



# ANDERSON Insights

THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

APRIL 2022

## Township Transforming 'Idle' Land, Gaining Taxpayer Returns

More than a decade of planning focused on turning idle land owned by the township into productive, tax-generating sites is bearing fruit.

Through strategic planning by Anderson Township staff and volunteer committees working on the Comprehensive Plan and several township-wide studies, Anderson has worked to redevelop key sites to benefit residents and meet primary planning goals.

Trustee Chair Josh Gerth explains the concept behind the township divesting itself of properties: "Township-owned property belongs to our taxpayers and should be generating the best return for our residents," he said. "I'm proud that previously township-owned properties have been catalysts for growth."

Ken Dietz, fiscal officer, has followed the numbers regarding the impact of implementing sales of township properties. Within the past several years, Anderson has sold seven properties totaling more than 30 acres. These sites are projected to generate more than \$50 million in new property valuation

and about \$1.4 million in new taxes by 2025-2026 (when current properties under development will be completed). In addition, the township has already collected more than \$1.25 million in sales revenue from these properties, Dietz said.

Some of these underutilized properties have been sold to address housing, office, retail or industrial demand and expansion needs identified in the township's Comprehensive Plan. A few blighted or vacant properties have been turned into new single-family housing, while other properties were purchased and sold to provide safety and vehicular cross-access connections on Beechmont Avenue, according to Steve Sievers, assistant administrator for operations. This redevelopment has provided support and growth for other businesses through the creation of new residential units or increasing the township's daytime population. Minimal impact has been experienced on public services, roadways and schools, he added. As part of the process, Anderson also has identified other parcels to remain as open space.

*(Continued on page 6)*



*Hills Properties is developing the luxury apartment project called Vantage at Anderson Towne Center on Five Mile Road.*

INSIDE

2



Improved Transit Service Planned

8



Five Mile Chapel-Church with No Congregation

9



Turpin Dig Returns Soon

12



Meet Your Elected Officials

20



Spring Events Include Cleanup, Garden Tour

# SORTA Funds to Deliver Improved Transit Service

A 2020 tax levy supporting Cincinnati's transit agency SORTA (Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority) means Anderson Township will benefit through upgraded bus service and enhanced infrastructure.

The new sales tax levy significantly increases the resources Metro has at its disposal, notes Pat LaFleur, external affairs manager. On one hand, this means Metro can expand the frequency, span, reach and reliability of its bus service. On the other hand, it allows SORTA to offer financial assistance to communities looking to upgrade existing road, bridge and sidewalk infrastructure throughout Metro's Hamilton County service areas, including Anderson Township, he said.

Currently, Anderson Township is served by four Metro routes, three of which are dedicated to morning/afternoon commuter service.



The township's relocated temporary park and ride facility is currently housed along Towne Center Way, between Rancheros, the AMC Theater and TriHealth's parking garage on the Anderson Towne Center and TriHealth properties.

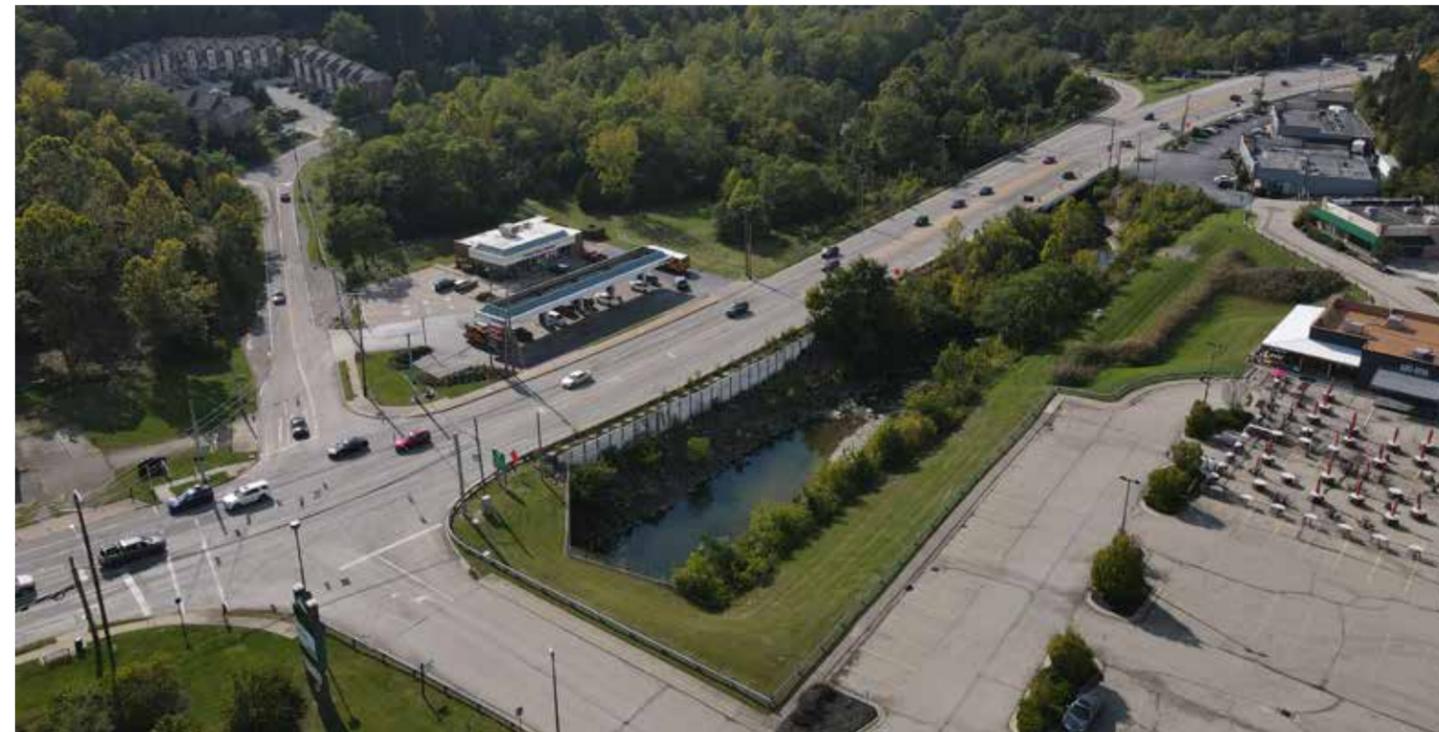
A new park and ride is planned, according to Steve Sievers, assistant administrator of operations. The Vantage development of luxury apartments currently under construction on Five Mile Road includes this new facility as a part of the building's parking garage which could be open in 2024, Sievers said.

"With gas prices on a historic upswing, many of us are looking for alternatives to our traditional driving commutes," said LaFleur. "One of the primary benefits of riding public transportation is that, even when prices at the pump fluctuate, Metro fare remains the same. That's good for your budget and peace of mind," he added. In addition, Metro is offering amenities such as onboard Wi-Fi and charging stations and electric vehicle charging stations at transit centers.

Also emerging from the levy is SORTA's new Transit Infrastructure Fund, which assists communities desiring to improve their road infrastructure. During the inaugural round of grant funding in 2021, Anderson Township received \$306,000 to construct a new sidewalk on Elstun Road and Spindlehill Lane to Route 24 and 30X bus stops. Construction on that project is scheduled to begin in early 2023, according to Planner Brad Bowers.



Rendering of Vantage at Anderson Towne Center showing bus pickup area



A new sidewalk on Elstun Road will be constructed starting this year. Photo is of Elstun and Beechmont Avenue intersection.

## How to Ride Metro

go\*METRO

### PLAN



Download **Transit app** or use **Google Transit** to plan your trip and purchase your fare on your smartphone, or find maps and schedules at **go-metro.com**.

### PAY



As the bus approaches, **wave** to signal you want to ride. As you board, insert fare into **farebox** or use the **validator** to scan your in-app code.

### RIDE



**Transit app** allows you to track your bus in real-time. As your bus nears your stop, pull the cord. Once the bus has stopped, exit through the rear door.

## Perks of Going Metro

### Cost

**\$800 vs. \$80** – Average monthly cost of owning a new car\* vs. Monthly Metro pass

### Health

Taking the bus is a more active form of transportation. (Plus, driving through traffic can cause increased stress.\*\*)

### Environment

The more people ride public transit, the fewer cars out on the road. This means cleaner air and safer streets for everyone.

### Convenience

When you ditch the car keys, you also ditch the hassle of navigating traffic and finding parking. With less time behind the wheel there's more time for checking headlines or emails...or just relaxing.

\* According to AAA

\*\* According to the National Institutes of Health

RIDING IS BELIEVING



## Adopt-A-Roadway Takes Aim at Litter; Volunteers Sought



Keep Anderson Township clean and green! That's the theme of Anderson's Adopt-A-Roadway partnership focused on tackling litter on roads and green spaces.

Working with residents, organizations and businesses, Anderson Township always is enlisting volunteers to periodically pick up litter on a designated road or area, according to organizer Sarah Donovan, planner.

"Addressing litter along roadways is a community effort," noted Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone. "By working together, we can help keep Anderson Township litter-free. Reducing litter through volunteer help saves taxpayer dollars that can be invested in other community needs."

Donovan said the program is modeled after the national "Adopt a Highway" program. This local program partners with homeowners and business associations, Neighborhood and Business Watch programs, and with individuals and other public and private organizations within the township. Groups are assigned a township road that is bordering their neighborhood. The group then organizes periodically to pick up litter on the adopted road.

Gloves and bags used for the pickups are provided by the township. Filled trash bags are deposited at the side of the road and picked up by the Public Works Department.

Anderson Township received a grant from the Ohio EPA to provide designated signage on adopted roads, identifying the individual or group that is maintaining each road, plus contributing safety vests and gloves.

To Adopt-a-Roadway or for questions, contact Donovan at 513.688.8400 ext. 1181 or [sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov).



# TOWNSHIP NEWS

## State Route 32 Improvements on Tap for 2022 and Beyond



State Route 32-Eight Mile Road intersection will be modified to address safety and traffic flow this year.

State Route 32 will be the focus of a number of improvements in Anderson and to the east beginning this summer. In Anderson Township, State Route 32 (Batavia Road) will be resurfaced between Beechmont Avenue and the Village of Newtown, plus a segment of sidewalk and a new crosswalk will be added.

The Ohio Department of Transportation recently announced the five-month project which starts in May. Traffic will be maintained during the resurfacing.

In conjunction with this venture, ODOT is planning to install a small section of sidewalk on the south side of State Route 32 near Turpin Lake Place, in the vicinity of Clear Creek Park. This sidewalk will allow nearby residents to cross the roadway at a new crosswalk to access the Little Miami Scenic Trail.

Planner Brad Bowers said residents on Turpin Lake Place approached the township with this request, which was timely as ODOT could then incorporate this link into the previously planned resurfacing project.

Plans include a pedestrian-activated flashing warning device, which when activated will trigger warning lights in both directions, Bowers said. “This will alert motorists that pedestrians are in the area, which is critical to ensuring their safety in this high-speed area,” Bowers noted.

### State Route 32 and Eight Mile Intersection

A little further up the road, on the east side of Newtown, the tricky State Route 32-Eight Mile Road intersection will be modified to address safety and traffic flow at this key juncture. Work is slated to begin as early as this fall, with completion of the project planned for next year.

This intersection near the township’s eastern border with Union Township (Clermont County) has long been a confusing area for drivers. The location previously has been cited as a hot spot for crashes, some with injuries, due to the road configuration.

This three-way intersection project calls for the installation of a “Green Tee” intersection. It allows westbound State Route 32 traffic travelling straight down the hill to flow continuously towards Newtown, bypassing a new traffic signal. A new traffic signal will maintain traffic for all other traffic movements, including eastbound State Route 32 and intersecting traffic off Eight Mile.

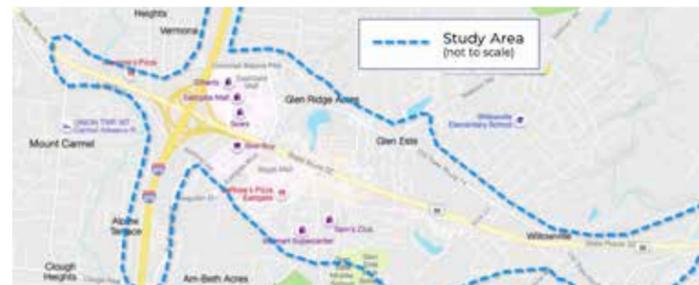
The State Route 32 westbound traffic will include a left turn traffic signal in a protected phase, which means that left turns will only be permitted when eastbound traffic is stopped at the traffic signal.

The Ohio Department of Transportation has noted delays could be reduced by up to 75 percent and safety will be greatly enhanced by the reconfiguration.

### Clermont County State Route 32 projects

Drivers using State Route 32 in Clermont County, east of the Eastgate area, will see continued road changes designed to meet traffic demands and reduce congestion.

The Clermont County Transportation Improvement District is completing a series of coordinated improvements along the corridor between Eastgate and Batavia. Three projects are being completed in a phased segment over the next several years. The projects are part of the Eastern Corridor Project. See [GoClermont.org](http://GoClermont.org) for more information.



Eastgate area to Batavia road improvements

## Clough Signal Project Complete, with Positive Results

### Have you noticed anything new on your drive along Clough Pike?

Traffic signal improvements designed to reduce traffic issues have been operational on a portion of Clough for a few months.

This project is the first of several planned by Anderson Township for the busy corridor. The upgrades evolved from a 2020 study suggesting ways to improve safety and traffic flow along Clough. An initial project modified signal timing to reduce traffic issues and delays during morning and evening commutes at five signalized intersections between Five Mile and Eight Mile roads.

A recent study assessing the improvement showed the new timings improved coordination between all signals along this part of corridor, reducing stops and starts along the way.

According to traffic counts and research conducted by project engineers, the delay savings adds up to more than 66,000 hours over the course of the year. “Traffic delay is always a major concern among residents, and this traffic signal retiming provided the township the most bang for our buck,” said Planner P.J. Ginty.

Hundreds of suggestions to improve Clough Pike were submitted by residents in a 2020 survey. As part of the township’s plans to continue implementing high-priority projects from the Clough Study, the township is advancing a “robust” pavement marking project throughout the entire Clough corridor this spring, Ginty said.



Clough and Eight Mile intersection

The goal is to improve the visibility and safety of existing intersections by repainting existing markings, adding crosswalks, and altering existing stop locations to provide setback from the crosswalks, thus improving pedestrian safety.

Engineering begins soon on a federally-funded planned sidewalk on the north side of Clough by Juilfs Park. Additional funding options are being studied to implement other key recommendations from the Clough Study including enhancements to the existing crosswalk, Ginty said.

## Spend Now - Save Later on Road Rehabilitation

Annual street maintenance and repairs undertaken by township are on target, just like every spring and summer in our community. The focus of this program is to address maintenance issues on streets where curbs and sidewalks, if applicable, will be replaced this summer.

Resurfacing of those roadways will then occur in the summer of 2023.

Eric Luginbuhl, public works director, said this year the township will add about \$1 million to the normal \$1.5 million budget to move more streets and curbs into a 20-year replacement cycle. “Doing this will help save long-term, more expensive repairs,” noted Luginbuhl.

One reason the township chose to spend more this year is because it received a larger than expected infusion of TIF (Tax Increment

Financing) funds, which must be used for capital improvements, “Using these funds also enables us to extend our now 24-year old road and bridge tax levy by another year with no increase in taxes,” added Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz. “That is a tremendous accomplishment, virtually unheard of these days,” he said.

Additional roadways, which don’t have curb or sidewalk, also may be added to the township’s resurfacing program in 2023. This summer Anderson will allocate nearly \$1 million to roadway sealer and microsurface applications aimed at extending the life of both older and newly-paved roadways.

For questions about the township’s annual road maintenance program, contact 513.688.8400, ext. 4.

### More than 30 streets will be addressed in the 2022-2023 program

Blairhouse Drive	Deer Haven Drive	Hilltree Drive	Montridge Drive	Rockhurst Lane	Toronto Court
Cabinet Circle	Denallen Drive-	Laval Drive	Mount Fort Court	Senate Court	Whitehouse Lane
Calgary Drive	Holiday Hills to	Loisdale Court	Northport Dr.- Eight	Shady Woods Court	Woodstone Drive
Capital Drive	Muskegon	Loisview Lane	Mile to township line	Shenstone Drive	
Citadel Place	Executive Court	Manitoba Drive	Old Forge Lane	Summithills Drive	
Coran Drive	Hillridge Court	Montchateau Drive	Pinebluff Lane	Summitridge Drive	

# Key Properties Sold by Anderson Township

## 7661 BEECHMONT AVE.



Professional Center of Anderson office building

The residence on this property was acquired in 2007 to facilitate vehicular cross-access connections consistent with the Beechmont Corridor Plan. The property sold in 2015, after being consolidated with nearby properties, and was developed into the Professional Center of Anderson office building behind McDonald's. With this, vehicular cross-access connections now link several properties in this area to traffic signals on Beechmont Avenue at Wolfangel and Forest roads.

## 7887 BEECHMONT AVE. (KING LOUIS COURT)

The former residence on this property was acquired and demolished in 2007, to provide vehicular access for nearby properties to the traffic signal at Beechmont and King Louis Court next to City Bird. It is currently being redeveloped with nearby properties into Condado restaurant. Once completed, more properties will be linked to the traffic signal through this property.

## 7954 BEECHMONT AVE. (northern portion of Anderson Township Operations Center)

Acquired over several decades between the 1950s and 1970s, portions of this land were used to construct a fire station and road maintenance facility on site. This Beechmont property later became the township's Operations Center. The northern 6 acres were no longer needed for township operations and the property was sold to Mayerson Company in 2016 for in excess of \$1 million. Mayerson, the owner of Stonegate Apartments, built One 30 @ Stonegate, a 130-unit development that opened in 2020 and has a projected property valuation of \$8 million.

## 7832 FIVE MILE ROAD

Construction on the former Anderson Center Station Park and Ride site is quite visible and is transforming this area into a mixed use housing/transit development. The upcoming Vantage development of luxury apartments is scheduled for completion in early 2025. At the lower level of the Vantage parking garage, the public park and ride will be ready for use in late 2023. This will also serve as overflow parking for Anderson Center.

## 6757 KELLOGG AVE.



Anderson sold land to allow for the staging area at Cargill, which increased safety and reduced traffic backups on Kellogg Avenue.

The former 5-acre Anderson Township fire training site on Kellogg Avenue was sold for \$75,000 in 2013 to Cargill, Inc. to expand their operations and reduce semi-trailer backups on Kellogg Avenue. Cargill has completed subsequent improvements to the site and their existing property, which combined is now valued at around \$1.5 million. The township then purchased the former Boatsmith Marine and is seeking private development on that site, which would include a public park and access to the river.

## 1357 NAGEL ROAD



Nagel Road site development is underway on a property previously owned by Anderson Township.

The majority of the almost 3-acre site on Nagel Road was acquired in the 1990s to create a northern access drive to Nagel Road for the Anderson Township Operations Center site. The property was sold in 2021 for \$240,000 and site work has begun for 13 patio homes, most of which will be duplexes, beginning to fulfill a housing type suggested in the township's Comprehensive Plan. When complete, the property valuation is projected to exceed \$12 million.

## Generating Taxpayer Returns (continued from page 1)

Discussions determining the township's land use needs from more than a decade ago have paid off, Gerth said. "These are properties we owned for which we had to find a higher and better use," he said. One reason the township initiated the volunteer Economic Development Committee was to determine best uses of these key sites, he added.

Years ago, Sievers said, the Economic Development Committee was advised by an economic consultant that more households or "rooftops" as well as additional employees or "daytime population" were needed to help attract more retail and restaurant offerings to Anderson. "We believe that the township's efforts coupled with those of other investors have been successful at doing just that," he added.

One prime redevelopment site is the Five Mile Road property that formerly was home to the Anderson Center Station park and ride. The new Vantage development on that site will include 224 luxury apartments with a public parking garage. This project supports township efforts to implement diversification of housing to offer more options to residents, especially those seeking to downsize and "rent by choice" to remain here in Anderson, Gerth said.

Amy Richardson, chair of the Economic Development Committee, said the committee has in recent years focused on encouraging senior living housing, new single family housing and also multi-family development.



From left, Township Assistant Administrator Steve Sievers, Trustee Dee Stone, Trustee Lexi Lausten and Township Administrator Vicky Earhart at the Vantage at Anderson Towne Center groundbreaking

"As a result, the township has seen the addition of new neighborhoods, an expanded apartment community with two more planned, and by this spring, three new or expanded senior housing communities. Varied housing options allow us to maintain a healthy and diversified economy, and retain or attract residents of all ages," she said.

# Anderson Township Welcomes New Businesses

## COMPLETED PROJECTS/TENANTS

**Bank of America**  
7765 Beechmont Ave.

**Biggy Coffee**  
7754 Beechmont Ave.

**Blushery Events**  
8128 Beechmont Ave.

**Kentucky Fried Chicken**  
7857 Beechmont Ave.

**The GAME Anderson**  
8251 Beechmont Ave.

**ABS Transitions**  
3235 Mt. Carmel Road

**The Joint Chiropractic**  
7625 Beechmont Ave.

**Pet Vet 365**  
Anderson Towne Center

**Pure Barre**  
Anderson Towne Center



The GAME Anderson



Biggy Coffee

## NEW BUILDINGS/TENANTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

**Condado**  
7877 Beechmont Ave.

**HyperShine Car Wash**  
7901 Beechmont Ave.

**Harmony at Anderson**  
6201/6301 Clough Pike

**Stellar Street Eats**  
6663 Salem Road

**Vantage**  
Anderson Towne Center  
1435 Towne Center Way

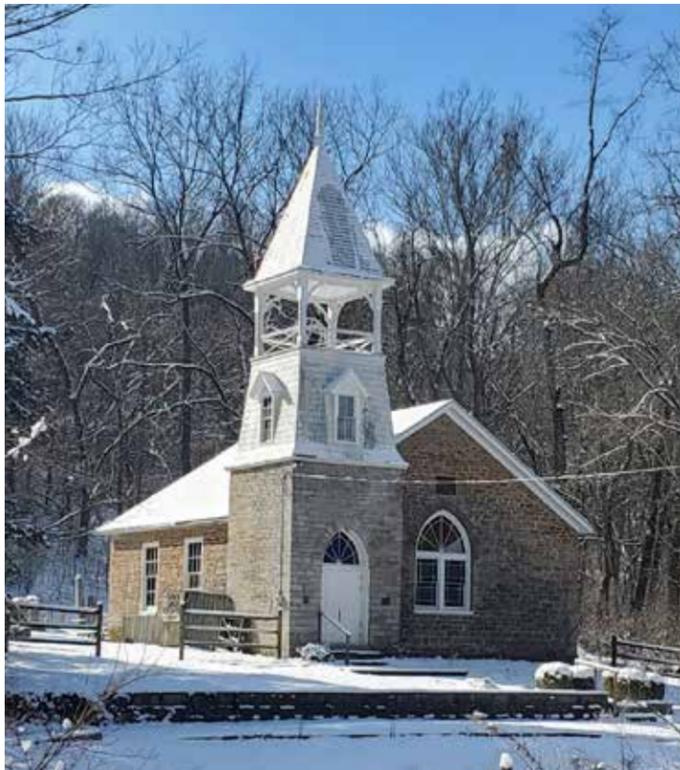
## Five Mile Chapel: Church With No Congregation Still Stands

Tucked along the banks of the Five Mile Creek sits the historic Five Mile Chapel, one of Anderson Township's oldest standing structures.

Constructed in 1844, the stone building is still open every day, cared for by the volunteers from the Five Mile Chapel Society, Inc. Although without a congregation for more than 50 years, the church is maintained by this dedicated group of volunteers who preserve and protect the non-denominational facility through each season.



Early photo of Five Mile Chapel



Five Mile Chapel

Built of native stone found in the area, the structure on Five Mile Road is remarkably intact, considering it has not been in regular use since 1963. This beautiful church once housed one of the first United Brethren in Christ churches built in the area. Early settler Jacob Markley donated the land and along with others gathered stone from the creek and surrounding hills in the Five Mile Valley and built the structure by hand. In its later years the church was used by a congregation from the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

A hilly graveyard graces the side of the church, filled with names that live on in Anderson Township. On Markley's gravestone, visitors view a serious look at one of the founders of the congregation, created by sculptor Thomas O'Hare. The stone is signed by O'Hare.

It is easy to drive by Five Mile Chapel and never see it. Hidden away behind trees on the banks of the creek, the church is located between Birney Lane and Ayers Road at 6977 Five Mile Road. A Five Mile Chapel sign hangs near a bridge on the south side of Five Mile Road.

Members of the Five Mile Chapel Society open the facility for weddings, baptisms and other events. The site was listed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1978. Learn more at [fivemilechapel.org](http://fivemilechapel.org).



Inside Five Mile Chapel



Jacob Markley headstone



Photos courtesy of the Five Mile Chapel Society and the Anderson Township Historical Society.

## Turpin Dig Returns in May; Project Seeks Volunteers

The archeological dig that started last summer on Anderson Township Greenspace on the former Turpin homestead site resumes this year. The Miami Valley Recollection and Reconnection project will be in full swing mid-May through mid-June.

Plans for the dig include re-excavations at the Turpin site as well as engaging visitors with an improved and expanded augmented reality app prototype.

According to Dr. Rob Cook from The Ohio State University, this year students from Ohio State and Indiana University, along with staff and interns from the Cincinnati Museum Center, will be working at the site. Community volunteers are also encouraged to get involved in the field and lab work.

"Work will continue in the area where we found part of a wall-trench house last summer as well as in one of the Fort Ancient villages located in the western part of the site," Cook said. "At the end of the upcoming season, we hope to have relocated a total of four wall-trench houses on



either side of each of these villages so that we can better understand their overall composition and construction dates."

Further excavations in the historic Turpin family homestead area will continue, with a focus on the main house itself and surrounding areas. Organizers hope to locate a trash dump to be able to understand change over time from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Cook said.

The augmented reality additions will include at least one more of the Fort Ancient villages, Cook noted. "This will provide a great opportunity to see both where houses were as well as ones we are looking for at the same time," he said. "This technology is a wonderful way to more fully experience this important site."

Anderson Township is partnering with the Recollection and Reconnection project by offering a variety of support. "We're in a somewhat unique position where residents can watch as Anderson's history is unearthed before their eyes," noted Township Administrator Vicky Earhart. "For some, that history is very personal, for others, it's a way to understand how our past helped shape the community that we hold dear today."

For more information about the project, visit: [www.facebook.com/MVRR. OhioArcheology](http://www.facebook.com/MVRR. OhioArcheology). To sign up to volunteer, send a note to: [miamivalleyrecollections@gmail.com](mailto:miamivalleyrecollections@gmail.com).



## Log House Open Houses Scheduled for May-October



The Anderson Township Historical Society opens the historic Miller-Leuser Log House for visitors from 1 to 4 p.m. on the first and third Sundays in May through October.

The Miller-Leuser Log House is at 6550 Clough Pike, just east of Bartels Road. During the open houses, docents from the historical society are on hand to share history and details about the structure. The log home is one of the few buildings remaining in Anderson Township from early pioneer days.

# NEWS & NOTES

## Tim Maddy Named Officer of the Year



Tim Maddy

The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office District 5 has announced Cpl. Tim Maddy is the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. The award is given annually by the American Legion Post 318. Maddy serves as a traffic safety officer in Anderson Township.

Maddy started his career with the sheriff's office in 1995 and completed his associate's degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1997. He works with a new records management system that handles all reports, traffic and criminal, as well as other

information. His expertise in this complex system is now sought throughout the area by other officers. Maddy is an Anderson High School graduate.

## Three Join Fire and Rescue Department

Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department has hired three new firefighters/paramedics. They started late last year.

### The new recruits are:



Blake Rockey

**Blake Rockey**, a graduate of Shawnee State University, previously served on the Woodlawn Fire Department and the Mariemont Fire Department. He earned his paramedic degree in 2018.

**Cory Myers** has been involved as an EMT and firefighter for 10 years. He previously worked at the Bethel-Tate Fire Department and served as a lieutenant firefighter with the Franklin Township Fire Department. He earned his paramedic degree from Gateway Community and Technical College.



Cory Myers

**Jacob Saunders** is a combat medic with the Ohio National Guard and served as a firefighter-EMT for the City of Florence. He earned his paramedic degree from Butler Tech. Saunders also worked for the Sharonville and City of Fairfield fire departments.



Jacob Saunders

## New Community Resource Officer Named

**Deputy Jacquelyne Campbell** is the new community resource officer for the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department District 5 substation. She replaces Matt Rusk who retired in fall 2021.

Campbell is a graduate of Kent State University with a major in justice studies. She also served as an intern for the U.S.

Marshalls Service. Employed with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office since 2013, she previously was a night shift road patrol officer for District 5 in Anderson Township. Her new position will include working to address community complaints regarding speeding, barking dogs and other quality of life issues.



## Cordell Earns Public Safety Award



Mitch Cordell

Firefighter/Paramedic Mitch Cordell is the American Legion 2022 Public Safety Fire Officer of the Year. The award is given annually by the American Legion Post 318.

Cordell, who started with the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department in 2018, is a member of the department's arson investigation team, utilizing this skill in fire origin investigations. He also is the department's primary "pre-plan designer," a job that allows him to create detailed pre-plans of unique structures and facilities. These plans are used by emergency crews in saving lives and limiting property loss during a crisis.

Additionally, Cordell was nominated for the award for his role as one of the founding members of the annual "Stuff the Medic Toy Drive," which provided more than 1,100 toys to the Inter Parish Ministries last year.

## Brush Up on CPR, First Aid This Spring

Improve your first aid and CPR skills with help from the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department.

The department offers several options to learn basic first aid, lay rescuer and CPR for health care providers. Additionally, a new class offered is a blended learning program called HeartCode BLS.

The HeartCode BLS program allows students to self-direct their learning on resuscitation, regardless of location, and students then complete the course at their own pace. Students finish the online portion and complete a hands-on skills session with a firefighter/paramedic at an Anderson fire station. Regular classes are hosted from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Off-site certification classes are available for an additional fee.



The cost for the lay rescuer CPR class is \$40, and the cost for the CPR and health care provider class is \$50. Classes include a book and a two-year certification card upon completion. Info at [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) or 513.688.8620.



A simplified version of CPR, called Hands-Only CPR, can be learned in a few minutes and does not require mouth-to-mouth breathing. An example of this method can be viewed with the QR code that directs you to a video from the American Heart Association.

## More Sidewalk Connection Plans Readied for this Summer

Anderson Trails, the township's popular and growing sidewalk program, is adding more connections. The following sidewalk projects are on the drawing board for this summer:

Construction on the **Lawyer Road and Little Dry Run sidewalk** is anticipated to begin later this year on the east side of Lawyer Road and north side of Little Dry Run. On Lawyer, the walk will traverse from Little Dry Run to Concordgreen. On the north side of Little Dry Run, the segment connects to the existing walk near Wolfangel and Wilson Elementary to Lawyer Road.

Last year, a "hump" in Lawyer Road north of Concordgreen was lowered to increase sight distance to allow for a new mid-block crosswalk at the Concordgreen intersection. Lawyer Road will be repaved this year.

## Paddison Road Sidewalk

Construction of a new sidewalk along a **quarter-mile stretch of Paddison Road** began in March. This segment is a key north-south link in the Anderson Trails Plan and has been the top priority of the volunteer member Transportation Advisory Committee, the township group that implements the Anderson Trails Plan. A Transportation Alternatives grant through OKI was secured in 2019 to help fund this construction.

## Clough Pike Projects

In the eastern part of the township, a sidewalk is proposed along **Holiday Hills Drive and Clough Pike**. The combined project was birthed out of the 2020 Clough Pike Corridor Study. This link will help connect subdivisions on the north side of Clough along the township's eastern border to Muskegon Drive and the Summit Estates neighborhood. A sidewalk is planned on Holiday Hills near Eight Mile Road. Construction will begin this year.

Another project emerging from the Clough Pike Corridor Study sought to complete the sidewalk network on the north side of **Clough between the YMCA and Eight Mile Road**. It provides an alternative for the busy pedestrian intersection at Clough Pike and Endovalley/Juilfs Park to cross at traffic signals at Nagel or Eight Mile roads. Construction is planned for 2024.

Pedestrians crossing at that location will enjoy safer access through a crosswalk with a median refuge island and/or a pedestrian activated traffic signal.

## Elstun Sidewalk Funded by Transit Grant

A key sidewalk in the Skytop area recently received a \$306K construction grant. Anderson Township was awarded a Transit Infrastructure Grant through the Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority (SORTA) for the project on Elstun Road. The new sidewalk will link residents in the **apartments and condos on Spindlehill Lane to bus stops at Elstun Road and Beechmont Avenue serving routes 30X and 24**. Grant funding comes from a new transit sales tax approved by voters in 2020.

"This project is a great opportunity to leverage SORTA funding to improve access to METRO's regional transit system for hundreds of residents," noted Brad Bowers, planner.

Bowers said it also will serve as part of the Elstun Road connector trail linking more than 300 apartment and retail offerings in the Skytop area to the Little Miami Scenic Trail.

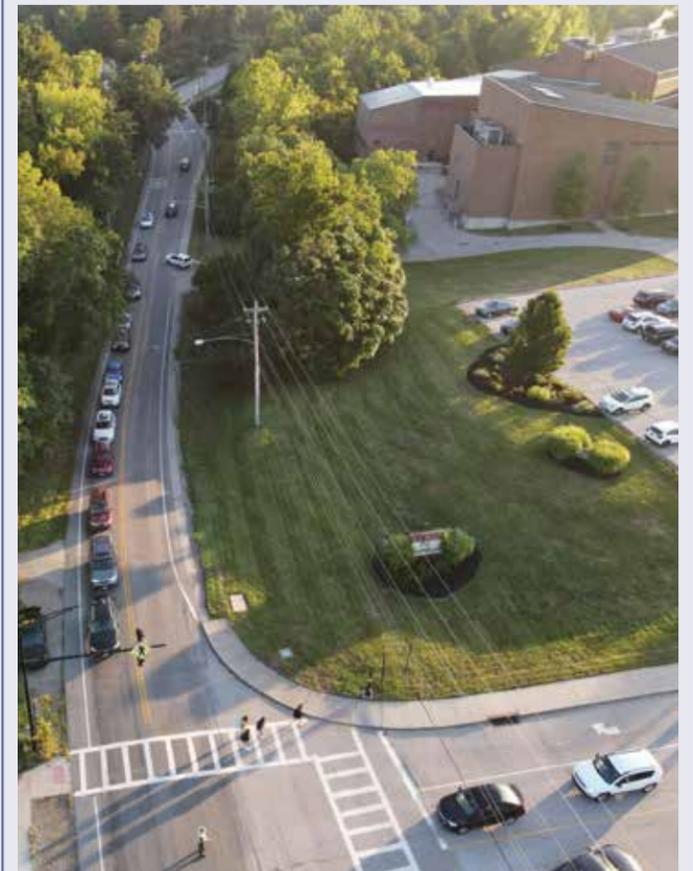
A Transportation Alternatives Grant from OKI, awarded in 2020, will fund the balance of this trail linking Elstun Road to the trail at Beechmont over the Little Miami River. That trail will open later this year. Work on the Elstun Connector trail is planned to begin by 2024.



Construction on the Paddison Road sidewalk is underway.

## Bartels Road Sidewalk

Students at Turpin High School, Mercer Elementary School and those living in the Turpin area will benefit from the completion of sidewalks on the east side of Bartels Road. This sidewalk will fill in the 250-foot gap between the Turpin High School service drive and the main entrance driveway for Turpin and Mercer.



The Bartels Road sidewalk will be completed this year.

## Meet Your Elected Officials



From left, Trustee Lexi Lausten, Trustee Dee Stone, Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz and Trustee Josh Gerth.

### Trustee Chair Josh Gerth

Anderson Township native Josh Gerth has been a member of the Board of Township Trustees for the past eight years. The University of Cincinnati graduate currently serves as vice president of the Cincinnati office of JLL, with 19 years working in corporate real estate consulting services.

As a trustee, Gerth has focused on the economic health of Anderson Township, serving on the volunteer-based Economic Development Committee. Through his role on the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments Board of Directors, he helps to address regional transportation, environmental and economic issues. He also is active at the state level and was recently elected to serve on the Ohio Township Association Board of Directors. In this role, Gerth said he will be a strong advocate for townships.

Beyond his responsibilities as a trustee, Gerth volunteers extensively including work with the Literacy Network of Greater Cincinnati and the Eastern Hills Exchange Club. He is a member of the Society for the Preservation of Memorial Hall in Over-the-Rhine and serves with two area chambers of commerce. The University of Cincinnati graduate was a recipient of the Business Courier's Forty Under 40 Award in 2012.

### Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone

Dee Stone has served on the Anderson Township Board of Trustees since 2016. Currently the vice chair of the board, Stone is active in overseeing the WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee and has interest in implementing communitywide programs focusing on social health, public art,

environmental health and community building. "Serving as the trustee liaison for our last two Comprehensive Plan updates has helped me understand the big picture of where we are as a community and what we need to do to grow and thrive," Stone noted. As a member of the Anderson Senior Center Advisory Committee, Stone has taken an active role in revitalizing its programs and procedures.

Stone was recently elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Coalition of Large Ohio Urban Townships, an affiliate of the Ohio Township Association. Committee members exchange problems, issues, and solutions facing large urban townships and provide support to the Ohio Township Association. In addition to township duties, Stone serves on the Mercy Hospital Anderson Quality and Patient Safety Council, the board of the Eastside Boys & Girls Club and the advisory board of First Step Home, a live-in facility for women in recovery.

Stone graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a bachelor's degree in communications and business. She also earned her law degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Starting in 2011, she served as the first executive director of the Forest Hills Foundation for Education, which raised \$1.2 million during her 10-year-tenure.

### Trustee Lexi Lausten

Lexi Lausten is Anderson Township's newest trustee, taking office in January this year. She's a registered nurse with 10 years in the field of clinical training and education development. While serving as a trustee, Lausten continues her work in the area of renal care where she is a clinical support specialist.

In December 2020 she supplemented her nursing degree with an MBA degree in healthcare management from Western Governors University.

"I am looking forward to learning a great deal in 2022 and on a broader level, I am looking forward to connecting and collaborating with the many residents in this community and getting to know their diverse needs," Lausten said.

Before serving as trustee, Lausten was a member of the WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee. In her new role she will serve on the Tree Committee and Greenspace Committee "to help keep Anderson Township a beautiful community with thriving natural resources."

### Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz

Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz has been an elected member part of the township fiscal team since 1995. The Fiscal Office consists of Dietz and two staff members. It manages the township's more than \$50 million budget, payroll, quarterly and yearly reports, pension and all issues related to township finance.

His professional background also includes experience as a real estate consultant and negotiator, and he has been active in acquisitions of Greenspace properties for the township. Dietz played a crucial role in maintaining cash reserves and a low debt burden which resulted in the township earning a Aaa credit rating from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. This top bond credit rating is important to economic development in Anderson and helps to fuel capital projects and enhanced services which add to the quality of life for residents.

## Volunteers Announced for 2022 Committees

Anderson Township residents again stepped up to serve their community through participation on a township committee. Here is a list of volunteers working on projects this year:

### Greater Anderson Township Betterment Commission

Ronald Edgerton, *Chair*  
Amy Broghamer  
Clyde Dial  
Katie McCabe  
Dee Stone

### Zoning Commission

Brian Elliff  
Jonathan Gothard  
Ben Henson  
Jay Lewis  
Anne McBride  
Michael Doenges, *Alternate*  
Brandon Guyer, *Alternate*

### Economic Development Committee

Amy Richardson, *Chair*  
Julie Bissinger  
Amy Broghamer

Chris Corrado  
Jeff Cowan  
John Deeds  
Michael Doenges  
Duane Donohoo  
Stephen Feagins  
Jake Fraiture  
Derek Garrison

John Halpin  
Nicole Hunter  
Phillip Kiley  
Elizabeth Maier  
Katie McCabe  
Dan O'Rourke  
Matt Owen  
Zach Peterson  
Scot Prebles  
Jeff Rosa  
David Rose  
Marcus Thompson  
Jessica Weisenberger

### Greenspace Advisory Committee

Ronald Edgerton, *Chair*  
Paul Braasch  
Suzanne Clingman  
Kenneth Dietz  
Russ Romme  
Rick Voss

### Senior Center Advisory Committee

Susan Ward, *Chair*  
Barbara Bodnarik  
Sherry Burnside  
Demetria Choice  
Robert Chrisicota  
Marcia Cole  
Clyde Dial  
Abbe Lackmeyer  
Steven Long  
Alfred Norwood

### Tree Committee

Bruce Berno, *Chair*  
Ted Bergh  
Bob Buck  
Mears Green Tucker  
John Halpin  
Carol King  
Timothy Kloppenborg  
Jim Rombke  
Sonia Shively  
Jason Stockslager  
Piper Stone  
Ron Trenkamp  
Rick Voss  
Joe Willging

### WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee

Viki Beck  
Matt Chaffin  
Erinn Cox  
Stephen Feagins  
Peg Fenner

Mary Gaertner  
Andrea Granieri  
Lindsey Griffiths  
Lauri Jacob-Hetzer  
Pinky Kocoshis  
Ken Kuschner  
Anne Miller  
Mary Nicholson  
Heidi Schneider  
Karen Schwamberger  
Sonia Shively  
Karl Sieber  
Susan Wheatley  
Jim Willis  
Maria Zigmunt

### Transportation Advisory Committee

Trenny Selfridge, *Chair*  
Jeni Berreth  
Stephen Feagins  
Peg Fenner  
Brian Gay  
Jaime Grubert

Dave Habegger  
Joe Hice  
Pinky Kocoshis  
Tim Kreimer  
Ken Kushner  
Jay Lewis  
Mike Niehaus  
Karen RingswaldEgan  
Karen Schwamberger  
Paul Sheckels  
Paul Sian  
Karl Sieber  
Ken Vincent  
Kurt Wells

### Board of Zoning Appeals

Steve Haber  
John Halpin  
Jeff Nye  
Paul Sheckels  
Paul Sian  
Scott Lawrence, *Alternate*  
Amy Richardson, *Alternate*



The Transportation Advisory Committee works on trails and safety projects.



Anderson's Senior Center Advisory Committee is active in overseeing the senior center.

## Two Trustees Represent Concerns of Ohio Township Government

Trustee Chair **Josh Gerth** has been elected to serve on the Ohio Township Association Board of Directors, a statewide organization promoting and preserving township government through education and lobbying efforts. The Ohio Township Association represents 87 of 88 counties and is comprised of trustees and fiscal officers from Ohio's 1308 townships, plus associate members. One of its primary obligations is training trustees and fiscal officers regarding township laws in Ohio and networking with other public servants.

Trustee Vice Chair **Dee Stone** is one of four individuals elected to represent southwest Ohio on the Coalition of Large Urban Townships executive committee. The purpose of the organization is to provide a

forum to exchange ideas and solutions for larger Ohio townships and to provide advice to the Ohio Township Association.

"I feel very privileged to serve our residents and make sure the needs of larger townships are represented at the state level," Stone said.

"In these roles, Trustees Gerth and Stone will be strong advocates for the township form of government at the statehouse and in Columbus," noted Administrator Vicky Earhart. "This will not only benefit townships statewide but Anderson as they provide guidance to influence legislation that directly impacts Anderson residents. Their election to these offices is a testament to their knowledge, service and advocacy for townships."

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## Library Donate Day Set for April 30

Annual Summer Used Book Sale Returns to Nagel Middle School in June.



Are you in spring cleaning mode? Then pack up that stack of books, CDs, DVDs and puzzles and head to the Anderson Branch Library's Donate Day scheduled for 9 a.m.- noon. Saturday, April 30, Drop off your donations in the library's parking lot, 7450 State Road, rain or shine.

Donations benefit the Anderson Township Library Association, a volunteer group that supports the facilities, services, and resources of the Anderson Township and Mt. Washington branch libraries.

### Library Offers Regularly Scheduled Events for All Ages:

- Cozy Corner Book Club (7 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month). Adult readers discuss cozy and curious mysteries.
- Curious Kids Club (4 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month).
- Movers and Shakers Storytime for ages 1-4 (10:15 a.m. every Monday).
- Storytime for ages 2+ (10:15 a.m. every Thursday).

Come June, stock up on donated, new-to-you materials at great prices. The library association's Summer Used Book Sale returns to Nagel Middle School on Friday, June 24 through Sunday, June 26 with deals for all ages. For more information on both events, visit [CincinnatiLibrary.org/atla](http://CincinnatiLibrary.org/atla).

Future-ready events, designed to prepare kids for school and more, are coming soon. Find an event that fits your interest and schedule at [CincinnatiLibrary.org/events](http://CincinnatiLibrary.org/events). Contact the Anderson Branch Library at 513.369.6030.

## Seniors, Students Connect to Tackle Smart Devices

'Juniors Helping Seniors' group creates a memorable experience for all.

When Anderson resident Zoe Berndt was 11 years old, she created a simple manual for her grandfather, instructing him how to use the iPad he received on his 80th birthday. They reviewed each new concept weekly and eventually the student out-paced the master on the iPad over the years.

Brother Owen soon followed in his sister's footsteps. He asked 12 of his friends to help him train older adults at the New England Club on how to out-smart their smart devices. Twice a month after school, the seventh graders visited the club with expanded manuals in hand and met with residents wanting to improve their digital literacy. Then COVID-19 hit.

During that period, the siblings tried to figure out how to bring back that concept of training older adults in technology to bridge the digital divide. According to Claire O'Connell, activities manager of the Anderson Township Senior Center, "We thought many of our members would love to increase their technology skills while having interaction with the students." Classes began in October 2021.

The format includes a two-hour student-led class on technology-related topics. Adult participants receive a manual explaining basic technology topics. Students offer personalized attention to the senior center members and answer questions.

Karen Hutchinson received help with her flip phone, which made the students laugh, she said. She also had students help her remove annoying "notifications" that were not necessary. "They (the students) never made



me feel stupid... they were very patient answering questions," she said. "It's a class that is needed and they are great."

"I really love the opportunity to connect and work with the seniors and the rest of the community," said Logan Smith, a 10th grade student. "This is a wonderful opportunity and experience that will stay with me for a long time."

Jonah and Paxton Burns both enjoy the camaraderie Juniors Helping Seniors brings. Jonah said he sees his service as a win-win. While adults receive the help they need, the students learn a valuable lesson of giving back as they become the teacher for a change!

## Anderson Township Farmers' Market Back for the Season

Back for its 15th year, the Anderson Township Farmers' Market returns for the season on Saturday, May 21.

Enjoy locally grown fruits and veggies, home baked goods (including gluten-free varieties), natural handmade soap, jams and jelly, locally-grown plants, flowers, honey and unique artisan goods.

The market opens with seasoned favorite vendors plus new cottage businesses. Hosted at the parking lot of St. Timothy's Church, 8108 Beechmont Ave., the first market includes a mini petting zoo for young and old and light acoustic folk music by Zoe Nienaber.

The market runs every Saturday rain or shine from 9 a.m. to noon through October 15. Learn more about vendors and special events at FB: [AndersonTownshipFarmersMarket](https://www.facebook.com/AndersonTownshipFarmersMarket), Instagram: [instagram.com/anderson\\_farmers\\_market/](https://www.instagram.com/anderson_farmers_market/) or sign up for a weekly newsletter at [anderson-farmers-market.myfreesites.net/](http://anderson-farmers-market.myfreesites.net/).



## 2022 FH5K: Event is Back In Person

Students' mental health resources a focus for the run's fundraising efforts.

After two years of hosting the FH5K virtually, the Forest Hills Foundation for Education hosts the 2022 FH5K on Saturday, May 14, as an in-person event. Proceeds from the run provide additional resources and support for all district students.

"It's time for us all to come together and promote physical health and create awareness for mental health," said Stacy Gillard, foundation executive director. "We are proud to work collaboratively with local businesses, community leaders and parents that are investing in the success of our youth," she said. This year's theme is "Take a Step to Stop the Stigma" and all money raised will support wellness initiatives for the students of Forest Hills.

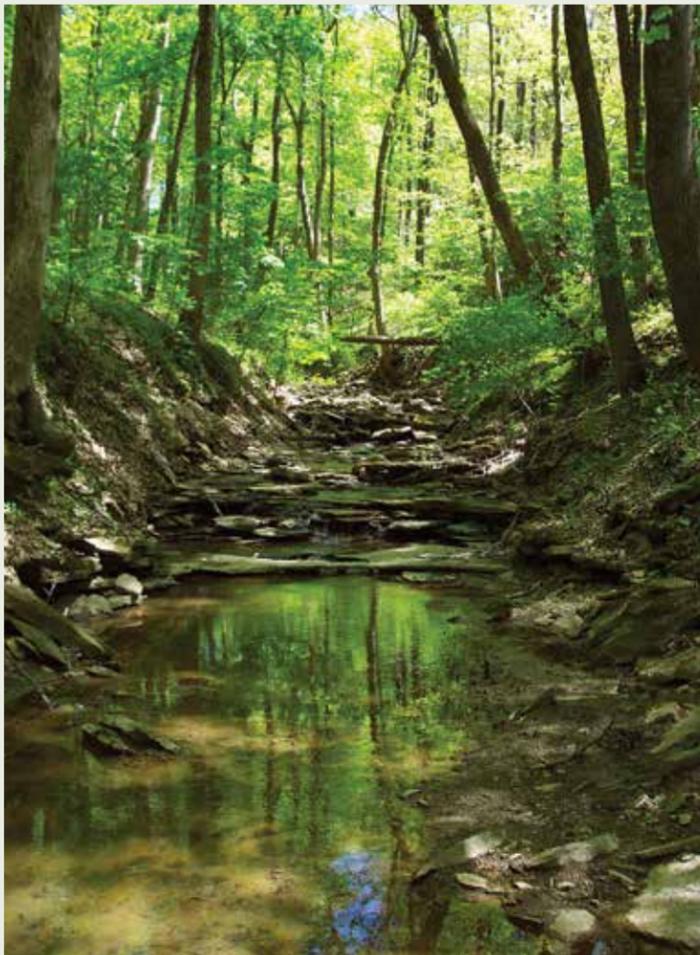
May is Mental Health Awareness Month and mental health support and resources will be featured at the FH5K After-Party at Nagel Middle School. The Forest Hills Foundation serves as a member of the Anderson Mental Health Collaborative.

With more than \$390,000 raised and in excess of 15,000 race participants in the FH5K in the past 12 years, this year's goal is \$100,000. Funds raised

will support three areas based on feedback directly from students: resiliency, managing emotional responses and social awareness.

Register for the FH5K at [fhfe.org](http://fhfe.org).





## Greenspace: Protect It from Encroachment, Improper Use

One of Anderson Township's greatest assets is its almost 70 parcels of Greenspace, ranging from hilly hidden properties to green corridors along busy roadways.

"As Ohio's first Greenspace community, Anderson has led the way in creating a sustainable program that will allow residents to benefit from these parcels that will be forever held in a natural state," said Greenspace Inspector Suzanne Clingman, who has worked with the program for nearly two decades.

She reminds residents that Greenspace properties improve the township's environmental quality and provide valuable habitat. Immediate neighbors also have the added perk of the protected property being near their homes which benefits them in many ways.



Anderson Township recently sent a letter to all property owners abutting Greenspace urging their help in the care of the township's Greenspace, which is donated by residents or purchased with taxpayer funds.

In recent years, Clingman notes there have been threats to a number of Greenspace parcels. Problems reported include illegal dumping, improper use, and encroachments or clearing of vegetation. According to the

guidelines of the Greenspace program, land is to remain in its natural state. Clingman said. That means clearing vegetation to create paths or removing trees for firewood is not permitted on Greenspace.

### To continue the long-term health of these natural areas, Clingman asks residents for help:

- If you see illegal use or activity on Greenspace property such as active cutting or clearing of vegetation, hunting, or the use of motorized vehicles, call 911 and a Hamilton County sheriff's deputy will be dispatched.
- Be aware of Greenspace property lines and do not dump or clear vegetation. Greenspace boundaries are periodically marked, but not along all properties.

"Our protected Greenspace in Anderson Township is such an incredible treasure for all residents (humans and animals) to enjoy! Ensuring that it remains free from encroachment is something we all can take part in by reporting any inappropriate activity that would violate township Greenspace use," said Trustee Lexi Lausten.

For questions about Greenspace or the Greenspace program, check with Clingman at 513.688.8400 ext. 1190.

## Before You Build, Check Out Permit Requirements

Looking forward to making home improvements this year? Planning and executing a home improvement project can be challenging and exciting. Before you start that project, check whether your plan needs approval from either Anderson Township or the Hamilton County Planning + Development Department.

Several categories of improvements need a permit including building a fence, pool or storage shed. The process only takes a couple days.

Get your questions answered at Anderson Township's Planning and Zoning Department by calling 513.688.8400 ext. 3 or dropping by the department at 7850 Five Mile Road. Costs for zoning certificates vary. Check out [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) for a brochure that provides all the details.



### Applying for a Zoning Certificate

Ready to build an addition on your house, or add a fence, shed or swimming pool? Anderson Township Planning and Zoning requires that these and other structures must undergo a review before you build.

A simple fact sheet will help you navigate the stages of obtaining a zoning certificate. A small fee is required to submit your plans and township staff can assist you with your plans.

For details, go to [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) and click on "Quick Links."

## Food Waste: Improving Food Management a Community Effort

Do members of your household overlook leftovers or forget about fruit in the drawers until it's too late? You are not alone.

Each year, 133 billion pounds of edible, wholesome food goes uneaten.

That means up to a third or more of all high-quality food is wasted.

40 percent of that wasted food comes from consumer's homes. Food waste costs your family an extra \$1,500 per year, generates 18 percent of national methane emissions and diverts food from the one in five people who are food insecure in Hamilton County, he said.

Through a variety of programs, Hamilton County Resource continues to address food waste here. The "Wasted Food Stops with Us" campaign provides educational resources and technical assistance on how to shop, store, preserve and dispose of food waste. [TheWastedFoodStopsWithUs.org](http://TheWastedFoodStopsWithUs.org)

weekly blog offers residents the opportunity to showcase how they managed food waste at home.

Staubach said efforts to stop food waste involve many partners, including Green Umbrella, the Freestore Foodbank and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center to address food security by reducing waste in pantries and food access points.

"This goal is to help people and organizations divert wholesome, quality food from the landfill and to the people who need it most," he said.

"Reducing your food waste is easy," he added. "It just takes planning. Start with a plan, shop your pantry, make a shopping list and shop local," he said. "Remember, date labels indicate peak quality, not expiration. The only food product that expires in the U.S. is baby formula."



**25%**  
of the world's fresh water supply is used to grow food that is never eaten.



Americans discard more food than any other country, nearly **40 million tons** or 30-40 percent of the entire U.S. food supply.

**Nationwide,** food takes up more space in landfills than anything else.

Food comprises **17%** of landfill waste in Hamilton County.



# Be a Friend to Bees and Butterflies This Spring

As the snow, frost and winter weather is shaken off, it is almost time to dig into lawns and gardens.

Home gardening in the United States is a \$47 billion industry! So, if you are getting anxious to head out there and start digging, pulling and planting, you're in good company.

The Anderson Tree Committee supports you but asks a favor that will make a world of difference in the lives of the pollinators who are hibernating in your lawn, landscape, garden beds and piles of winter debris: WAIT.

If there's nothing blooming in your yard and garden, that means there's not a lot of food sources for pollinators- like bees (honeybees, bumble bees, leaf-cutting bees, and more) butterflies, and other winged insects who are waking up from their long winter hibernation.

Where are they hibernating? Just under that pile of leaves in your garden bed, or right below the surface at the base of your shrubs and trees you're itching to prune. They also are resting in downed branches you haven't cleared out yet.

Yes, it's tempting to work on the first warm day and get everything all cleaned up so your yard is looking Instagram-worthy, but if you



can wait until average daily temperatures are in the 50s, (which typically starts in the beginning of April in our area) you'll make the transition for pollinators easier and safer.

To help pollinators, plant trees, shrubs and perennials which are the first bloomers of the year. Crocus, daffodil and tulip bulbs (which must be planted in the fall) often bloom in late February to early April. Buy some already blooming and put them in containers on your porch or around your garden, and plant the bulbs in the fall.

### Plant suggestions:

- **Helleborus (Lenten Rose)** are evergreen perennials blooming around Lent;
- **Forsythia** is one of the first bloomers in late winter/early spring with its cheery yellow blossom;
- **Flowering Quince**- blooming in early March with striking red-orange flowers;
- **Eastern Redbud trees**- native to Ohio and starts blooming in March.

The Ohio State University Bee Lab website shares the Ohio Native Plants for Pollinators list. Native Plants for Pollinators | Bee Lab ([osu.edu](http://osu.edu)).

# 2022 Seed Bash: Youth Battle of the Bands and Artisan Fair

Celebrate the end of winter and kick off the start of the spring planting season at the Anderson Urban Farm's annual Seed Bash. Scheduled for 3- 8 p.m. Saturday, May 21, the celebration includes historic demonstrations, music, food and products presented by student artisans and entrepreneurs. Operated by the Anderson Township Historical Society, the farm is at 2550 Bartels Road.

Local food vendors will be available on site, but seating may be limited. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs or a blanket to spread on the grounds. Parking is provided at the Moeller Knights of Columbus across the street.

Cost of the event is \$5 which includes entry and a ballot to vote for the Battle of the Bands.

Youth interested in signing up for the battle of the bands or for an artisan/entrepreneur table to sell their wares can sign up through [Instagram@auf\\_battle\\_of\\_the\\_bands](https://www.instagram.com/auf_battle_of_the_bands). Entry cost is \$20 and the winning band receives a \$100 prize. For more information visit [andersonurbanfarm.com](http://andersonurbanfarm.com).



2021 Seed Bash

# 2021 RENU Stats: Increased Fentanyl, Meth Seizures Last Year

## Township funds special officer who investigates trafficking of controlled substances.

Although many eyes in 2021 were focused on the COVID-19 virus and its aftereffects, another health-related threat grew in intensity in Cincinnati.

Fentanyl and methamphetamine have made a comeback in the area, with a 4x increase in meth seizures compared to 2020, according to the Regional Enforcement Narcotics Unit (RENU), a specialized unit within the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

Anderson Township funds an officer through the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, working on the RENU team to target reduction of illegal drugs on the street. This position is part of Anderson's contract with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, which also funds specialty officers who assist with crime prevention, community support and neighborhood issues, and traffic.

Lt. Matt Guy, RENU commander with the Organized Crime Section and former District 5 Commander here in Anderson Township, reported the task force is "seeing significant increases in fentanyl and methamphetamine. Fentanyl seizures increased from 40 pounds in 2020 to 66 pounds in 2021. And that was after a record year was set in 2019."

"Meth seizures quadrupled during that reporting period going from 49lbs in 2020 to 211lbs in 2021," he said. "We are seeing drug organizations set up shop in the area, taking advantage of those members of the community who are susceptible to addiction," he said.

RENU officers investigate criminal organizations and persons who traffic controlled substances, as well assisting local, state and federal law enforcement agencies when requested. The township has funded a RENU officer for almost 10 years.



## Public Meetings

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

Board of Township Trustees *(Times and dates subject to change with notice)*  
**Interim Meeting:** Thursday, April 7, 3 p.m. • **Regular Monthly Meeting:** Thursday, April 21, 5 p.m.

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

**WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee**  
Wednesday, April 20, 6 p.m.

**Zoning Commission**  
Monday, April 25, 5:30 p.m.

**Tree Committee**  
Monday, May 9, 7 p.m.

**Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee**

Thursday, April 21, 2 p.m.  
Meets at Anderson Township Senior Center  
7970 Beechmont Ave.

**Transportation Advisory Committee**  
Wednesday, April 13, 6 p.m.

**Economic Development Committee**  
Tuesday, May 24, 3 p.m.

# EVENTS

## Spruce Up Township April 23

It's been a long winter and unfortunately litter has collected along many roadways. You can help! Consider grabbing a trash bag and sprucing up Anderson Township's Greenspace and roadways during the annual Great American Cleanup. The volunteer day is scheduled for Saturday, April 23.

This half-day event starts at 8:30 a.m. and volunteers are welcome to participate for all or part of the event. Older children are welcome with adult supervision.

Supplies for the day are provided by the WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee and Anderson Township. Can't make it that day? No problem! Groups or individuals can obtain supplies for a cleanup date/time that works best for you.

If you wish to register a large group or want to pre-register, contact Planner Sarah Donovan at 513.688.8400 ext. 1181 or email her at [sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov).

The Great American Cleanup is sponsored by Keep Cincinnati Beautiful.

## Parade Entries Open on April 26

Summer events are not too far off, and that means Anderson's signature Independence Parade is in the works!

Applications for the annual parade entries open on April 26. The 10 a.m. parade follows the same path as in previous years, starting at the Anderson Township Operations Center, 7954 Beechmont Ave., and ending at the Anderson Towne Center.

Registration forms for the parade soon will be available at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, or on the township's website, [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) (under the What's New section).

To volunteer, contact Steve Sievers at 513.688.8604 or [ssievers@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:ssievers@AndersonTownshipOH.gov).



## 'Take Back' Prescription Drugs Event Hosted on April 30

Have you checked your medicine chest lately for expired or unnecessary prescriptions or over-the-counter drugs? Don't toss them in the trash or flush them down the drain. Instead, bring those unneeded items to the annual Drug Take Back Day set for Saturday, April 30, at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.

The event is hosted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's sponsored by Anderson Township and the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and provides residents with a responsible method of medication elimination.

Please note, the following items are not accepted at the site: liquids, aerosols, inhalers, needles or (plastic/glass) bottles. Place pills and tablets into a zip-lock style bag for disposal. For more information, contact Brian Hayes at 513.688.8400 ext.1191 or [bhayes@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:bhayes@AndersonTownshipOH.gov).

## Garage Sale Season Around the Corner; Host Yours May 7

Mark your calendar! Anderson Township's annual Community-wide Garage Sale Day is Saturday, May 7. Host a sale or visit the many township homes sponsoring a yard sale during this popular event.

Advertise your sale for free on the township's website by contacting Betty Cowan at [bcowan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:bcowan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov). Provide your address and time to be included in the listing. Only Anderson Township sites can be listed on the website.

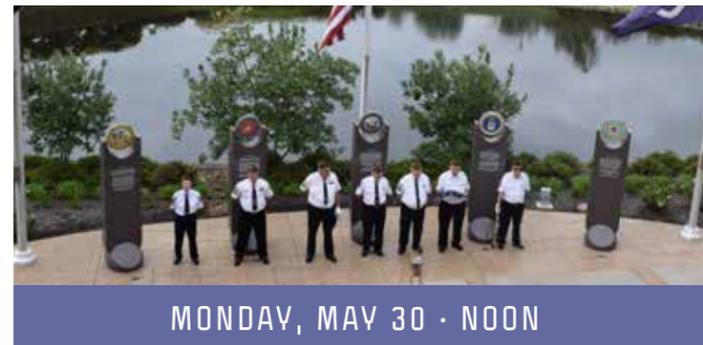
New this year: Anderson Township is creating an interactive map app of all garage sale sites! Have your sale listed on the app by contacting Cowan by May 2 with all your details.

## Memorial Day Remembrance Honors Our Heroes

Honor those men and women who have sacrificed to maintain our freedoms at a solemn annual remembrance of fallen veterans.

The Memorial Day Bell Ceremony is set for noon Monday, May 30, at Anderson Center. Organized by the Anderson Township Veterans Memorial Committee, the event is hosted outdoors on the South Plaza.

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



## Save First Weekend in June for Summerfair

Summerfair 2022 returns to historic Coney Island for its 55<sup>th</sup> year, bringing fine arts and crafts from artists all around the country.

The annual event is scheduled for Friday-Sunday, June 3-5. It features more than 340 juried artists who show and sell their creations, including photography, mixed media, ceramics, fibers, jewelry and wood. Regional performers join the experience, along with a variety of gourmet arts and events for children.

For details and ticket information, go to [Summerfair.org](http://Summerfair.org). The fair runs rain or shine.



## Anderson Day Returns July 30



After a two-year cancellation due to the pandemic, the Anderson Day Festival is set to return from 4-10 p.m. Saturday, July 30. The festival will be a single-day event packed with great music, more food and drink options, and an expanded game section for kids both young and old.

Hosted at Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road, event partners include Anderson Township, the Anderson Foundation for Parks and Recreation, the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, along with the Anderson Park District serving as the event coordinator.

Participants are invited to enjoy dinner from one of the many food booths, have a funnel cake, play a few games and even take a chance at pull-tab Bingo. The ever-popular Naked Karate Girls band headlines the event, while the famous Rozzi fireworks show lights up the night sky.

Watch for more updates on the Anderson Parks and Anderson Foundation for Parks and Recreation websites. Admission and parking are free.

## Need Gardening Inspiration? Revel in Blooms at Anderson Garden Tour



Looking for gardening inspiration as the growing season approaches? Anderson Township residents have plenty on display each year at the annual Anderson Garden and History Tour.

This year's self-guided tour is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 12. Besides visiting private homes with beautiful blooms and interesting landscaping, visitors can tour historic buildings within the township. One historic site, the Anderson Township Heritage Center Arboretum, is open 8 a.m. to noon for visitors.

This free self-guided event has been hosted for the past 18 years. A flyer detailing this year's gardens will be available after May 16 at [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov) or at Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.

It's not too late to sign up to be a tour garden! Share your beautiful space with the public by calling Sarah Donovan at 513.688.8400 ext. 1181 to discuss or email her at [sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:sdonovan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov).

The Garden and History Tour is sponsored by the volunteer WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee.

# CONNECT

## APRIL

### Crown Jewel Pageant Performance

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 9 A.M.; PAGEANT STARTS AT NOON

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

Info: [info@starjewelpageants.com](mailto:info@starjewelpageants.com)

### The Forest-Aires Women's Chorus- ENCORE! 2022

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, APRIL 22-23, 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 3 P.M.

Tickets: \$15 adults, \$14 seniors 65-plus and children 12 and under. Info: [theforestaires.com](http://theforestaires.com)

### Great American Cleanup

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 8:30 A.M.-NOON

Info and signup: Sarah Donovan at 513.688.8400 or

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

### Drug Take Back Day

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 10 A.M.-2 P.M.

Info: Deputy Brian Hayes at 513.688.8400 ext. 1191 or

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

### Anderson Branch Library Donate Day

Anderson Branch Library, 7450 State Road

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 9 A.M.-3 P.M.

Drop off donations in library's parking lot rain or shine.

## MAY

### Beechmont Players- Wrong Window

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

FRIDAY- SATURDAY, MAY 6- 7, 8 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 3 P.M.; FRIDAY, MAY 13, 8 P.M.

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 3 P.M.

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

Info: 513.233.2468 or [Beechmontplayers.org](http://Beechmontplayers.org)

### Communitywide Garage Sales



Various locations across township.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, TIME VARIES

Sales listed on [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov)

Info: [bcowan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov](mailto:bcowan@AndersonTownshipOH.gov)

### Anderson Township Historical Society Plant Sale

Family Pet Center, 6666 Clough Pike

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 9 A.M.-3 P.M.

Info: [AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org](http://AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org)

### Forest Hills 5K

Nagel Middle School, 1500 Nagel Road

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 8:30 A.M.

AFTER-PARTY EVENT- 9-11 A.M.

Registration and information: [Foresthills5K.com](http://Foresthills5K.com)

### Archeological Dig- Miami Valley Recollection and Reconnection

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

MAY 16-JUNE 17, 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. NO SUNDAYS

To volunteer: [miamivalleyrecollections@gmail.com](mailto:miamivalleyrecollections@gmail.com)

FB: [mvrr.ohioarcheology](https://www.facebook.com/mvrr.ohioarcheology)

### Performing Arts, Inc.- My Son Pinocchio, Jr. and The Drowsy Chaperone

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

TUESDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 17 -21

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door at [pai.seatyourself.biz](http://pai.seatyourself.biz)

### Annual Anderson Township Historical Society and Urban Farm Seed Bash

Anderson Township Urban Farm, 2550 Bartels Road

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 3-8 P.M.

Info: FB-Anderson Township Historical Society Urban Farm



### Opening Day Anderson Township Farmers' Market

St. Timothy Church, 8108 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 9 A.M. - NOON

Info: FB-Anderson Township Farmers Market

### Lejeune Dance Academy-Giselle

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, MAY 27-28, 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2 P.M.

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

Info: [lejeunedance.com/tickets](http://lejeunedance.com/tickets)

### Memorial Day Remembrance and Bell Ringing Ceremony

Anderson Center South Plaza, 7850 Five Mile Road

MONDAY, MAY 30, 11:45 A.M.

Info: Jennifer Sanders at 513.688.8444 or

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



### Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce Awards

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 6-8 P.M.

\$25 per person. Tickets: 513.474.4802

## JUNE

### Summerfair 2022

Coney Island, 6201 Kellogg Ave.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 3-5

Ticket info and hours: [Summerfair.org](http://Summerfair.org)

### Performing Arts Inc.- Anne of Green Gables and 13 the Musical

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

TUESDAY-SATURDAY, JUNE 7-11

Check online at [www.performingartsinc.net/anderson](http://www.performingartsinc.net/anderson) for dates and times. \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door.

Tickets: [pai.seatyourself.biz](http://pai.seatyourself.biz)

### Anderson Community Band

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 7 P.M.

Free

Info: John Fecker at 513.207.8506 or

[andersoncommunityband.org](http://andersoncommunityband.org)

### Anderson Township Library Association

#### Annual Used Book Sale

Nagel Middle School, 1500 Nagel Road

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 10 A.M.-8 P.M.; SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 10 A.M.-5 P.M.; SUNDAY, JUNE 26, NOON-3 P.M.

Info: [cincinnati.library.org/about/atla](http://cincinnati.library.org/about/atla)

Hours may change. Check website to confirm.

### Anderson Garden and History Tour

Variety of locations throughout township

SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 10 A.M.-4 P.M.

Free, self-guided tour. Brochure online after May 16 at

[AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov)



## JULY

### Anderson Township Independence Day Parade

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

MONDAY, JULY 4, 10 A.M.

Info: [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov)



### Anderson Day Festival

Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 4-10 P.M.

Admission and parking are free.

Info: [AndersonParks.com/Anderson-Day](http://AndersonParks.com/Anderson-Day)



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

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## ANDERSON TOWNSHIP MISSION STATEMENT

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

**Government Services  
at Anderson Center**  
 7850 Five Mile Road  
 Anderson Township  
 Ohio 45230  
 513.688.8400  
[info@AndersonTownship.org](mailto:info@AndersonTownship.org)

**Administration and  
Fiscal Office**

**Planning and Zoning**

**Public Works**

**Fire and Rescue**

**Hamilton County  
Sheriff's Office**

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

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

**PUBLISHER  
Vicky Earhart**

**EDITORS  
Steve Sievers  
Nancy Caine**

# Recycling: Plastic, Paper Cups Now OK

Some good news for those of you who stop at a café for your daily coffee. Disposable paper, plastic and aluminum cups are now accepted in the Rumpke recycling program.

Rumpke recently announced changes to its program as the company has found new end users for the plastic, paper and aluminum it saves.

Straws and stoppers must be placed in the regular trash as they are too small to effectively recycle under the current recycling plant conditions.

Do not attempt to recycle plastic lids from the paper cups as they are mostly made of polystyrene which at this point is not recyclable.

Rumpke announced that new technology at their recycling facilities is helping to sort the plastic cups from the stream. Just like other materials, cups should be clean and empty before placing in the container.

For more information, go to [www.Rumpke.com](http://www.Rumpke.com) to learn more about recycling and how the process works.



## HERE ARE THE BASICS OF THE PROGRAM

### RECYCLABLE

DISPOSABLE  
PAPER  
PLASTIC  
ALUMINUM CUPS  
PLASTIC LIDS ON  
PLASTIC CUPS\*



### NOT RECYCLABLE

STYROFOAM CUPS  
POLYSTYRENE CUPS  
(STADIUM CUPS)  
GLASS  
CERAMIC  
PLASTIC LIDS ON  
PAPER CUPS  
STRAWS AND  
STOPPERS



\*Attach them to the cup before placing in recycling container

Anderson Township's URL has changed. The new Internet address for Anderson Township government is [AndersonTownshipOH.gov](http://AndersonTownshipOH.gov).