenbelt Corridor

A generous donation of a 10.12-acre property towards Anderson's Greenspace program **will help complete a green corridor from Newtown to Mt. Carmel Road on the hills overlooking the Little Miami River Valley.**

The property at 3763 Mt. Carmel Road that was donated this summer by Lynn Woodward includes mature trees and a winter view of the entire Little Miami River Valley. "This incredible donation is even more significant in that Lynn Woodward's father donated the adjacent 17-acre parcel to the west of this property to the Hillside Trust," a land conservation organization that works with private landowners, said Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations.

This Greenspace donation and the adjacent Hillside Trust property **will nearly create a continuous greenbelt** including properties protected by Anderson Parks, Great Parks of Hamilton County and another existing township Greenspace property. Combined, these total 111 acres.

The original property owner has requested that the township remove the home on the property, built by Woodward's father, so the property can revert to all woodlands, Sievers said.

The property had been in the family for nearly 80 years and is mostly wooded. The open area around the house contains some stunning huge beech trees and impressive oaks.

Township residents can park at the site if they wish to hike the new Greenspace property and adjacent Hillside Trust parcel.

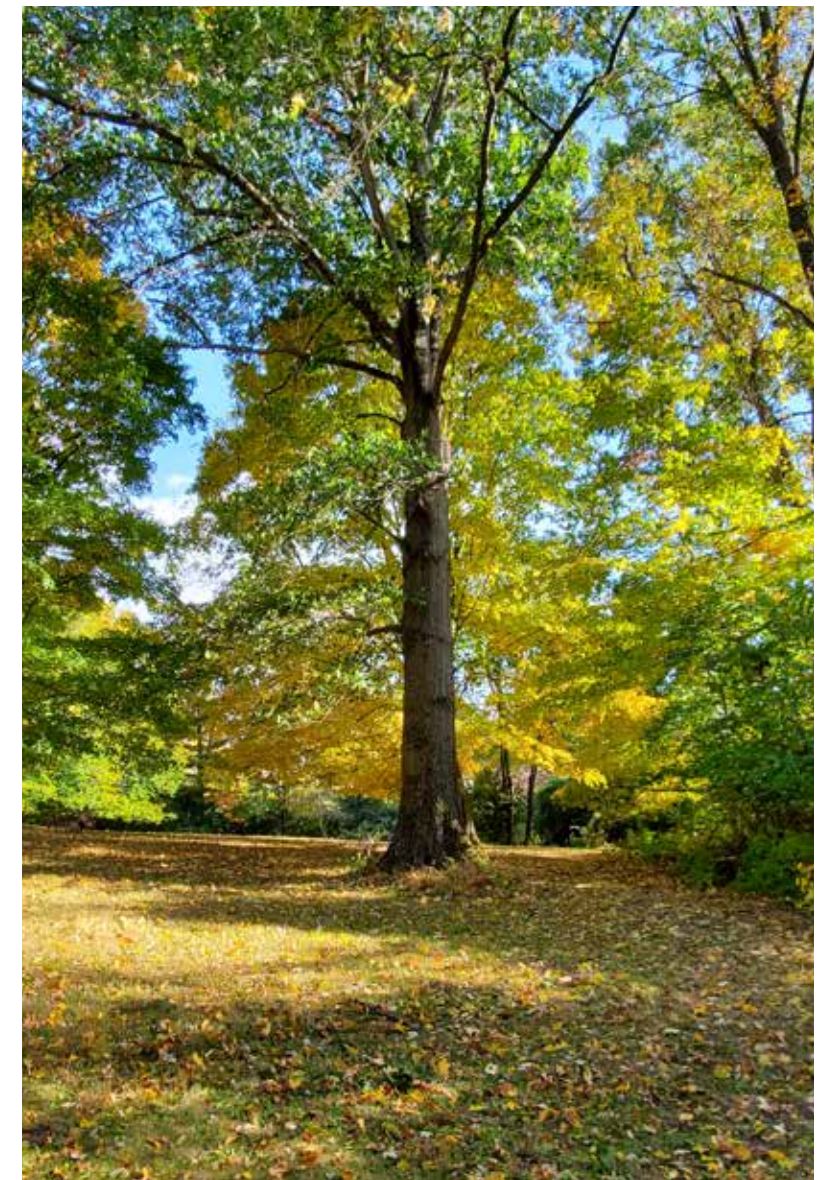
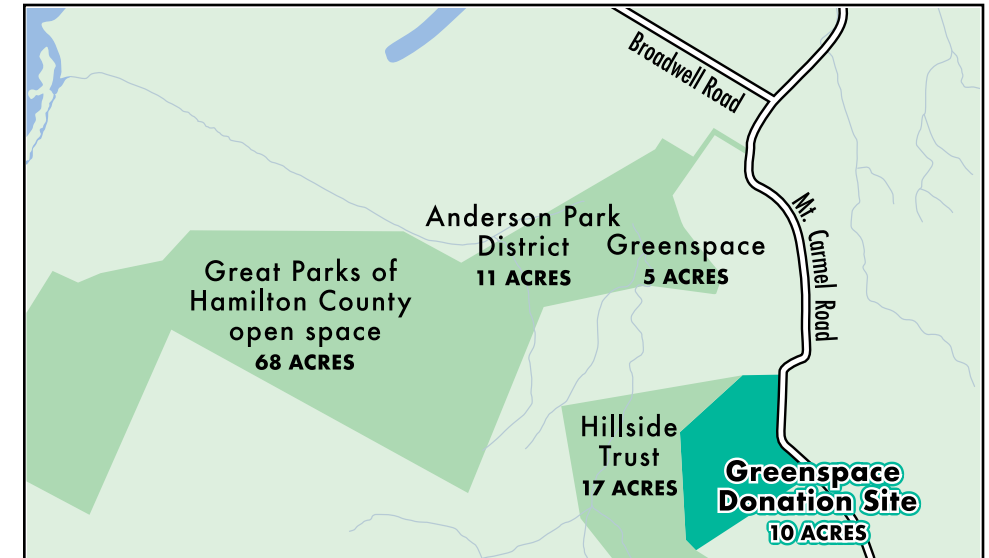
"With just one future acquisition as a connection, residents could also hike the hills of the whole greenbelt," noted Greenspace Inspector Suzanne Clingman.

"Not only is the Greenspace program significant to our environment in reducing pollution and sound, as well as providing sanctuary for wildlife, it allows hiking," said Trustee Vice Chair Lexi Lausten. "This is especially valuable, as it gives residents an opportunity to spend time in nature and enjoy beautiful, impressive trees at this site."

Here We Grow Again

An .85-acre property at the end of Crittenden Drive has been added to the township's portfolio of Greenspace properties. The donation from Mike and Ann Behrmann is contiguous to another Greenspace property to the west, a parcel of .78 acres. The township also owns another 2-acre tract at the end of the street.

In total, **Anderson Township has 72 parcels with about 780 acres** as part of its Greenspace program.



Mt. Carmel Road Greenspace donation

Listen Up: Phones Down! Driving Law Updated

Starting in April, drivers should know it is illegal to use or hold a cell phone or electronic device while in your hand, lap, or other parts of the body when driving on Ohio roads. If an officer sees a violation, they can pull you over.

WHAT'S OFF-LIMITS?

With very few exceptions, anything that involves using, holding or supporting a device while driving is off-limits. This could include:

- Dialing a phone number
- Sending a text message (voice to text is legal via a "hands free" method)
- Updating or browsing social media
- Video calls or FaceTime
- Browsing the Internet
- Playing games
- Recording or streaming video
- Watching videos (GPS/navigational displays are allowed)



Enforcement

The Ohio State Highway Patrol and local law enforcement will issue warnings through October 4 for violations. After that date, citations will be issued.

Penalties

First offense in two years: two points assessed to driver's license, up to a \$150 fine.*

Second offense in two years: three points assessed to license, up to a \$250 fine.

Third or more offenses in two years: four points assessed to license, up to a \$500 fine, possible 90-day suspension of driver's license.

Fines are doubled if the violation occurs in a work zone.

* *Completion of a distracted driving course can help avoid the fine and points.*

Public Services: *(Continued from page 1)*



Residents meet with Deputy Brian Hayes, crime prevention officer

Law Enforcement Sees Increased Calls, Too

To address changes within the township’s emergency service needs, Anderson Township Trustees recently approved the hiring of six more firefighters. Three will be hired by the end of the year and three more in early 2024. Martin noted, “Further staffing will help meet needs in that area as we’ll be able to add a second paramedic unit from the Beechmont Station to serve the central and eastern part of the community.”

“By filling this deficiency, we’ll also enhance safety community-wide, by reducing the frequency that other stations are pulled out of their district,” Martin added. **The Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office has seen an increase in calls for service, too.** Overall service requests have returned to pre-pandemic levels. “We’re seeing an upturn in law enforcement needs, due to a dramatic increase in medical offices, restaurants and residents working from home. Our daytime population has greatly increased,” said Trustee Josh Gerth.

“The upturn of entertainment options in our community, such as the growth in our riverfront Entertainment District, also has added to the increased calls for service,” Gerth said.

Sievers noted the township’s successful effort to reduce time-consuming false alarms has helped trim alarm responses by nearly 25 percent (alarms account for nearly 12 percent of all calls). However, calls for service in other areas have increased to fill that gap.

Ageing Facilities Need Upgrades

A third focus of public service improvements is to address the aging and sometimes cramped Anderson Township Operations Center campus on Beechmont Avenue. The entire 6.5-acre site includes the Public Works department and salt dome, the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office District 5 substation, the Beechmont Fire Station, a 24/7 Anderson Township Recycling Center and the Anderson Township Senior Center.

Public Works operates out of a building originally constructed in the late 1940s. The Beechmont Fire station was built in the early 1960s. Sievers admits the facilities are not optimal for functions in 2023 and the decades ahead.

Planning is underway for interior and exterior upgrades, including remodeling, potential building expansion, as well as a potential replacement building or two in the coming years, Sievers said.

Plans for the site do not include work on the senior center, which was built in the 1980s and has undergone some remodeling in recent years.

The good news is, TIF (Tax Increment Financing) funds, which have been derived on much of the development in the community over the last 30 years, are projected to cover costs for campus improvements. That means no new taxes are needed for planning, design or construction of Operations Center improvements, Sievers said. TIF funds have also been used to purchase safety equipment and vehicles, helping to stretch levy funds.

Cost Reduction Measures Continue

“Our staff and prior boards have had a long track record of cost-cutting measures to continue to avoid tax levies,” said Dee Stone, trustee chair. A 1998 Road and Bridge Levy has lasted nearly 25 years, much longer than anticipated, while the 2016 Public Safety Levy, covering both fire and law enforcement services, will be stretched at least four years beyond its projected lifespan, she said.



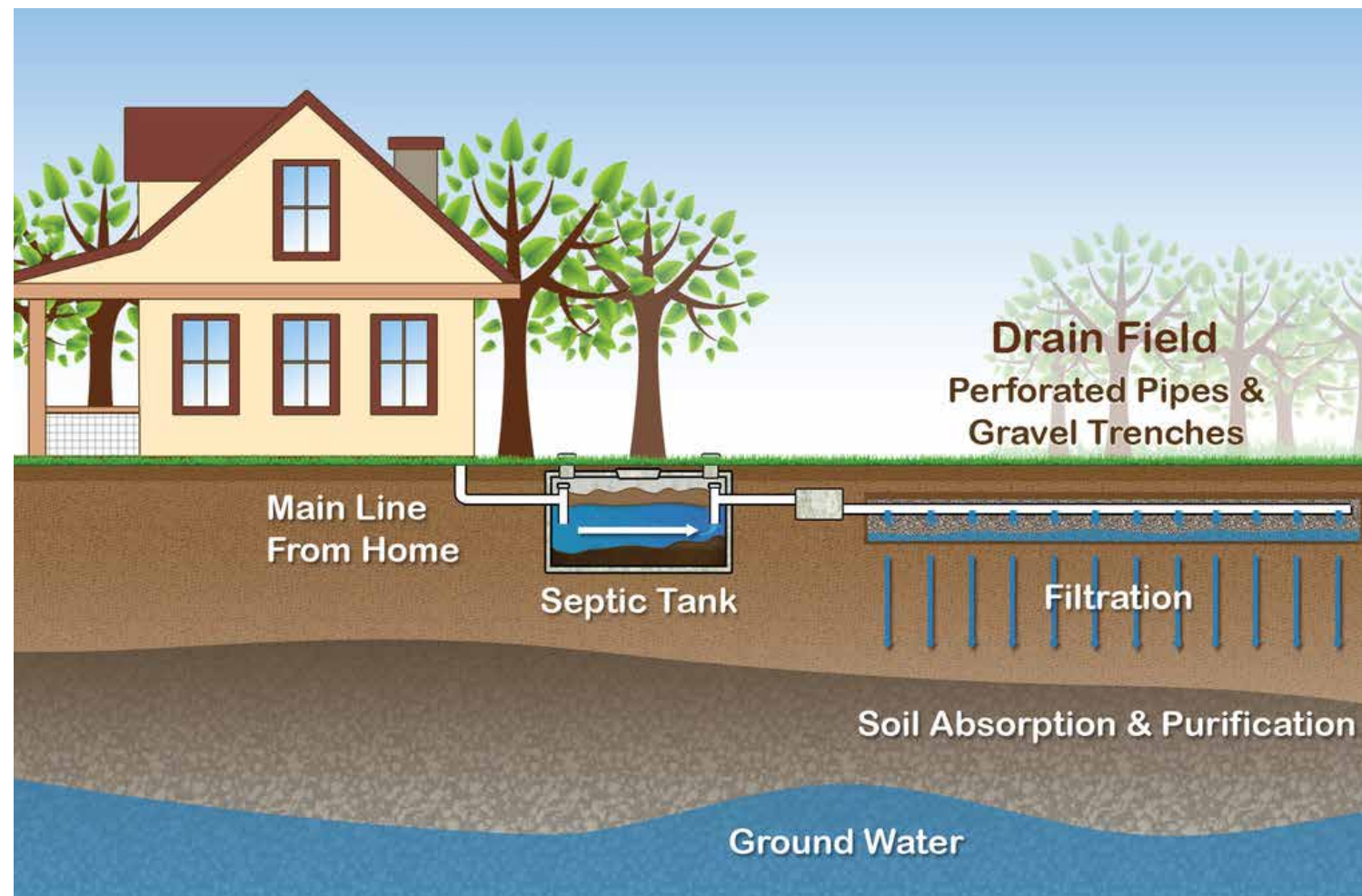
The Anderson Township Operations Center

Anderson Township Employment Opportunities

Anderson Township is currently accepting applications for a full-time event attendant lead person and part-time event attendants.

The positions will be primarily assigned to Anderson Center and provide very flexible opportunities for daytime, evening and/or weekend employment. Pay starts at \$18/hour for the full-time event lead and at \$15/hour for part-time positions.

To learn more about the details of these job opportunities, visit AndersonTownshipOH.gov and look under “News.”



Septic Problems? County Health Department Offers Help

Experiencing septic problems? If so, you may occasionally need help keeping your system viable and healthy. Onsite sewer systems often need specialized care to keep them from causing expensive repairs down the road.

Why worry about this issue? If septic systems are not properly maintained, you can hurt not only the environment but also put your family’s health at risk. Additionally, you may be flushing thousands of dollars down the drain.

In Anderson, septic or other onsite treatment systems are found in properties without access to the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati’s public sewer system. Currently, nearly 1,750 properties in Anderson have an onsite sewage systems, or almost 10 percent of homes in the community.

Using a combination of nature and time-tested technology, septic systems treat waste through an underground wastewater system. Whether septic or other system, the liquid wastewater, once treated, eventually discharges into the groundwater.

Hamilton County Public Health reviews permits for owners installing new systems and manages annual inspections and licensing of those in place. The county health department also provides a wealth of information about the operation, maintenance, and how to

troubleshoot problems with a system. In addition, if you are buying a home with an onsite system and wish to learn more, the public health department offers a voluntary septic system inspection service prior to the purchase of a home. A list of qualified service providers for your septic system may also be accessed.

Check out HamiltonCountyHealth.org and search keyword: “sewage” for all details. If you have questions about your system, call the Hamilton County Public Health Water Quality Division at 513.946.7966.

Septic 101: A Workshop for Homeowners

Dealing with septic issues? Anderson Township and Hamilton County Public Health host a free one-night educational session about onsite sewage systems.

Wednesday, Aug. 30, 6 p.m.

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road

Interurban Railway in Anderson Innovative, But Short-Lived

Shortly before the turn of the 20th century, a new mode of transportation was introduced that would help move people and products from outlying areas into and out of the burgeoning American cities.

It was called the **interurban railway, an all-electric railway similar to a streetcar** that operated in Midwest cities like Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and Cincinnati.

In Cincinnati, construction of an electric interurban railway did not begin until 1902, due to resistance from streetcar companies in the city. On the eastern side of the city, three lines comprised the Interurban Railway and Terminal Company (IR&T), which led from Cincinnati to Lebanon, New Richmond (along the Ohio River), and to Bethel (following the route of Ohio Pike (Beechmont Avenue)).

The two lines traversed Anderson Township and made it possible for area farmers to more quickly transport produce and for people to more conveniently travel to downtown Cincinnati.

Due to the tight spacing and sharp curves on city streets, the IR&T's cars were smaller than most interurbans in other cities and were equipped with two trolley poles for electrical contact.

For the eastern lines, power was generated at a power station located on Kellogg Avenue across from Coney Island on the east side of Sutton Road. Cars also were stored at a car barn at this location as well. Additional power was generated at substations in Forestville and Amelia.

After branching off of the eastern division at Coney Island, the suburban division of the IR&T progressed up the hill along Sutton Road. Upon reaching Beechmont Avenue, a stub traversed north for a few blocks to serve the Mt. Washington business district. The construction of Kellogg Avenue in the late 1920s and additional changes in the 1950s removed any trace of the route.

This line through Anderson Township to Bethel was in direct competition with another interurban railway, the Cincinnati, Georgetown & Portsmouth Railroad (CG&P).

The CG&P was a steam railroad that had been around since 1877. It served many of the same suburban areas and paralleled the IR&T in many places. In 1902, the CG&P was electrified for passenger service, while continuing steam operations for freight. The company closed in 1935.

While passengers on the IR&T line through Anderson Township to Bethel numbered 337,000 in its peak year, this count was light compared to other lines, and it was abandoned in 1918. The remaining lines to Lebanon and New Richmond were abandoned in 1923 as cars and trucks grew in number.

Nevertheless, the history of this innovative but short-lived mode of transportation is evidence of an expanding city and of growing suburban areas like Anderson Township.

Text by Tom Brown. Some photos from the collections of Anderson Township Historical Society and Earl Clark.



The IR&T Suburban Traction line at stop 43 in Tobasco, looking west along Ohio Pike at the intersection of Mt. Carmel-Tobasco Road, circa 1905. Today this is the middle of the Ohio Pike I-275 interchange. From the collection of Earl Clark.



The IR&T trestle at Berkshire Road in Mt. Washington.



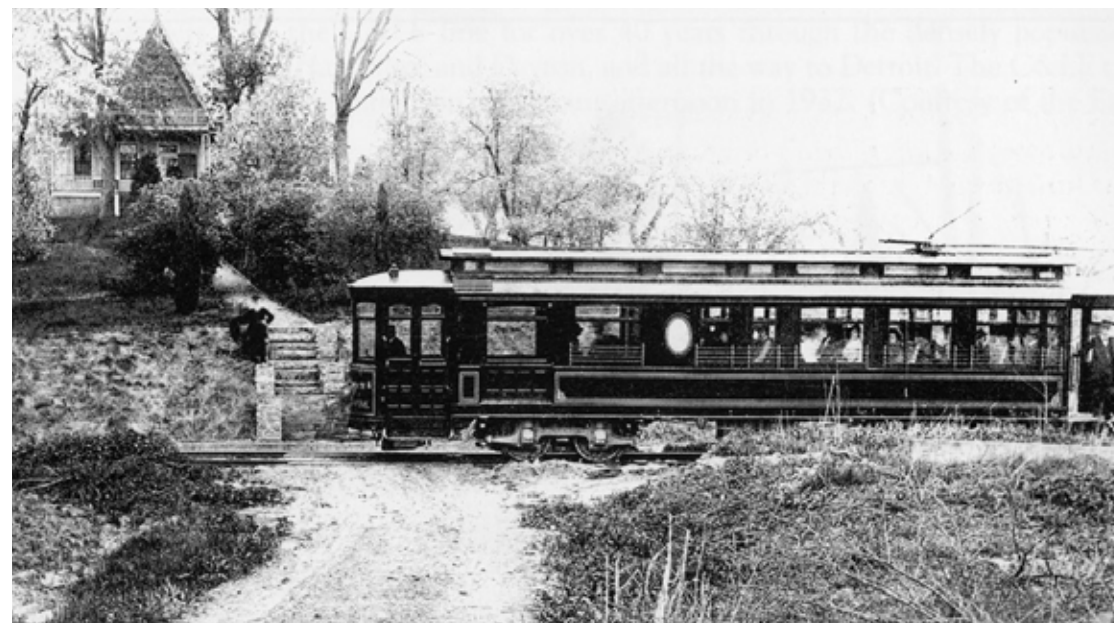
The car barn stored the interurban trolley cars.



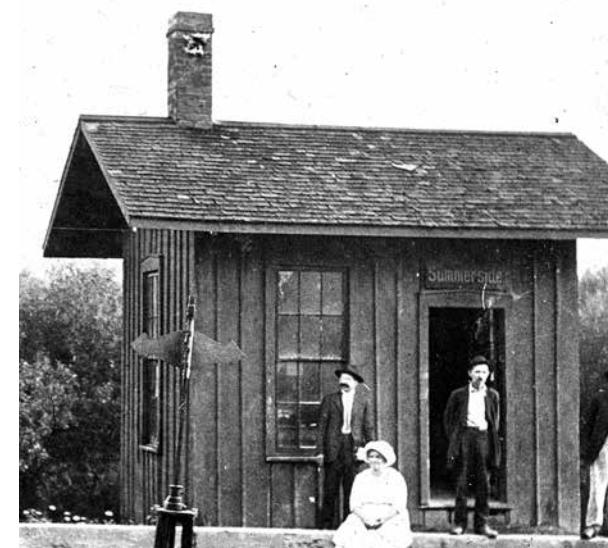
Coney Island was a popular destination point for both the IR&T and the CG&P.



Handbill from the early 1900s



This IR&T Eastern division car stopped at the foot of Eight Mile Road and Kellogg Avenue in 1903. From the collection of Earl Clark.



Anderson Township Depot



The IR&T power station and car barn located on the west side of Sutton Road across from Coney Island. From the Earl Clark collection.

NEWS & NOTES

Six New Hires Join Anderson Fire and Rescue



From left: Nicole Phillips, Joe Pope, Zachary Vondohre, Elijah Mann, Nolan Ecker and Jarred Brewer

Six new recruits have joined the ranks of the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue service.

NICOLE PHILLIPS is a 2022 graduate of the Great Oaks Fire Academy where she was named as class salutatorian. She's also a 2014 graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Education and Public Health.

JOE POPE has served as a firefighter-paramedic since 2013 in several area departments. He received his EMT/paramedic certification from UC Clermont College in 2015 and he holds numerous other certifications.

ZACHARY VONDOHRE comes to Anderson Township Fire and Rescue from a stint with the Colerain Fire Department and the Mt. Healthy Fire Department. He earned his fire certification at Cincinnati State in 2022 and is a certified EMT.

ELIJAH MANN started his career in public safety when he was 14 as a cadet. He worked as a volunteer firefighter in Williamsburg Township and also served on the Bethel-Tate Fire Department as a firefighter and EMT. His training was undertaken at Southern Hills Post Secondary in Mt. Orab, Ohio.

NOLAN ECKER comes to Anderson Fire and Rescue from the Colerain Fire Department where he served as a firefighter-EMT-B since 2021. He also has worked for the Mt. Healthy Fire Department and Little Miami Fire and Rescue Department. Ecker is a May 2023 graduate of Cincinnati State.

JARRED BREWER is a certified firefighter-paramedic who comes from the Pierce Township Fire Department. He also served with the Sharonville Fire Department. He's a graduate of both Cincinnati State and the Great Oaks Career Campus.

Anderson Township and Sheriff's Office Renew Policing Contract

Anderson Township has renewed its contract for policing services with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. The new contract started April 1, 2023 and runs through March 31, 2026. This continues a contractual relationship that began more than 40 years ago.

Under the three-year contract, Anderson will pay \$4.2 million in 2023, a 2.6% increase over the 2022 rate.

"We have had a longstanding partnership with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and have appreciated the outstanding service they provide," said Trustee Chair Dee Stone. "As a member of the Sheriff's Community Advisory Board, I have learned more about the training the officers receive and the inner workings of the department. Seeing this has further convinced me that our community is in good hands."

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office provides community-oriented policing services for five geographic "beats" or zones, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, along with specialty resources available when needed. Thirty-five officers are stationed at the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 substation on Beechmont Avenue.

Anderson Township also contracts for a number of specialty officers. These include the school resource officer, a drug interdiction officer, two traffic safety officers, a community resource officer and a crime prevention officer.

Anderson Township funds these police services through a public safety levy adopted by voters in November 2016. The annual cost for services starts at \$4,280,445 for the first year and ends at \$4,719,193 in 2025.

New Officers Join Township

Three new leadership or specialty officers from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office now call the District 5 substation in Anderson Township home. These include a new commander.



Dave Downing

LT. DAVE DOWNING, a 21-year veteran of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, now serves as the district lieutenant. He has been as a patrol supervisor in the sheriff's office for the past 10 years at other districts. He also takes part in the sheriff's motor unit for special events.

The following specialty officers are funded by Anderson, with funds from the 2016 Public Safety levy that was approved by township voters.

They provide additional community law enforcement beyond the five "beat" officers who patrol the township 24/7.



Caroline Kotlas

CORPORAL CAROLINE KOTLAS, who has worked with the sheriff's office for 25 years, returns to Anderson Township in a new role as a traffic safety officer. Kotlas specializes in serious and fatal accident reconstruction, auto accident investigations including hit and run cases as well as traffic enforcement.



Herman Oyler

CORPORAL HERMAN OYLER has worked as a patrol officer for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office for 10 years and is a traffic safety officer serving Anderson Township. He is currently receiving additional training for crash investigation and reconstruction. Oyler specializes in traffic enforcement and also helps to manage the placement and movement of the township speed measurement trailers.

Other specialty officers include:

CORPORAL RYAN WOLF serves as the school resource officer for 10 schools in Anderson Township, including all Forest Hills School District buildings and Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Wolf is wrapping up his second school year in this position. He handles reporting and investigation of criminal incidents in the schools. He also engages with students in a proactive manner and coordinates various emergency preparedness training situations.

Now entering his fourth year, Anderson's crime prevention officer is **DEPUTY BRIAN HAYES**. His job involves coordinating Citizens on Patrol, working with businesses and citizens on crime prevention and overall public safety.

DEPUTY JACQUELYNE CAMPBELL is Anderson Township's community resource officer, now in her second year. In this position Campbell conducts community training for self-defense and the Citizens Patrol Academy. She also coordinates community policing outreach programs and responds to neighborhood complaints such as barking dogs and parking problems.

Zoning Department Names New Planner



Stephen Springsteen

STEPHEN SPRINGSTEEN has been hired as a planner for Anderson's Planning and Zoning Department. He graduated from Miami University in Oxford in May 2020 and was employed as a development officer with Colerain Township. He also previously worked as an intern in the city of Mason and as a planning consultant for the city of Trotwood. Springsteen started with the township in May.

New Hires Support Township Finances



Tammy Disque

TAMMY DISQUE has been named the director of the Anderson Township Department of Finance. She comes to Anderson with a long history of management experience in the Hamilton County Auditor's Office. Disque served as assistant director of finance and manager of the budget and settlement department at that organization. Other experience includes work as a certified residential property appraiser for the county auditor's office.



Katie Arnold

KATIE ARNOLD is Anderson's new part-time fiscal office clerk. Her background includes work as a senior billing executive, office manager and administrative assistant for small businesses.

Board of Township Trustees BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME YOUR CALLS!



R. DEE STONE **Chair**
(W)513.688.8438

dstone@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



J. LEXI LAUSTEN **Vice Chair**
(W)513.688.8628

llausten@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



JOSHUA S. GERTH **Trustee**
(C)513.833.3010

jgerth@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



KENNETH G. DIETZ **Fiscal Officer**
(W)513.688.8400 ext. 1107

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Anderson's Senior Center: Something for Everyone!

While the motto of the Anderson Township Senior Center is "Active, Healthy Aging," the ongoing goal is "Something for Everyone."

Activities to engage the wide range of backgrounds, interests and needs of members are planned each month. In the month of June alone, there were 47 activities on the Senior Center calendar!

Fitness activities are featured heavily in the weekly schedule. Silver Sneaker classes are taught four days a week, including cardio and yoga. Members participate at their own levels in these fun but effective workouts. Other movement offerings include Better Balance classes, which combine balance and self-defense, line dancing, pickleball and Tai Chi. A Dance Fitness class has recently been added to the center's fitness schedule.

Creative arts activities also are popular. Watercolor and oil painters, woodcarvers and quilters meet weekly to share their work, with many items displayed in the hallways at the center. The Creative Circle, a group working on knitting, crocheting and other needle arts, meets to work and socialize together, plus create items for community members. Garden and photography clubs were recently organized at the center and welcome beginners.

"Something For Everyone" also includes social and educational activities. Holidays and special events such as Mardi Gras and the Kentucky Derby are celebrated with activities, lunch and professional musicians. Groups meet to play mahjong, bridge and euchre, and to receive technology support. Members enjoy trips to area restaurants as well as popular events in Cincinnati, including productions at Music Hall and the Aronoff Theater, Cincinnati Reds games, and area attractions including the zoo and Findlay Market. Member Teresa Sawka moved to the area five years ago and said, "I love the trips. I didn't know the city before and I've met many new people." Authors, historians, health care professionals and entertainers deliver programs.

New Safety Measures for Schools During Summer Break

The Forest Hills School District is implementing multiple new safety measures across all nine school buildings. The district received more than \$600,000 in competitive grant funding to help pay for security upgrades through Ohio's K-12 School Safety Grant Program.

"This funding will make it possible to implement important safety improvements that we otherwise would not have been able to afford in the near future," said John Eckert, Forest Hills School District director of business operations. "We are grateful for this support from the state of Ohio in our continued efforts to create a safe, secure and welcoming school environment for all members of our community."

The district worked with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office to review current safety measures and determine what areas would benefit most through potential grant funding. In the grant application, Forest Hills identified upgrades to school surveillance systems and strengthening entryway security as two target areas.



The Anderson Township Senior Center is known in the area for the number and variety of activities offered. Seniors ages 50 and over from Anderson Township and surrounding communities are invited to visit and take a tour. Yearly membership for Anderson residents is only \$15. Call 513.474.3100 for information.

Additional protections at all school entrances have already started being installed at all school entrances and the work is expected to be completed prior to the return of students in mid-August. Upgrades to surveillance cameras and related software are also in the works, and that project will continue into the school year until it is completed.



Discover Summer Program Keeps Kids Busy

Summer is in full swing at the Anderson Branch Library! There's not a better way to get out of the heat than to come to the library. Keep you or your kid's brain active during these not-so-lazy days having fun and being ready for the upcoming school year.

A great way for young people to stay motivated this summer is Discover Summer. Kids and teens across Hamilton County are invited to pick up a free book to keep and an activity booklet for kids or journal for teens now through July 31. This year's program includes a Discover Summer activity booklet with activities and kid-set summer goals (for 12 and younger), a journal (for ages 13 to 18), a free book to keep, and a participation guide.

Using their activity booklet, set three Discovery goals – read, discover and create – and complete check-ins with the library with a spin of the "Wonder Wheel." Participants also will be entered to win a grand prize after completing three Discovery goals. Eight grand prize winners will be chosen at the Anderson branch during the first week of August. The last day to enter is July 31. Check out the website CHPL.org for programs and activities.

On September 12, the Curious Kids Club will visit the branch. Sign up online begins two weeks prior. This event will feature a visit from the Greater Cincinnati Herpetological Society, who will bring live reptiles.



The branch also offers kid-friendly new materials to check out. Two LED tablets, a build-a-garden STEM set, and new games, like Taco vs. Burrito are available to take home.

Accelerate Anderson: Enhance Your Professional Journey



Share ideas, make connections and accelerate your success no matter where you are on your professional journey through the Accelerate Anderson leadership program.

The Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce's program familiarizes participants with community and civic endeavors and prepares them to assume leadership roles. The eight-month course meets once a month to focus on personal and professional development. A goal of the program is to build a stronger community by creating an informed, committed and diverse network of community members.

Participants attend educational sessions, tours and take part in candid conversations with community leaders. Monthly areas of focus include topics such as "Habitual Leadership and Atomic Habits," "The Art of Communication," health and human services, history, culture and quality of life, and business storytelling.

The chamber is currently accepting applications for the 2023 Accelerate Anderson leadership class starting in September. Contact Brandy Uhlenbrock at 513.474.4802 or brandy@AndersonAreaChamber.org.

Information at AndersonAreaChamber.org/accelerate-anderson.

Anderson Independence Day Parade and Fun Run



Independence Day photo contest winner-Jessica Cunningham



Best Neighborhood or Organization-Sponsored by the Anderson Towne Center-Anderson Township Little League



First 1K Kids Fun Run down Beechmont Avenue



Best Float-Sponsored by Kroger- Anderson Park District



Best Patriotic-Sponsored by Riverbend- Anderson American Legion Post 318



Most Spirited-Sponsored by Mercy Health-Nagel Cheerleading



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

Major Sponsors: Anderson Park District, Anderson Township, Anderson Towne Center, Anderson Township Little League, Core Resources, East Side, Democratic Club, East Side Republican Club, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Mercy Health Anderson Hospital, Mt. Washington Care Center, Riverbend Music Center, Steve Wilson, state senator. Supporting sponsors: Anderson American Legion Post 318, Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, Anderson Hills Plumbing, Anderson Hills Church, Christ Hospital, First Baptist Church of Anderson, Forest Hills School District, Forestville Baptist Church, Gray's Towing, Jersey Mike's Subs, Kingston Development Group, LaRosa's, Pinnacle Plaza, TriHealth, Wake Plumbing.

History to Schools



Memorial Day Remembrance



Garden and History Tour



Walls Greenspace Archeological Dig



Business Updates in Anderson Township

Recent New Businesses

Athletico

8315 Beechmont Ave.

Flying Pig Toys

7757 Five Mile Rd.

Granite Empire

7197 Beechmont Ave.

Prime IV Hydration

7466 Beechmont Ave.

Stretch Lab

7466 Beechmont Ave.



Flying Pig Toys



Athletico

Projects in Development

Anderson Valley subdivision

Markley and Dunn roads

Extra Space Storage

7900 Beechmont Ave.

Carriages at Coldstream subdivision

Ayers Road

OrthoCincy

7910 Beechmont Ave.

Panera Bread Restaurant

8501 Beechmont Ave.

Wandering Monsters Microbrewery, Duck Pin Bowling

8251 Beechmont Ave.

Waterfront Estates subdivision

7801 Ayers Road



OrthoCincy

Survey Reveals Trends in Township Businesses

Are businesses in Anderson Township thriving? Is there an adequately prepared workforce available here to support local needs? A winter 2023 survey of township businesses probed owners on topics like these, touching employee retention, public services that support businesses, and sales trends, among other areas.

Surveys such as this have allowed Anderson Township to track local business/economic trends and feedback now four times since 2005. Goals of the survey project included gauging how public programs met local business needs, red-flagging businesses at-risk and supporting existing businesses with concerns, growth and relocation while tracking local trends. Nearly 80 businesses located in the township’s commercial, office and industrial areas responded.

Survey respondents noted benefits of running a business in Anderson Township included proximity to market, absence of income tax and visibility to consumers. Hiring challenges were mentioned as more of an obstacle than in previous surveys. **In 2010, 20% of participating businesses reported having trouble hiring. That number then increased to 50% in 2019, and though the figure dipped slightly this year, businesses are having difficulty hiring qualified employees among a wide variety of fields.**

As part of its economic development strategy, Anderson Township is working to create appropriate infrastructure that supports businesses.

Based on responses, businesses noted improvements over the years in vehicular accessibility, sidewalks, lease rates, traffic safety and the township’s permit process, though a few categories identified as greater obstacles than 2019.

Matt Owen, executive director of the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, said **employers are feeling the pinch when it comes to available workers.** “Improving workforce readiness is of high importance for the township and chamber,” he said. “Coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic we have seen many sectors struggle to fill employment needs especially in the trade and service industries,” he noted. “One way of improving this area is to work closely with primary and secondary educators and their students to make them aware of opportunities.”

Steve Sievers, assistant township administrator for operations, said employers noted a reduced need for physical changes that would support their business. “This could be due in part to the numerous streetscaping or infrastructure improvements the township has completed over the past decade,” he said.

To view a summary of this year’s results, visit AndersonTownshipOH.gov and search for key words: business survey.

Check Out Beautiful ‘Great Trees’ 2023 Winners

Four trees in Anderson Township have been singled out this year as winners for the 2023 Great Trees Program award.

This program, operating since 2016, celebrates some of the township’s most grand, beautiful and inspiring trees, especially those which are normally hidden from public view. Any Anderson Township tree on private or public property is eligible for a nomination, as long as the property owner is agrees with the Great Trees nomination.

Each year on Arbor Day, the Great Trees Program awards will be announced in each of four categories:

- **Shade Tree**-large, deciduous trees
- **Evergreen Tree**-medium to large evergreen trees
- **Ornamental Tree**-small to medium deciduous or ornamental trees with some sort of ornamental characteristic such as showy flowers and/or fruit, weeping habit, vibrant fall color, etc.
- **Fall Color**-any tree with vibrant fall color

Send in a photo of the tree when the tree is at its best, and identify the tree type (if known) to committee member Joe Willging at jpwilling@gmail.com. Provide the location of the tree and a contact for the nomination. **Deadline for submissions is March 1, 2024.**



AN EASTERN WHITE PINE at 1190 Ayershire Ave. earned the award for the evergreen tree category.



A PIN OAK at 1367 Nagel Road earned the shade tree category award.



A THUNDER CLOUD PLUM at 7118 St. Edmunds Court was named a winner in the ornamental category.



The brightly colored **RED MAPLE** at 2169 Heather Hill Boulevard won the fall tree category.

EVENTS

'A Fair of the Arts' Features Live Music, Artwork, Food



SATURDAY, SEPT. 16 • 4-8 P.M.

If you're making plans for fall activities, don't forget the Anderson Park District's 22nd annual A Fair of the Arts. It's scheduled from 4-8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16 at Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road.

Enjoy original works of art including fine jewelry, stained glass, painting, photography and ceramics. Check AndersonParks.com closer to the event to see a complete artist list.

The A Fair of the Arts event features live music including **Clark Jenkins at 4 p.m.** followed by **John Ford and Rick Howell at 5:45 p.m.**

Admission is free. The event takes place rain or shine, unless pouring rain. Join for food, drinks (including beer and wine), music and local art.

Emergency Services Day Returns to Beechmont Fire Station

If your child loves all things related to fire, rescue and emergency services, don't miss the return of **Emergency Services Day** on **Saturday, Oct. 14.**

The annual event includes both the **Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department** and the **Hamilton County Sheriff's Office** who open up their vehicles for exploration from **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** at the **Beechmont Fire Station**, 7954 Beechmont Ave.

More Hamilton County Sheriff's Office vehicles will be on site this year, including a motorcycle, bomb truck, a drone, a boat and the SWAT truck.

Kids can:

- Climb on a water rescue boat, a ladder truck and explore an ambulance
- Check out vehicles from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office
- Extinguish a "fire" using a fire nozzle
- Get your picture taken with Lt. Big Ben, the fire department mascot
- Roll out in real fire gear for a photo shoot
- Experience the firefighter obstacle course
- Enjoy a live fire demonstration showing the importance of closing bedroom doors

The fifth annual toy drive called "Stuff the Medic Unit Collection Drive" benefitting Inter Parish Ministries begins that week. The fire and rescue department will accept donations of unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items as firefighter-paramedics pack the township's ambulance.



SATURDAY, OCT. 14 • 11 A.M.-2 P.M.

Food Trucks, Trick or Treat at FallFest at Towne Center

The second annual FallFest returns to Anderson Towne Center for more live music and entertainment, food trucks, a beer garden, community vendors and more.

The event is scheduled from **3-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21** and will include trick-or-treating at the towne center from **4-6 p.m.** The free event provides a daytime trick or treat option for children. Individual stores may host special promotions during this time.

The event is open rain or shine.

FallFest is sponsored by the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce. For more details, go to AndersonAreaChamber.org.



SATURDAY, OCT. 21 • 3-8 P.M.



SATURDAY, OCT. 21 • NOON-5 P.M.

Urban Farm Celebrates Fall

Fall's just around the corner and it's almost time for Anderson Township Historical Society's Harvest Fair at the Urban Farm. This annual event is planned for **Saturday, Oct. 21 from noon to 5 p.m.** at 2550 Bartels Road.

Enjoy an afternoon on this 11-acre farm filled with local food, music, and artisan wares. Stroll through community gardens in full autumn splendor and enjoy the chickens that live on the farm. Games and events are planned for all ages and costumes are encouraged.

Admission is a suggested donation of \$5 at the door, \$10 for families. Parking is available across the street at the Moeller Knights of Columbus. For details, go to AndersonUrbanFarm.com or visit Facebook: Anderson Township Historical Society Urban Farm.

Public Meetings

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

Board of Township Trustees *(Times and dates subject to change with notice)*
Regular Meeting: Thursday, Aug. 17, 5 p.m. • **Interim Meeting:** Thursday, Sept. 7, 2 p.m.

Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee
 Thursday, Aug. 17, 2 p.m.
 Meets at Anderson Township Senior Center
 7970 Beechmont Ave.

WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee
 Wednesday, Aug. 16, 6 p.m.
Zoning Commission
 Monday, Aug. 28, 5:30 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals
 Thursday, Aug. 3, 5:30 p.m.
Transportation Advisory Committee
 Wednesday, Aug. 9, 6 p.m.

Tree Committee
 Monday, Sept. 11, 7 p.m.
Economic Development Committee
 Thursday, Sept. 26, 3 p.m.

CONNECT

JULY

Beechmont Players-Murder on the Orient Express

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
July 28-30 and August 3-5

Info and tickets: Beechmontplayers.org

Anderson Day Festival

Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road
Saturday, July 29, 4-10 p.m.

Fireworks at 10 p.m.



Anderson Day Festival

AUGUST

Performing Arts, Inc.

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
August 6-19

Roald Dahl's *Matilda the Musical Jr.*; *The Music Man Jr.*;
Disney's The Aristocats Kids; *The Lighting Thief-The Percy Jackson Musical*. Info and tickets: performingartsinc.net

SoulShine Warrior-Candlelight Sound Bath

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
Sunday, Aug. 7, 2 and 6 p.m.

Info and tickets: Eventbrite.com

Merit Theatre Company-The Sound of Music

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
August 25-27 and 31, September 1

Septic 101: A Workshop for Homeowners

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
Wednesday, Aug. 30, 6 p.m.

Free. Sponsored by Anderson Township and Hamilton County Public Health

SEPTEMBER

The Ultimate Elvis Show

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road
Friday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m.

Tyler Christopher: Elvis impersonator. Info: Eventbrite.com.
Tickets \$25-\$40

OCTOBER

Beechmont Players-Gladys Nights

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road
October 6-8 and 12-14

Info and tickets: Beechmontplayers.org

Emergency Services Day

Beechmont Fire Station, 7954 Beechmont Ave.
Saturday, Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Anderson Township Urban Farm Harvest Fest

Anderson Township Urban Farm, 2550 Bartels Road
Saturday, Oct. 21, noon to 5 p.m.

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



Urban Farm Harvest Fest

FallFest

Anderson Towne Center, 7578 Beechmont Ave.
Saturday, Oct. 21, 3-8 p.m.

Free. Live music, entertainment, booths, food trucks and trick or treat



FallFest at Anderson Towne Center

ONGOING EVENTS

Anderson Township Urban Farm

2550 Bartels Road

Saturdays, Aug. 19 and Sept. 16, 6-9:30 p.m.

Admission: adults \$15; Anderson Township Historical Society members, students and seniors \$10. Kids under 5 free. Food truck on site.

- Saturday, Aug. 19- Music with John Ford
- Saturday, Sept. 16- Folk/Singer-Songwriter Night featuring Liz Kelly



Music at the Anderson Township Historical Society's Urban Farm

Anderson Township Farmers' Market Special Events and Visits

St. Timothy Church, 8101 Beechmont Ave.

Saturdays through October 21, 9 a.m. to noon

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

- August 12- National Farmers Market Week celebration
- August 19- Salsa Competition and Great Parks of Hamilton County
- September 9- Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department
- September 16- Market Buck Day and Great Parks of Hamilton County
- October 21- Chili Celebration and Clermont County Animal Shelter



Anderson Township Farmers' Market

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.

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Our Local History

Four Ohio Markers Recognize Noted Township Locations

Although Anderson Township marks its 230th birthday this year, residents still can travel the community and see reminders of the area's interesting pioneer history.

In past decades, four Ohio Historical Markers have been awarded to local sites through the Ohio Historic Markers program. One of the markers lies near the banks of the Little Miami River near Lunken Airport. Though no building stands, this marker represents the beginnings of the community at a fortified fort on the Little Miami Scenic River. The other three markers honor the people and the history of buildings that are still standing from the late 18th and 19th centuries.

Here are the four locations recognized as significant sites by the Ohio Historic Markers program:



Miller-Leuser Log House

Miller-Leuser Log House, 6540 Clough Pike, was built by Ichabod Benton Miller around 1796. One of the few surviving structures built by Ohio River Valley pioneers in the late 1700s, the home was continuously occupied for more than 170 years until the Anderson Township Historical Society purchased it in 1971. The cabin and its surroundings are open for tours from May-October.



Garard/Martin Station

Garard/Martin Station was the site of the first fortified settlement in Anderson Township and one of the first in the Virginia Military District. It's located along Elstun Road west of Mt. Washington near the Little Miami Scenic River, Founders John Garard and Joseph Martin landed via flatboats in 1790, three years before Anderson Township was officially established.



The James Clark Stone House

The James Clark Stone House, built by James Clark in 1802-1803 at the corner of Clough Pike and Hunley Road, is the newest historic marker in Anderson. It was dedicated in 2018. Said to be the oldest standing stone house in southwest Ohio, the home's main portion is constructed of dressed limestone. A porch and one-story addition were added later. Anderson Township purchased the home in 1995 and the grounds surrounding this are leased to Native Roots nursery.



Salem United Methodist Church

Salem United Methodist Church (now Anderson Hills Church-Salem Campus) was established by Francis McCormick (1764-1836) who founded Methodism in the Northwest Territory. Families of the Salem settlement first hosted services in McCormick's log home; the existing structure at the corner of Salem and Sutton roads (1863) is the third church building on that site. McCormick was buried in the graveyard next door, now an Anderson Township cemetery.

Numerous historical documents and other information is available through AndersonTownshipOH.gov/225 and also through the Anderson Township Historical Society. A historic image library is available online through the historical society.

Visit AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org for more information.