



ANDERSON Insights

THE VOICE OF ANDERSON TOWNSHIP

AUGUST 2022

Not Built Out: New Housing Construction Continues

With more than a dozen subdivisions planned, developments mostly are “in-fill” on small tracts.



While a quick drive through the township reveals what feels like a trend toward new subdivisions, the reality of this apparent growth is somewhat different.

Steve Sievers, the township’s assistant administrator for operations, noted that there has indeed been an uptick at virtually

all corners of the community. “We have to go back to the mid-1990s to see this number of subdivisions under development or being planned at one time,” he said.

However, he noted, “These developments are quite different from what we saw at that time and the preceding decades. With the exception of the Eagle’s Watch and Ivy Trails subdivisions in the mid-2000s that included the construction of nearly 300 homes, current and more recent subdivisions have generally entailed 35 or fewer lots.”

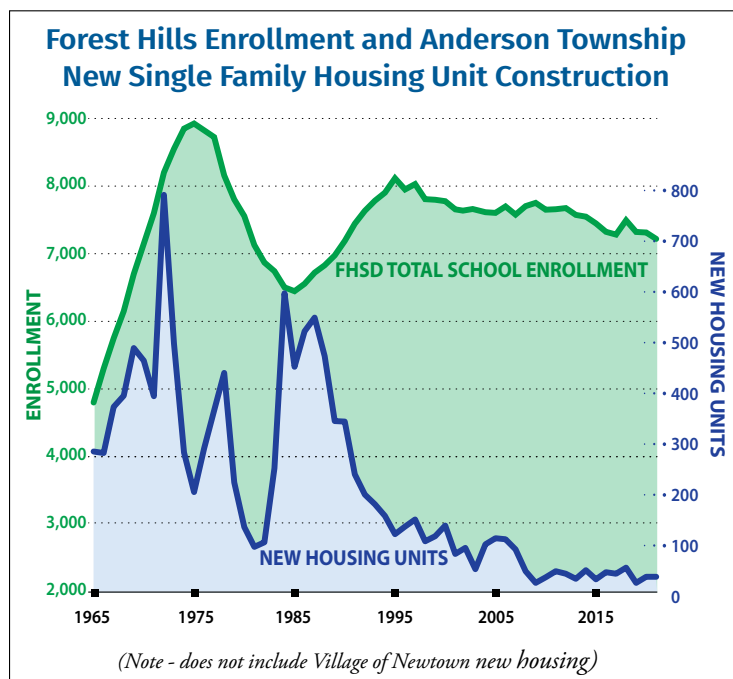
Data tells a story

Looking back at data from the 1970s to 1990s, when larger tracts of land were available, there were five to 10 times the number of homes being built in a year than being seen right now, Sievers said. Since the late 1990s, Anderson has generally posted around 30-40 new homes per year, on average. Today, there are more than 17,000 single family homes in the community.

Planning and Zoning Director Paul Drury noted the 13 subdivisions currently under construction can also be misleading as a number by itself, as it relates to the total of homes being built. Even a “large” subdivision (by today’s standards) of more than 30 more lots, “can take five years or more to ‘build out,’ with maybe five or six homes built each year,” he added.

Drury said surging construction costs that have driven up home prices may have slowed sales of new homes in subdivisions that have been under development for several years.

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TOWNSHIP NEWS

Beechmont Levee Bridge Project Nears Completion

Ongoing Little Miami Trail construction to fill in missing link for more than 80-mile long Little Miami Scenic Trail running from Cincinnati to Springfield, Ohio.

One of the largest and most dramatic transportation-related projects undertaken around Anderson Township will finish up this fall.

Construction of a pedestrian/cyclist bridge over the Beechmont Levee, a project envisioned some 20 years ago as a key in the hike-bike system in Cincinnati, is scheduled to be completed soon, adding an important link in the regional trail system.

Once complete, users will be connected on the Little Miami Scenic Trail from the Ohio River to Lake Erie via the trail system.

“This final connection wasn’t easy!” said Brad Bowers, former planner for Anderson Township. The concluding project was complicated in its nature due to all aspects of the project: its complex design and obstacles to consider, plus the high cost to construct.

The new 14-foot designated lane along the south side of the Beechmont Bridge provides a safer experience for pedestrians and cyclists. A concrete barrier and metal railing separates bike/pedestrian traffic from vehicles. A new underpass at Beechmont Avenue, and a short tunnel from the Little Miami Scenic Trail’s current endpoint near State Route 32 and Beechmont Avenue, were key aspects in this expansion.

Walkers and riders will have the option to connect with the Otto Armleder Memorial Trail, the Lunken Airport Trail and the future Elstun Road Connector from the Little Miami Scenic Trail in northern Anderson.

The project was undertaken by Great Parks of Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati, working closely with the Ohio Department of Transportation, Anderson Township and many other stakeholders. Paul Drury, director of Planning and Zoning, said this collaborative effort will have a significant impact on multi-modal transportation in the area, and trail users will greatly benefit given the scope of the project. An October opening event is being planned for the public.

Great Parks of Hamilton County secured 100 percent of the funding for the \$7.9 million project, with the Ohio Department of Transportation implementing the project. A \$4.3 million federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant provided 80 percent of the funds for the project. The remaining 20 percent was covered in a local match by Great Parks of Hamilton County.

Beechmont Bridge Connector

- » Eliminates barriers to bike from Little Miami Scenic Trail to downtown.
- » Connects to statewide trail system.
- » Includes designated bike/hike lane, underpass under State Route 32 and tunnel.

“This project has been a long time in the making, so seeing it come to completion is very satisfying.”

Dee Stone - Trustee Vice Chair



Expansion of Beechmont Bridge will provide trail connections.

Anderson is already working on another connection to the trail, tying into this soon-to-be-opened link. The “Elstun Connector” is a quarter-mile trail that will provide access to the trail network from the sidewalk on Beechmont Avenue near Elstun Road and the Skytop

Pavilion redevelopment. The 361-unit apartment community (now under construction) will take shape over the next year. The Elstun Connector link will ultimately provide access for the Mt. Washington neighborhood and residents along Elstun Road to these regional trails and recreational amenities.

“This project has been a long time in the making, so seeing it come to completion is very satisfying,” said Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone. “We are grateful to everyone who had the vision and stamina over nearly three decades to make this happen.”

Dramatic Upgrades for Entertainment District Ahead

The high-profile Kellogg Avenue interchange project that’s upgrading riverfront area may start next spring.



Large-scale plantings will enhance the Entertainment District “front door” to Anderson Township.

First up in a plan to enhance the Kellogg Avenue Entertainment District: Improvements to create excitement and a “sense of arrival” when exiting I-275 at Kellogg Avenue.

The Kellogg Gateway Study was approved in October 2021, with the township now organizing suggested projects as soon as next year. Using landscape, signage and overall beautification specified in the township’s study, residents will start to see significant transformation to this entryway to Anderson Township and the City of Cincinnati, according to Planning and Zoning Director Paul Drury.

Trustee President Josh Gerth believes now is a good time to get the projects started. “There have been hundreds of millions of dollars of private investment made in this corridor over the last 10 years, but the front doorstep does not exactly roll out the red carpet,” he said. Enhancing the Kellogg entertainment corridor has become a priority for Anderson Township to encourage a healthy economical element, he noted.

“It’s imperative for us to support the efforts of additional investment with these improvements” he said. Because of past investments and responsible planning “we have a healthy tax increment financing foundation whose direct purpose is to reinvest that money into this area.”

“There’s no better time to move this project forward,” he said.

Designers drew inspiration for interchange modifications from the area’s history as the landscape was previously used as orchards (structured rows of trees and plantings) and vineyards. Landscape and signage design elements also include nods to the Ohio River through use of a curving blue line adjacent to the overpass, Drury said.

Dramatic changes in the underpass area may be most memorable for some. Bright colorful lights illuminating the underside of the overpass will provide a safer and more aesthetic experience for pedestrians and drivers leaving events at night. The LED lights, recommended by the township’s Art Plan, can be programmed to change colors which can be altered to celebrate a variety of events.

Designers of Kellogg Avenue upgrades drew inspiration from the area’s previous uses as an orchard and vineyard.

On the landscape side, sweeping drought tolerant plantings will create shapes mirroring symbolic organic elements and create colorful displays.

The interchange project is the first of four planned areas for improvements, Drury said. Further changes include streetscape upgrades on Kellogg from Waits Avenue.

A unified approach to beautification of the whole corridor will include street trees, decorative pedestrian light poles, banners, decorative walkways, wider pedestrian walks, planters, art and more. Signage will be upgraded providing for a consistent and more aesthetic look, helpful to visitors finding their way on the corridor.

Additionally, a traffic study is underway that will help with future transportation recommendations for the area.

Finally, a flood study around the Belterra Park Gaming facility would help determine the feasibility of public roadway improvements to mitigate flooding, causing lack of access to entertainment district businesses.

The Kellogg study has been a partnership with the City of Cincinnati, the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Hamilton County Engineer’s Office.

Improvements and future maintenance would be paid for by a combination of the township’s Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds.



Proposed changes for the I-275 underpass involve colorful lighting.

Natural Gas Aggregation on November Ballot

Anderson Township has offered an opt-out electric aggregation program for residents since 2017, leading to stable electric prices and savings over time. Voters approved the measure in 2016.

Now, voters are being asked if they want township trustees to form a natural gas aggregation program. The program, similar in nature to the electricity aggregation program, could in theory hedge against fluctuating natural gas costs by providing a locked-in price.

The issue of whether or not to offer a natural gas aggregation program will be on the ballot on November 8. To offer the program, a majority of voters must approve the measure.

Trustee Chair Josh Gerth has worked to bring the issue to residents, in hopes of helping residents save money on energy bills. "A larger buying group may be able to obtain a better price and contract terms which could be better than an individual negotiating on their own," he said. The service supplied through an aggregation program is no different, he said, as the only difference is in the rate, not the level of service.

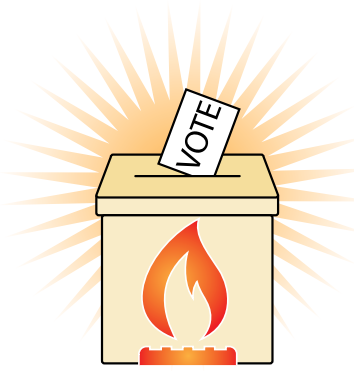
"Natural gas flows to your home the same as it always does. The level of maintenance and repairs remains the same," Gerth said.

More than 13,000 township residences would be eligible for the program if the measure passes. Residents can opt-out without a fee by simply making a phone call or returning the opt-out notice.

"I believe we have an obligation to our residents to present them any opportunity to save money, especially when they have the ability to vote on it," Gerth said.

Township Administrator Vicky Earhart noted that a "yes" vote on the measure means the township will develop a gas aggregation program. The plan will be implemented should the township determine natural gas rates are favorable for residents. A "no" vote means the door is closed and the township cannot offer the program.

Energy Alliances Inc. is retained by the township to assist and administer the program. Any questions regarding the program and its implications for residents should be directed to Energy Alliances. Call Energy Alliances at 513.794.5555 Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or leave a voice mail after hours. Residents may also visit their website at energyalliances.com/about-community-aggregation.



Trail Improvement Suggestions, Links Sought

Anderson is focused on increasing walkability through its Anderson Trails Plan.

Have ideas for improved sidewalks and trails in Anderson Township? Would you love to see a connecting sidewalk "link" that would create a safe pathway between neighborhoods?

As Anderson reviews its Anderson Trails Plan this year, a project undertaken every five years, now is the time to offer suggestions.

Anderson's award-winning Anderson Trails Plan, created in 1999, was an outgrowth of the township's 1993 Bicentennial celebration. The plan is a guide for design and construction of trails improvements throughout the community.

"Anderson's efforts to upgrade its infrastructure has helped create a higher quality of life and community spirit for decades now, and provides easier multi-modal access between schools, businesses, recreation facilities and more," noted Steve Sievers, assistant administrator for operations.

Through the efforts of the volunteer Transportation Advisory Committee and Anderson Township, more than 22 miles of sidewalks have been added to link township neighborhoods, through nearly three dozen projects. Funding has come from the township's 1998 Road/Hike/Bike levy, and through Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds and more than \$9 million in federal and state grants.

The Transportation Advisory Committee provides oversight of the trails network and also prioritizes sidewalk and trail segments. Members of Anderson's WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee also are involved in the update process.

"During the pandemic, walking became an ideal activity, somewhat by default," noted Brian Gay, chairman of the Anderson Trails Plan Update Subcommittee. "As we emerge, many residents continue to value living in a walkable community and perhaps even more so than before," he noted.

"Having access to walkable streets gives us a better opportunity to meet our neighbors, enjoy our parks, and visit our local businesses," he added. "Updating the Anderson Trails Plan allows us to gather input from residents and serve as a guide for prioritizing investments in our township's walkable infrastructure for the years ahead," he said.

Volunteers and staff will study segments suggested by residents this fall, and ultimately develop a list of possible projects for review by the community this winter.



Anderson has added more than 22 miles of sidewalks in the past 25 years.

Additional topics under review include bicycle improvements and retrofitting for bike lanes, widened shoulders on county roads where sidewalks do not exist, sidewalk connections in neighborhoods and roadway or crosswalk striping to enhance safety.

Historically, Anderson Township as a community has had to "retrofit" much of its older infrastructure to accommodate multi-modal transportation options, noted former Planner Brad Bowers, now working for Tri-State Trails as a project manager. Today, sidewalks are an expensive "add-on." However, for several decades "we've seen a continued interest in residents' expectations or desires to live in a walkable community, both for exercise and to create community," noted Planning and Zoning Director Paul Drury. While the trails program helps to provide transportation options and promote a healthy lifestyle, it's also been a key part of attracting new homebuyers to the community, he said.

Public engagement also is a key part of the process in shaping the plans for the next five years. Opportunities to solicit feedback on the trails plan update will be hosted later this year.

Trustee Lexi Lausten said she was looking forward to seeing what suggestions residents brought forward. "Input from residents will be incredibly important as we explore and prioritize our plans to encourage residents of all ages to get outdoors and connect across Anderson Township," she said.

To suggest links for the trails plan update, contact Steve Sievers at 513.688.8400 ext. 1178 or ssievers@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Sidewalk Update: More Trail Connections on Track

It's been a busy summer construction season for Anderson Township, with miles of curb repairs underway. This work has included the construction of the following key Anderson Trails segments:

A new sidewalk along a **quarter-mile stretch of Paddison Road**, on which construction unfortunately stalled earlier this summer, is back on track and planned for completion this fall. This high-priority link, a key north-south connector, was funded in part through a Transportation Alternatives Grant received through the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments.

Completed sidewalks on **Bartels Road** will be a helpful safety addition to students at Turpin High School, Mercer Elementary School and those walking the Turpin area to the Clough Pike Historic Business District. The sidewalk fills in a 250-foot gap between the high school service drive and the main entrance driveway for Turpin and Mercer schools.

A small section of sidewalk and curb ramp were relocated at the **entrance to Nagel Middle School** on Nagel Road. The relocated crosswalk and stop bar location will provide a safer crossing for pedestrians and better enable cars to more safely turn right on red, exiting the school.

A new sidewalk link is under construction on **Holiday Hills Drive and also on Clough Pike**, in the eastern portion of Anderson. The sidewalk runs along the south side of Holiday Hills Drive connecting



The Bartels Road sidewalk was completed before school was scheduled to start.

a portion of the Summit Estates neighborhood to Eight Mile Road. The Clough Pike portion of this project connects subdivisions on the north side of Clough to Muskegon Drive and the Summit Estates neighborhood, to access Eight Mile Road and nearby destinations.

Key Connections Made in the Past 20 Years

- Five Mile Trail
- Eight Mile sidewalk
- State and Nagel sidewalks
- Asbury sidewalk
- Wolfangel sidewalk

(Continued from page 1)

New Housing Construction



Traditions development on Salem Road



Clough Chase development on Clough by Wolfangel

New development looks different

As larger tracts of land are no longer available in Anderson, “the demand has spread to these smaller sites that were either not available or looked over before,” Drury said. “We’ve not yet seen the ‘tear down’ situations that have arisen in similar desirable communities, as we still have some areas remaining for new development,” he said.

“One concern we often hear with new residential development is the impact on public services, namely school crowding,” Sievers said. Anderson Township has closely monitored this issue for years, to minimize any such impacts as more than 1,750 new homes have been built since 1995, the district’s most recent enrollment peak.

During that same time period, **enrollment has steadily declined**, and today the district actually has more than 10 percent fewer students enrolled than since the mid-1990s, Sievers said.

“We certainly recognize and understand neighbor concerns, especially as infill and redevelopment subdivisions have become the norm,” said Trustee Chair Josh Gerth. These developments are often on smaller tracts of land that require a greater attention to detail to mitigate negative impacts. “It requires considerable effort to balance the rights of property owners to sell or develop their property, with the very real concerns of their neighbors,” he said.

Subdivision Developments Under Construction

- Anderson Valley**
(west side of Markley, south of Dunn) – 36 lots
- Clough Chase** (Clough west of Wolfangel) – 15 lots
- Villas at Cross Creek**
(Wolfangel Road west side) – 35 lots
- Enclave at Woodruff** – (south side of Woodruff) – 34 lots
- Nagel Village**
(west side of Nagel Road at Pineterrace Drive) – 13 units
- Parkside Estates**
(Hopper Road and Innisfree Lane) – 48 lots
- Parke Place** (Ayers Road north side) – 32 lots
- Traditions** (6753 Salem Road, east of Burney) – 17 lots

Other Approved Subdivisions In Plan Review

- Carriages at Coldstream**
(Ayers Road south side) – 26 lots
- Hummingbird Court**
(west side of Eight Mile, north of Cherry Lane) – 16 lots
- Meadows of Mt. Carmel**
(Former Growing Place Church site – Mt. Carmel Road) – 11 lots
- Reserves of Anderson**
(Four Mile east side) – 32 lots
- Waterfront Estates at Coldstream**
(Ayers Road south side) – 7 lots

Township Budget in 'Good Shape,' Levies Deferred

Incoming COVID monies, innovative strategies offset costs in Public Works, General Fund.

Thanks to federal tax monies allotted for COVID relief, and the township’s innovative strategies in pursuing changes in state law that freed up local funds, Anderson Township’s financial picture is strong. That’s the word from Trustee Chair Josh Gerth, who says these changes, plus funds from FEMA and other sources, have helped stave off the need in the near future to ask voters to support levies for public services.

Administrator Vicky Earhart notes, “Legislative advocacy along with proactive steps to cut corners and share resources have changed our financial outlook going into 2023. The pandemic only fueled our desire to take additional steps to keep from adding to the financial hardships many of our residents were facing while maintaining the services they have come to expect.”

Here are details about possible future levy needs, according to Earhart:

Anderson’s **Road and Bridge levy**, passed by taxpayers in 1998, may be stretched until 2026. Anderson Township was able to temporarily divert Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds to road and bridge maintenance expenses, thanks to legislation pushed by Earhart, Gerth and others during the pandemic.

The township received American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds totaling more than \$4.6 million. About \$263,000 was used to buy a street sweeper, which will be deployed later this year to help meet stormwater quality mandates. The rest will be used to reimburse the 1994 TIF as required by the Ohio law. About \$2.3 million will be directed back to the township’s TIF fund, and \$1.2 million used to address costs in public works and General Fund expenses, Earhart said.

The last **Public Safety Levy (funding fire and sheriff services)** passed in 2016, and Earhart anticipates this levy will not need to be renewed for two to three years. Though projected as five year levies, due to sound management and planning, the township’s 2016, 2008, and 2000 levies were all stretched to eight years. “It looks like this trend will continue,” said Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz.



Even prior to the pandemic, officials successfully lobbied for changes in the law which gave the township more flexibility to manage its TIF revenue. As a result, the costs of maintaining capital improvements funded by the 1994 TIF can be paid from TIF revenue. Over the last three years, that flexibility has reduced expenditures from funds otherwise used to pay those costs.

To provide some context, Gerth noted that the township’s road levy has stretched to its 23rd year, a rare occurrence, and safety services has stretched to eight years. “Improvements built across our community in the last 25 years, including Anderson Center, 20+ miles of trails, streetscape enhancements, and so much more, have been undertaken with zero tax increase!”

“The health and wellness of our finances can be contributed to the collaborative spirit of local, state and federal governments working together,” Gerth said.

Township Ambulance Modified to Transport Bariatric Patients

As a result of the increasing prevalence of obesity in the general population, Anderson Township has transformed one of its current medic units into a bariatric ambulance.

A bariatric ambulance is a vehicle that has been modified to carry the severely obese. Special features include wider cots and lifting gear that is capable of carrying very large patients.

Chief Rick Martin with Anderson Township Fire and Rescue said his department has been working



on the project for some months, so that the medical unit can now transport a patient heavier than 700 lbs.

“Some residents exceed the 700 lb. weight, so we have a different cot, some special ramps and a winch to load these patients on a larger, sturdier cot with special mounts to hold the larger cot in the medic unit,” he said. “Patient care is our primary concern.” Another factor is safety of the firefighter/paramedics. “This unit uses the winch instead of the electric lift system, so it maintains crew safety as well as patient safety,” he said.

Making Connections: Anderson's Senior Center a Resource for Active Healthy Aging

Upgrades at center lead to new programs, more members, lots of fun.



Trip to Tri-State Warbird Museum

With an increase in membership, greater opportunities for engagement and a renewed focus on building community, Anderson Township's Senior Center is helping older individuals find ways to become healthier and more active.

While the COVID-19 shutdown kept the center's doors physically closed for nine months, programming immediately shifted to a virtual format. That meant the center continued nearly uninterrupted services to the community. As one of the first senior centers to reopen in our region, it emerged stronger than ever, organizers say.

Longtime volunteer Steve Long said the center currently is expanding its ability to provide diverse and healthy opportunities for seniors of all ages, connecting people along the way. "What I'm feeling more and more all the time is a sense of community" at the center, Long said. "There has always been some of that, but it seems more of a characteristic of what is going on at the senior center now."

Fitness classes, history, lectures, book clubs, educational programs, dancing and other groups meet regularly. To target individuals with memory issues, a new program called the Memory Café focuses on those experiencing dementia. Monthly events engage seniors with memory challenges and their care partners in different activities.

Activities Manager Claire O'Connell said center membership options start at age 50, and while many participants are retired and enjoying their later years, the organization is adding more activities and trips to engage younger members. Current membership is 562, an increase of more than 30 percent in five years.

"Aging Americans today are able to take advantage of technological advances to stay connected in ways not used, or even imagined by their parents," Long said, leading to healthy aging.



New weekly pickleball games are hosted at Forestville Baptist Church.

A recent center technology upgrade "moved our programs up substantially," Long said. With new equipment that brings in TED Talks and connects members at home via Zoom to programs at the center, Long notes, "The sky is the limit" in using technology to join members to information, entertainment and each other, he said.

"Our programs serve as a lifeline for so many people," notes O'Connell. "Congregate meals may be the only hot meal a senior gets during the day," she said.

Also, the center is a resource for families, offering fellowship and friendship to isolated seniors who may have not lived here previously but moved to the township to be near family.

Trustee Vice Chair Dee Stone serves on the volunteer Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee and has seen the center flourish during the past few years. "We have one of the busiest senior centers in the area and I am proud of the programming we offer to keep our seniors engaged. Staying active and connected is key to healthy aging," she said.

Two new activities are drawing many participants, O'Connell said with a dedicated walking group recently formed and pickleball players that meet weekly. "The center is important for so many who come and have a chance to socialize every day," she said. "We draw from so many places and people can engage in activities on their own level of comfort." That rings true especially in the center's extensive exercise opportunities: All levels of fitness are welcome to participate, she added.

Paula Smith, communications manager for the Council on Aging, noted that while there are about 50 senior centers operating in Hamilton County, some centers have closed in the last decade and morphed into a different model. Many operate out of recreation centers or other facilities, not stand-alone operations like the Anderson Township Senior Center.

The center was built by Anderson Township in 1987 and operated under management by an independent organization. Management was transferred to the township in 2016, following a decision by the prior operator to cease services, according to Township Administrator Vicky Earhart. In the last few years, Anderson has significantly invested in upgrading the entire operation. The center is mostly funded by Anderson Township, and a volunteer advisory committee advises staff and the trustees on key decisions.



Reds games draw a crowd from the center.

The Anderson Township Senior Center — A Gateway For Seniors to Access Services

The center contracts with the Meals on Wheels of Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky to provide transportation to doctor's appointments and to the store. Home delivered meals also are available through the service and congregare meals are provided each weekday at the center.

"Congregate meals like the one at Anderson Township Senior Center play an important role in helping older adults get the nutrition they need to live healthy lives, while also providing an opportunity to socialize with friends and neighbors," said Ken Wilson, Council on Aging's vice president of program operations. These group meals improve participants' health and reduce isolation by promoting socialization, Smith added.

Anderson Township Senior Center, 7970 Beechmont Ave., is open weekdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 513.474.3100. Visit the center's website at AndersonTownshipOH.gov/senior-center.



Senior center members grow a garden each year.

MEMBERS SPEAK

What Does the Anderson Township Senior Center Mean to You?

Carol Feltman

"It is a welcoming 'family' group. They really take care of you! It's fun to go and play games or do a puzzle with another person."

Joseph D. Brueggemeyer

"It is an oasis of fun and entertainment in an otherwise arid landscape."

Joyce Lynn Gibson

"A place to associate with other seniors, eat good lunches (without cooking or doing the dishes at home!), enjoy a variety of programs, music and outings. They can refer me to different agencies to answer any questions to any problems that may concern me or other seniors I know."

Mary Busch

"It gives me purpose so I'm not sitting at home all day."

JoAnne Young

"Anderson Township Senior Center is a wonderful place for active seniors to meet and participate in a range of activities, especially arts and exercise."

Dan Walton

"A perfect place for a decent lunch with good people. The staff is always helpful and considerate!"

Helen Maddux

"For 30-some years it's my home away from home. It gives you a nice place to go and enjoy yourself."

History Room Spans Centuries with Lore, Artifacts



The Anderson Township History Room in Anderson Center

To truly appreciate a place, it helps to know its history. And what better place to learn about Anderson Township than at our very own township History Room?

Located in the lower level of Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, the room is a collaborative effort between Anderson Township and the Anderson Township Historical Society. From its prehistoric roots, to its significance in the story of America's western expansion, to more recent cultural developments, the History Room provides a unique panoramic look into our past.

Ever wonder how Anderson Township got its name? Are you curious about old buildings or how the area looked compared to today? The answers are here in words and photos. Of special interest to all visitors are the artifacts on display donated by local residents, including arrowheads and pottery fragments. Modern items include photos and objects from the 19th and 20th centuries.

If your interest in our township's history has been piqued, be sure to check out some of these items found in the collection:

Corn Crib: A portion of a large corn crib constructed in the early 1830s and later moved in 1884 to the corner of Clough Pike and S.R. 32 frames part of the History Room. The corn crib represents the agricultural connections of the community's heritage from 1793 to the 1920s.

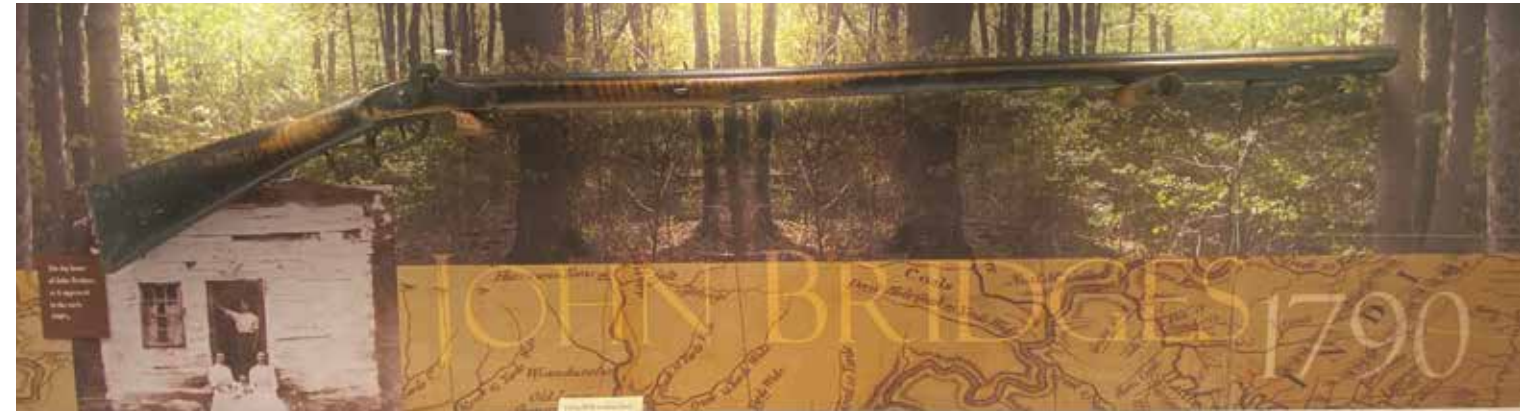
Four televisions from the 1940s to the 1960s: As the television era grew and became one of the defining technologies of the 20th century, four television sets in the room reveal how these were quickly modified in the span of 20 years.



The History Room includes the background story of a local corn crib.



Four television sets reflect changes in technology.



A long rifle owned by the John Bridges family is on display at the History Room.

Long Rifle: On display is a long rifle owned by the family of John Bridges, the first European settler in the area. He built a log cabin and settled here when the Garrard/Martin group arrived on December 23, 1790 and first settled on the banks of the Little Miami River off today's Elstun Road.

Arrowhead Collection and Prehistoric Artifacts: The first residents of Anderson Township were the Native Americans. The collection includes a variety of Indian stone tools and other items including projectile points, grooved and ungrooved axes, drills, scrapers, blades, game balls, pottery and effigy forms. Fluted points were used as a spear point for hunting big game by the earliest Paleo-Indians 12,000 years ago.

Log Dog: This sawing tool used to secure logs in place probably is from 1800 to the 1900s. It was used to move heavy round logs in rivers and lumber mills.

Slates and Desks: To the delight of younger school children visiting the history room, school desks and slate tablets for lesson-learning are available for hands-on exploration. The items are from the school days of the late 1800s and early 1900s before pencils and paper were used.

Replica of Ancient Turpin Stone Frog Pipe: A plaster cast replica of a stone pipe found in Anderson Township by the Turpin family in the late 1800s is on display in the history room. The original frog pipe was said to be traced to the middle Fort Ancient period, A.D. 1200-1400 and is housed at the Cincinnati Museum Center.

Real Detective Magazine: A 1957 grocery store ambush on Beechmont Avenue at the Thriftway Supermarket turned deadly for two safecrackers. The true crime magazine detailing this bold heist, and a recount of the stakeout of Hamilton County Sheriff's deputies that interrupted this unlawful act, is available for perusing.

When you visit, chances are you'll find your knowledge of Anderson Township expanded and your appreciation for this bustling community greatly enhanced. And that's what history is all about.

The Anderson Township History Room is open the second and fourth Sundays of the month from 1-4 p.m. Admission is free and docents are available to discuss items in the room.

Text by Tom Brown; photos courtesy of the Anderson Township Historical Society.



Students in the History to Schools program enjoy artifacts in the History Room.

Open Burning: What You Should Know This Fall

State and federal regulations are very specific about the kinds of fires that are legal in Anderson Township. The days of burning leaves at the curbside are long gone, and now those sorts of activities in suburban settings are prohibited under numerous fire codes.



There is no open burning of leaves or yard waste allowed.

Cooking fires, considered recreational fires, or use of a barbecue grill or chiminea are permitted under the burning regulations. However, Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Chief Rick Martin notes that residents should be aware of nearby combustible materials such as wood deck or siding and stay away from these materials.

Many may wonder why open burning is so heavily regulated in Ohio. Martin notes that the issue really comes down to health concerns.

Open burning releases many toxic fumes. These fumes, plus the spores they release when they catch fire, cause those with allergy problems to have trouble breathing. Pollutants released by the burn cause problems for communities attempting to meet health-based air quality standards. Plus, burning household trash releases dioxin which has links to respiratory illnesses, kidney and liver damage and more.

For more information, go here: epa.gov/dioxin/learn-about-dioxin.

The Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department offers an online brochure detailing more information about the topic of open burning. For information, go to AndersonTownshipOH.gov and search quick links: Open Burning.

Common Questions About Open Burning

What are the restrictions for a backyard campfire or fire pit?

Township residents are allowed to start a recreational fire, which is an outdoor fire where fire materials are materials other than garbage. The total fuel area must be 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes. No notification or permit is required for this use.

Recreational fires cannot be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material. Remove conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 25 feet of a structure before burning. Also, burn only clean, dry seasoned firewood in recreational fires – this fire may not be used for waste disposal.

Please note: A recreational fire that is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous is prohibited.

Can I burn leaves or brush in a burn barrel at my house?

You cannot burn leaves, brush or construction debris in a burn barrel.



Only burn firewood in a burn barrel, not debris or leaves.



Bonfires are allowed only with a permit.

Can I get a permit for a bonfire in my backyard?

A permit for a bonfire is required from the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department. The application needs to be submitted at least 10 days in advance of the fire.

A bonfire shall not be conducted within 50 feet of a structure or combustible material unless the fire is contained in a barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread within 50 feet of a structure need to be eliminated prior to ignition.

Like recreational fires, if the bonfire is offensive or objectionable because of smoke emissions or negative atmospheric conditions that make the fire hazardous, they will be prohibited.

An approved bonfire can burn no longer than three hours. Residents are required to burn only clean, dry seasoned firewood and the fire materials may not be used for waste disposal (including yard waste).

Volunteer! Help With Transportation, Zoning, Beautification Issues

Want to give back to your own community? Your help is needed to make Anderson Township an even better place to live! Invest your talents and time towards working on issues related to transportation, community health, economic development, beautification and more.

These committees are appointed by township trustees for a specific purpose and have a one-year term:

Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee - ensures the Senior Center continues to foster a creative and intellectually stimulating environment that enhances the lives of Anderson seniors.



The Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee takes an active role in center affairs.

Economic Development Committee - reviews the township's economic development strategy and makes recommendations to trustees on policy or project decisions regarding the township's business environment.

WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee - focuses on the social health of Anderson Township. As part of the Hamilton County Public Health's WeTHRIVE! initiative, this committee addresses topics including injury prevention, environmental and social health, community art and community development.



The WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee sponsors the Anderson Garden Tour.

Anderson Tree Committee - promotes and manages healthy, safe, and appropriate trees along township streets and on public grounds or roadways and makes recommendations to Anderson Township's tree planting program.

Greater Anderson Township Betterment Committee - non-profit organization working behind the scenes to facilitate community-wide improvements and projects.

Transportation Advisory Committee - provides recommendations on transportation matters and projects to trustees and assists with implementation of the Anderson Trails plan.

Two committees operate on a five-year term, with one-year alternates:

Zoning Commission - hears cases that involve modifying the Anderson Township Zoning Map or the Anderson Township Zoning Resolution.

Board of Zoning Appeals - reviews appeals to the township's Zoning Resolution, as well as other development-related applications.

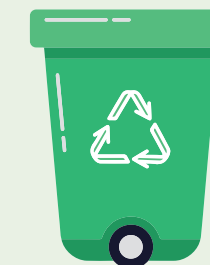
For consideration, send a letter of interest to "Committees," Anderson Township, Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, Anderson Township, OH 45230 or email Steve Sievers at ssievers@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Residents Diverted 3,272 Tons of Recycling in 2021

Recycling update: Anderson residents diverted 3,272 tons of metal, glass, plastic, and paper in 2021. Residents saved resources, conserved energy and reduced pollution by recycling.

Recycling efforts in Anderson Township:

- Conserved enough energy to power every home in Anderson Township for 13 days.
- Reduced more air pollution than if every household member in Anderson Township rode their bicycle to work for nine weeks.
- Saved 27,247 trees from being harvested.



On average, each household in Anderson Township diverted 441 pounds in 2021. That's 15.92 percent of all the waste generated locally.

Recycling is available both curbside through your personal trash contract and through the Anderson Township Recycling Center, the largest recycling facility in southwest Ohio. The center collects more than 305 tons of material each year.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Save the Date for 'A Fair of the Arts'



Saturday, Sept. 17, 4-8 p.m.

The Anderson Park District hosts its 21st annual *A Fair of the Arts* from 4-8 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 17 at Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road. Enjoy original works of art including fine jewelry, stained glass, painting, photography and ceramics.

The *A Fair of the Arts* event features live music including Clark Jenkins at 4 p.m. followed by Rooster Ridge at 5:15 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. Check AndersonParks.com closer to the event to see a complete artist list.

Youth Activities at Anderson Library Ramp Up for Fall

As summer winds down and school ramps back up, the Anderson Branch Library has loads to get everyone back in the mood to learn.

The new youth librarian, Melissa Gartner, who joined in March from the Elmwood Place Branch, has some exciting things to share in her department for this late summer and fall:

The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati visits the branch at 4 p.m. September 30, to present the short play *Shirley Chisholm: The Chisholm Trail* about the first African-American woman member of Congress. The 40-minute show tells Chisholm's story and encourages students to become a catalyst for change.

There's also a new teen area at the library—complete with a television and gaming couch (yes, a couch!) And if there's a gaming couch, there must be game systems and games—and there are. The library now has a PlayStation 4 (with a virtual reality headset) and a Nintendo Switch, including a wide game selection.

After screen time, check out all the **teen-related fiction and nonfiction**, including anime DVDs, comic books and more—with new issues arriving every month. But when it's time to crack open the schoolbooks, the library offers **reservable quiet study rooms** available

Music, Beer Garden and More at First FallFest September 24

Live bands, food and entertainment take center stage at the First Annual Anderson FallFest on Saturday, Sept. 24 at the Anderson Towne Center.

Visit FallFest from 3-9 p.m. to enjoy business booths, a beer garden and fun for the whole family. FallFest is sponsored by the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce.

For event information and vendor applications, check out the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce website at andersonareachamber.org or go to Facebook at facebook.com/TowneCenterEvents.



through the library's website, with its new, shortened URL, CHPL.org. Go there to reserve a book, check out online research databases, the digital library and more, or ask a librarian for help.

The Anderson Branch Library is at 7450 State Road. Call 513.369.6090 to speak to a librarian.

You're Invited to Senior Center Open House on November 5

Whether you're trying a new hobby or returning to a familiar one, meeting with old friends or making new, or starting or maintaining a fitness program, the Anderson Township Senior Center offers many opportunities for learning, socializing and aging well.

"Many social and learning opportunities are scheduled each week, all of which can help improve mental health and keep one's mind sharp," said Claire O'Connell, activities manager. "We look forward to meeting new seniors in the area," she said. "You are never too old to try new things and to start taking care of yourself."

Learn more about programs and events at the open house scheduled for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5 at 7970 Beechmont Ave. On hand will be a representative from the Meals on Wheels program which contracts with Anderson to provide meals and transportation services.

The event includes food samples from Meals on Wheels, an opportunity to meet the staff and take a tour of the center, demonstrations of regularly scheduled activities, entertainment and a gift bag with surprises.



Saturday, Nov. 5, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The senior center offers a wide variety of programs and activities, including

- Exercise classes
- Creative expression opportunities
- Informative speakers
- Entertaining musicians
- Trips to restaurants and attractions
- Health screenings
- Companionship and nutritious meals

Save Money, Resources by Reducing Food Waste at Home

Between 35 and 40 percent of all the food produced in the United States is wasted. That waste results in higher prices and higher rates of food insecurity. Currently, one in six Hamilton County residents are food insecure.

This wasted food costs the average family of four \$1,800 a year. By reducing your food waste at home, you can reduce wasted food by up to 40 percent!

Reducing food waste is as easy as 1-2-3. Shop with a list, store food safely, and share food with friends and family.

1 SHOP WITH A LIST

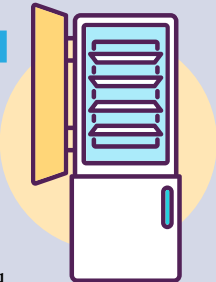
- Plan your menu.
- Make your grocery list.
- Check your pantry before you head to the store.



The first step in reducing food waste is smart shopping. Plan for what you want to cook that week, make a list based on what you want to cook, and check your pantry for items you already have on hand.

2 STORE FOOD SAFELY

- Check out the food storage guide from WastedFoodStopsWithUs.org.
- Move older food to the front of your refrigerator or cabinet.
- Use clear storage containers.



Some foods are best stored in a dark cupboard, some on the counter and others the crisper drawer. Moving older foods to the front of the fridge or cabinet will prompt you to get rid of aging products more quickly.

3 SHARE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

- Prepare dishes your family and friends will eat.
- Serve food in storage containers for easy clean up.
- Let people season, garnish, and top their own food.



Serving dishes in storage containers with snap on lids make clean up easier and focuses your attention on how you'll store the dish if it is uneaten. Letting people season, garnish, and top their own plates preserves prepared food for storage and makes dishes more palatable to each person.

Hamilton County Resource sponsors the Wasted Food Stops Here initiative and the blog wastedfoodstopswithus.org.

NEWS & NOTES

Bond Retires after 30 Years in Public Works



Donald Bond

Donald Bond was hired in June 1992 as mechanic for the Public Works Department. After 30 years of service, Bond retired in June.

Bond repaired and maintained administrative vehicles, public works and fire and safety service vehicles. He also spent the last 30 winters plowing, salting, and clearing residential township roads. Part of his expertise was putting together packages for purchasing service vehicles and snow removal dump trucks for the Public Works Department.

“Donnie’s 30 years of experience and knowledge were much appreciated and will be greatly missed,” said Public Works Director Eric Luginbuhl.

Holman New Mechanic for EMS Vehicles



Jarrett Holman

Jarrett Holman is the new mechanic in charge of maintaining the fleet of emergency vehicles for the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department. He is a certified Ohio Emergency Vehicle Assistance Technician. He previously worked for Vogelpohl Fire Equipment for the past nine years.

Szekeresh New Assistant for Events



Matthew Szekeresh

Anderson Township has hired Matthew Szekeresh as its new assistant events coordinator. Szekeresh is a University of Cincinnati graduate who has worked with a variety of Cincinnati non-profits and organizations, including the Bunbury Music Festival and the Cincinnati Comic Expo.

Donovan Promoted to Assistant Director



Sarah Donovan

Sarah Donovan AICP has been promoted to assistant director of the Planning and Zoning Department. She has worked as a planner for Anderson Township since 2017.

She is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati and Penn State University.

Township Looking for Event Attendants

Anderson Township has immediate openings for multiple, part-time event attendants to assist with operating various event venue spaces available for rent from Anderson Township. Daytime and evening shifts are available, during both weekends and weekdays. Additional details and instructions for applying are available at: AndersonTownshipOH.gov. Click on News.



Free Blood Pressure Check at Fire Stations



Routine blood pressure checks are an important part of managing high blood pressure. Any of the three Anderson Township fire stations or the Village of Newtown fire station offer free blood pressure checks. No appointment is necessary. However, be aware that firefighter-paramedics may not always be available as they could be managing an emergency incident.

Storm Drains for Water, Not Leaves, Garbage

Stormwater drains on your street are important in managing water! They go directly in our community’s creeks, rivers, streams and lakes. Anything that goes into the drain, however, is not treated before it hits the water.

That means motor oil, pet waste, chemicals and leaves are not removed before they move through to the waterways. Storm drains channel rainwater directly into our natural waterways; they serve an important role in protecting property during a heavy rain.



Keep our waterways clean by removing litter that plugs grates and inlets. Make sure your street’s storm sewers are free of leaves, plastic bottles and debris, especially during fall. Report damaged or clogged drains to the Public Works Department at 513.688.8400.

Order Native Trees, Shrubs for September Pickup

The Hamilton County Conservation District is hosting their annual Native Tree and Shrub Sale again this year, with plant pickup scheduled for September 10.

The sale offers a variety of native trees and shrubs at a low cost. Orders for native trees and shrubs end on August 29. Pick up plants from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10 at the Sycamore Township Administration Building, 8540 Kenwood Road, and the Hamilton County Maintenance Facility, 10486 Burlington Road.

For additional information and to place an order visit hcsxcd.org/tree-sale.html.



New Forest Hills Superintendent from Springboro City Schools



Larry Hook

Forest Hills School District is under new leadership this year. Larry Hook officially took over as superintendent August 1 after being selected by the Forest Hills Local School Board of Education in June.

“I am truly honored and delighted to be presented with this opportunity,” Hook said. “I look forward to working with students, staff, parents and the community to ensure Forest Hills maintains its strong commitment to academic excellence and student success, both in and out of the classroom.”

“I am confident that Mr. Hook will be an excellent addition to our school district,” Board of Education President Linda Hausfeld said. “His passion for students and education, as well as his ability to unite all stakeholders, sets a strong foundation for the future of Forest Hills School District.”

Hook was most recently the superintendent of Springboro Community City Schools in Warren County. He also served as the district’s assistant superintendent from 2002-2010. In addition, Hook served as superintendent of Carlisle Local School District from 2010-2020 and has prior administrative experience at Milford Exempted Village School District, bringing nearly 30 years of overall administrative experience to the district.

The board selected the new leader following a statewide search conducted by K-12 Business Consulting, Inc. which included feedback from stakeholders throughout the district. Students, staff, parents and community members were invited to participate in open focus group sessions and to submit a search profile questionnaire which provided information to guide the board of education.

2022 Winners Named in Beautification Program

Two properties in Anderson Township have been cited for their landscape work. The program is sponsored by the WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee.



Residential winner is 824 Farmsworth Court.



Commercial winner is Don Rigo, 7752 Five Mile Road.

BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME YOUR CALLS!



JOSHUA S. GERTH *Chair*
(C) 513.833.3010
jgerth@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



R. DEE STONE *Vice Chair*
(W) 513.688.8438
dstone@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



J. LEXI LAUSTEN *Trustee*
(W) 513.688.8628
lLausten@AndersonTownshipOH.gov



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

Heritage Center Arboretum Master Plan Approved

The Heritage Center Arboretum now has a master plan to guide its continued improvement through the next few years.

The Anderson Township Heritage Center, a historic home site and township event venue at the corner of Eight Mile and Forest roads, was designated as a Level I Arboretum in late 2020. It became one of only 527 ArbNet accredited arboreta globally.

At the time of designation, a collection of 38 species of trees and shrubs had been identified and labeled with signs. The goal was to create a setting that was not just beautiful but also offered an enjoyable self-guided educational opportunity for visitors, according to Tim Kloppenborg, head of the arboretum subcommittee under the township's volunteer Tree Committee.

Since 2020, the arboretum has grown to 60 species in the official arboretum plant collection. Most of these additional trees were donated by Tree Committee volunteers and Little Miami Landscape.

A dedicated website now details each species in the collection and can be accessed through the QR codes on the site's identification signs, through the township website at AndersonTownshipOH.gov. Go to arbnet.org/morton-register/heritage-center-arboretum.

"The expertise and dedication of the Tree (citizen) Committee is incredible, and this master plan is a testament to that," said Trustee Lexi Lausten. "What is very exciting is that the plan will allow for appropriate expansion as well as additional educational opportunities to continue to engage and enhance the community."



Additional plantings to enhance the beauty and educational value of the site are part of the master plan. An arboretum site map will be added so visitors can more easily find locations and names of the plants in the official collection. Joe Willging, a Tree Committee member who is also a professional planner and landscape architect, produced and donated the map.

Anderson's 'Great Tree' Award Winners Cited for 2022

As part of Anderson's efforts to support the growing of trees and protect the tree canopy, an annual township program recognizes outstanding "Great Trees" in our community. This year's winners include four memorable examples of some of the community's finest trees.

Anderson's volunteer Tree Committee runs the program and determines the tree awards each year. Any Anderson Township tree on private or public property is eligible, as long as the respective property owner is agreeable to the nomination.

Anderson Township has been designated a Tree City USA community since 2009.

Property owners receive a commemorative plaque and public recognition by Anderson Township trustees.

Nominate a Great Tree by emailing a photo and the address of the tree to Joe Willging at jpwilling@gmail.com or Paul Drury at pdrury@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.



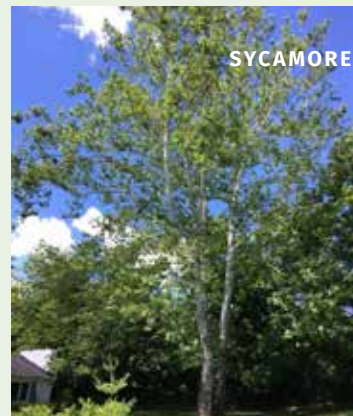
ORNAMENTAL WINNER
Crabapple
8116 Ashgrove Drive



FALL COLOR WINNER
Sugar Maple
2010 Wolfangel Road



EVERGREEN WINNER
Southern Magnolia
6045 Gwendolyn Drive



SHADE TREE
Sycamore
1144 Altadena Ave.



Field School students excavate a test unit.



Community members sort artifacts.

2022 Turpin Dig Continues Unearthing the Past Along River

The Turpin dig archaeology project of 2021 returned this summer to retrace the footsteps of past archaeologists on township Greenspace property. For two months, volunteers, students, visitors and professional archaeologists explored the Turpin site along the Little Miami River and returned to previous archaeological dig locations to gather more information.

Long-term field work continued at the Turpin site during May and June. During that time, Miami Valley Recollection and Reconnection project participants uncovered information on precontact descendent communities, along with details about more recent residents of the land along the river.

Directed by Dr. Robert Cook, professor of archaeology from Ohio State University and Rebecca Hawkins, Algonquin Consultants owner, the collaborative effort involved several locations.

A joint field school was conducted at the site with Ohio State University and Indiana University students and included the involvement of several township volunteers who helped with field screening and cleaning artifacts at the Anderson Township Urban Farm. "They loved the work! And we loved having them," said Cook. "Our hope is to continue this work for years to come as we are already starting to better piece together this complex site."



Shell hoe

"Our hope is to continue this work for years to come..."

Dr. Robert Cook,
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



Spear point

In the precontact part of the site, in an effort to tie Harvard's maps of their previous excavations to the site, the archaeologists targeted partially disturbed areas. This year, they relocated another portion of a Mississippian-style wall trench house identified previously. "Along with the abundance of pottery and other artifacts recovered, this further confirms our understanding that the site was transformed around AD 1000 into a sedentary community of Mississippian farmers, some of whom may have relocated from far away."

Cook said the group also explored the centers of several small village communities. One of these areas contained the remains of a large, burned area that was used for a communal activity.

In the historical part of the site, researchers moved their efforts from the barn foundation to the main house area and excavated one unit in a small structure behind it, which may have been a summer kitchen, Cook said. "Thus far, this structure produced some of the earliest historical material from the site," he said.

Participating partners included Anderson Township, the Anderson Township Historical Society, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Cincinnati Museum Center and the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University.

To follow the project's next steps, visit the Facebook page: [@MVRR.OhioArcheology](https://www.facebook.com/MVRR.OhioArcheology).

Independence Day Parade



Most Spirited - Sponsored by Mercy Health - The Lounge



Best Float - Sponsored by Core Resources - Anderson Park District



Best Business - Sponsored Mt. Washington Care Center - Trusted Clean House Washing



Best Patriotic - Sponsored by Rapid Mortgage - American Legion Post 318- Sons of Legion



Best Neighborhood or Organization - Sponsored by the Anderson Towne Center - Anderson Wildcats



Parade Photo Contest winner - Keith Shebesta



Garden Tour



Great American Cleanup



Residential KnoxBox Loan Program Helps During Emergencies



When first responders react to an emergency call from a township resident, immediate home access is important in doing their job.

If a 9-1-1 caller is immobilized and cannot answer the door, gaining access by breaking down a door or smashing a window takes precious time during a crisis. It also can cause significant cost to repair damage resulting from an emergency.

Anderson Township Fire and Rescue is helping to remove some of these barriers to a quick response by employing the KnoxBox emergency access system.

Anderson Township Assistant Fire Chief Bob Herrlinger recently announced a limited number of KnoxBoxes will be available for Anderson and Newtown residents to borrow for up to 90 days. The secure boxes are mounted outside the home and are designed to hold one key to the house.

“Residents who have a temporary special need or physical disability that prevents them from opening their door for police, fire and EMS personnel may apply to the program,” Herrlinger said. He urged residents with longer term mobility issues to purchase their own boxes.

While Herrlinger said not a great number of situations occur on a yearly basis in homes where access is delayed during an emergency, it is a very critical issue to those who are immobile and are waiting for emergency attention.

The KnoxBox can easily be removed by the resident after use without any permanent marks or other damage to the door.

Anderson Township started using the KnoxBox emergency access system several years ago and now requires all new businesses to have a KnoxBox. “The KnoxBox system is used in a lot of commercial fire alarm situations when no one is there,” he noted.

This community program has a limited number of boxes that can be loaned out, said Chief Rick Martin. The program operates on a “first come, first served” basis and the box must be returned at the end of the loan period or if the resident’s condition improves.

For more information, contact Herrlinger at 513.688.8400 ext. 1470 or rherrlinger@AndersonTownshipOH.gov.

Two New Residential Housing Developments Underway



A new apartment community and public parking garage at Vantage at Anderson Towne Center.



Future transit center on lower level of Vantage at Anderson Towne Center.



Future stairwells under construction at Skytop, a new apartment community.

Traffic Calming Strategies You Can Use in Your Neighborhood

Are you and your neighbors concerned about speeding on your street? Want to help drivers comply with posted speed limits by using traffic calming strategies?

Reduced speeds can help decrease the severity of injuries and fatalities if an incident does occur.

Here are a few practical tips from the Hamilton County Sheriff’s Office and Anderson Township:



More trees, please!

Plant trees on the edge of the property to create the feeling of a narrower street.

Add landscaping no more than 24 inches tall

or other streetscape amenities along the edge of your property, closer to the street, while maintaining 36 inches of clear space around fire hydrants.



If permitted, park your car on the street to narrow the road so that vehicles may need to slow down or yield to oncoming vehicles to pass.



Get out and walk! The presence of pedestrians on sidewalks or where safe along the edge of the roadway facing traffic, slows speeds.



Display signage (outside the right-of-way and less than 8 square feet) to alert drivers of activity in the area, such as “Children at Play.”

Add chalk art

in view of the street, such as a nearby driveway or sidewalk.

Request placement of an Anderson Township speed trailer,

which has been found to remind motorists of their travel speed, and in the majority of situations, to slow them down. The signs collect important data, including priority days/times, for the township-funded law enforcement traffic officer to monitor traffic.



Anderson Township Welcomes New Businesses

COMPLETED PROJECTS/TENANTS

Josie & James Salon
7801 Beechmont Ave.

Anderson Tap House
Anderson Towne Center

Granite Empire
7197 Beechmont Ave.

Chic & Honey Boutique
Anderson Towne Center

Condado Taco
7877 Beechmont Ave.

Altitude Trampoline Park-
Anderson Towne Center

Club Pilates
Anderson Towne Center



Altitude Trampoline Park



Condado Taco



Chic & Honey Boutique

NEW BUILDINGS/TENANTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Panera Bread Restaurant
8501 Beechmont Ave.

Skytop Apartments
5218 Beechmont Ave.

Vantage at Anderson Towne Center
7832 Five Mile Road

Whitewater Express Car Wash
former Johnny’s Car Wash
7901 Beechmont Ave.

CONNECT

Visit Log House During Open Houses This Fall



First and third Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.

Open Houses hosted at the historic Miller-Leuser Log House continue through October. This historic home that's listed on the National Register of Historic Places will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Owned by the Anderson Township Historical Society, the Miller-Leuser Log House is at 6550 Clough Pike, just east of Bartels Road. It is one of the few structures in Anderson Township remaining from pioneer days.

Calling All Vets to Annual Veterans Day Dinner

The Patriot Center in Anderson Township opens its doors for a special free Veterans Day Dinner on Friday, Nov. 11.

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

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

The cash bar is open between 5 and 6 p.m., with dinner served at 6 p.m. Entertainment follows the dinner.

Make reservations by calling Anderson Township at 513.688.8444.

Explore Season's Best at Urban Farm Fall Fest

Celebrate the best of the harvest season at the Urban Farm Harvest Fest, noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29, at the Anderson Township Urban Farm, 2550 Bartels Road.

The 10-acre site will be filled with live music, food trucks, curated vendors, hands-on historical activities, a pumpkin patch and homemade treats at a "country store." Enjoy roaming the property and exploring the community garden and educational center on the historic farm.

Suggested donation is \$5 per person or \$10 per family.

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*.



Saturday, Oct. 29, Noon to 6 p.m.

Emergency Services Day: Learn, Explore at Fire Station

After a two-year hiatus, event is back on Saturday, Oct. 15.

Mark your calendar this fall for the return of Emergency Services Day, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 15 at the Beechmont Fire Station.

Members of the Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department and Hamilton County Sheriff's deputies restart the tradition and open up their vehicles and equipment for exploration from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"This year the fire and rescue department uses Emergency Services Day to kick off our annual toy drive benefitting Inter Parish Ministries," said organizer and Firefighter/paramedic Doug Eagan. "For the first time we will also be accepting donations for non-perishable food items as we pack the medical units during the holidays," he said.



Learning opportunities include:

- Climb on water rescue boats and a ladder truck and go inside an ambulance.
- Check out vehicles from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.
- Take a photo with Lt. Big Ben, the fire department mascot.
- Roll out in real fire gear for a photo shoot.
- Check out the Fire Blast Trainer which allows both adults and children to walk through a specialized trailer to view how fire training is undertaken.
- Try out the firefighter obstacle course.



Saturday, Oct. 15, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Public Meetings

ALL MEETINGS ARE HOSTED AT ANDERSON CENTER, 7850 FIVE MILE ROAD (513.688.8400) UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

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

Regular Monthly Meeting: Thursday, Aug. 18, 5 p.m. • Interim Meeting: Thursday, Sept. 1, 2 p.m.

Anderson Township Senior Center Advisory Committee
Thursday, Sept. 15, 2 p.m.
Meets at Anderson Township Senior Center
7970 Beechmont Ave.

WeTHRIVE! Anderson Committee
Wednesday, Aug. 17, 6 p.m.

Zoning Commission
Monday, Aug. 22, 5:30 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals
Thursday, Sept. 1, 5:30 p.m.

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

Tree Committee
Monday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

Economic Development Committee
Tuesday, Sept. 27, 3 p.m.

CONNECT

Anderson Township Farmers' Market

in the parking lot of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
8101 Beechmont Ave.

RUNS FROM 9 A.M. TO NOON EVERY SATURDAY
THROUGH OCT. 15



AUGUST

Performing Arts Inc.- Mary Poppins JR and Amélie

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

AUGUST 16-21

Showtimes and tickets at performingartsinc.net

Performing Arts Inc.- Willy Wonka Kids, Magic Treehouse: Pirates Past Noon Kids and The Mystery of Edwin Drood

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

AUGUST 22-27

Showtimes and tickets at performingartsinc.net

SEPTEMBER

Matinee Musicale Piano Recital

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

SATURDAY, SEPT. 10, 3 P.M.

Tickets: matineemusicalescincinnati.org

Anderson FallFest

Anderson Towne Center, 7578 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 24, 3-9 P.M.

Free. Sponsored by Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce

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

Dave Stefan- Breadcrumbs Tales- live short stories

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

SATURDAY, SEPT. 24, 7 P.M.

Tickets: \$15 at breadcrumbsales.com

OCTOBER

Beechmont Players-Let's Murder Marsha

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, OCT. 7-8, 8 P.M.; SUNDAY, OCT. 9, 3 P.M.

FRIDAY, OCT. 14, 8 P.M.; SATURDAY, OCT. 15, 3 P.M.

Tickets: \$20, students and seniors, \$18 at BeechmontPlayers.org

Emergency Services Day

Beechmont Fire Station (Station 6), 7954 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, OCT. 15, 11 A.M.-2 P.M.

Free



Anderson Township Urban Farm Harvest Fair

Anderson Township Urban Farm, 2550 Bartels Road

SATURDAY, OCT. 29, NOON- 6 P.M.

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

Info: AndersonUrbanFarm.com



Anderson Towne Center Trick or Treat

Anderson Towne Center, 7578 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, OCT. 29, 4-6 P.M.

Free.



NOVEMBER

Anderson Township Senior Center Open House

Anderson Township Senior Center, 7970 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, NOV. 5, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

Veterans Day Celebration 2022

Patriot Center, 6660 Clough Pike

FRIDAY, NOV. 11, 5 P.M.

Free dinner for veteran and one adult guest; reservations required.

Call 513.688.8444 for reservations.

Anderson Community Band Concert

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

SUNDAY, NOV. 20, 3 P.M.

Info: John Fecker at jmfecker@gmail.com or 513.207.8506



HOLIDAY PREVIEW

Mt. Washington Holiday Walk

Mt. Washington Business District

SATURDAY, NOV. 26, 4-7 P.M. LIGHTING OF

MT. WASHINGTON TOWER AT 6:45 P.M.

Info: 513.624.8326

Anderson Holiday Fest

Anderson Towne Center Streetscape, 7578 Beechmont Ave.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3, 4-6 P.M.

Free; Tree lighting at 6 p.m. and other activities throughout the event.

Info: AndersonTownshipOH.gov



Newtown Winterfest

Heart of Newtown- Church Street

SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 4-8:30 P.M.

Info: Newtownohio.gov



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

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

Township Seeking Hotel Development



The El Rancho Rankin Motel closed in 1996.

Just think: Anderson Township, a community of more than 44,000 residents and 17,000 households, is host to a major hospital, a racino, a concert venue, and the world's largest circulating pool. However, the community hasn't had a hospitality option since the days of El Rancho Rankin (at the redeveloping Skytop apartment community near the Beechmont Levee) and AJ's Roadhouse on Kellogg (next to Grove Park Grille.)

Josh Gerth, chair of the Board of Township Trustees, believes Anderson is long overdue for this amenity.

Earlier this summer, the township contracted with HVS, a global consulting firm focused exclusively on the hospitality industry, to assess market demand for a hotel here. As HVS studied local attractions that might support overnight stays, Anderson Township distributed a survey seeking commentary on hospitality patterns and trends for their out-of-town guests.

"The responses and comments from the more than 300 respondents, who provided insight on their past and projected visits by their family and friends, as well as possible amenities for a

new hotel, was extremely helpful in assessing hospitality needs," said Vice Chair Dee Stone. "This data will not only be helpful to the work of HVS, but also to the township's planning efforts," she added.

Gerth said the volunteer-led Economic Development Committee has discussed the need for a hotel in Anderson for some time but has made the topic a priority for 2022.

"There is no doubt in my mind that our community needs a hotel," Gerth said. "Between our Kellogg Entertainment District, Mercy campus, Anderson Center events, the roughly 70,000 cars that drive past us on I-275 every day and the numbers of families who welcome guests each year, a nice select-service hotel is one of the last remaining puzzle pieces to the unprecedented investment Anderson has seen in the last 10 years."

Two locations are under consideration: the area around Anderson Towne Center and the Kellogg Entertainment District, he added.

The HVS study is anticipated to be completed by Labor Day and will help to shape the next steps for the township's Economic Development Committee and staff.

Anderson's new web address is:
AndersonTownshipOH.gov