

ANDERSON Insights

July 2016

The Voice of Anderson Township

Residents to See Public Safety Levy in November

Despite belt tightening for the past several years, dwindling revenues force a return to the voters.

Anderson Township Trustees are going to the voters this November 8, asking for approval on a 3.55 mill public safety levy to fund police, fire and emergency medical services.

The decision was made in June as trustees weighed options to fund township safety services for the next five years. This occurs after Anderson Township stretched a public safety levy, approved in 2008, three years past its projected five year useful life. At this point in the township's budget cycle, expenditures have exceeded income, which is common at the useful end of a levy. Anderson Township has had to supplement the public safety budget with Tax Increment Financing (TIF) dollars.

"As regrettable as it is to come to the voters for an increase, we have to do this to keep up the basic safety services of Anderson Township," said Trustee President Andrew Pappas. "This is one of the township functions that has to be paid for, and our costs have risen as projected in 2008, while our revenue has declined."

The amount of funds collected by a levy such as this do not increase over time; in fact, the amount collected in 2015 is about 6 percent less than 2009. Thus, the basic funding process established by the Ohio Legislature decades ago for townships and other



Anderson Township's safety and emergency services cover 31.2 square miles.

taxing authorities requires a periodic return to the electorate to ensure funding keeps pace with inflation.

In this situation, the proposed 3.55 mill levy will generate an approximate \$4.3 million annually. For the owner of a \$100,000 home, the increase would be \$124.25 per year, or \$10.35 per month, according to information supplied by Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz.

Significant cost increases, not anticipated in 2008 for law enforcement services supplied under contract by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, have driven some of the accelerated costs, said Administrator Vicky Earhart. Soon after Anderson put the 2008 levy on the ballot, it learned the

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Anderson Center opens shared office space rental options



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Summer construction rolls along



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'Recycle right' to avoid recycling contamination



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Summer, Anderson style, circa 1900



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Board members
welcome your calls!

Senior Center Changes Now in Place While CASS Takes Over Some Management Operations

After several months of uncertainty, Anderson Township now runs the day-to-day operations of the facility.

The township chose to take over responsibility of daily operations of the Anderson Township Senior Center after the departure of Senior Independence, who announced in February they were no longer planning to provide community-based senior services management.

Two part-time staff members hired by the township (Claire O'Connell and Janell Schaeffer) now work in the area of recreation and member services. In the future, Township Administrator Vicky Earhart said she hopes educational and recreational opportunities will be expanded.

According to Earhart, Cincinnati Area Senior Services (CASS) has also been engaged to provide congregate and home-delivered meals, as well as transportation services for appointments to and from the center. CASS is a private non-profit corporation with a long history of providing assistance to seniors. CASS is paid \$45,000 a year by Anderson Township from its general fund for these services.

"I hope more seniors will take advantage of the congregate meal program that runs weekdays at the center, not only for the food, but also the camaraderie," said Trustee President Andrew Pappas. Until the end of 2016, the price of a hot meal served weekdays at the center from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. has been reduced to \$1, in hopes of increasing the number of participants. Reservations now are required by calling 474-3100.

The senior center facility at 7970 Beechmont Ave. is owned by Anderson Township. Under current plans, Anderson Township will pick up more of the responsibility for the care of the facility; it has hired



part-time building attendants to care for daily needs.

Earhart said one exciting change involves the planned formation of an advisory group of Anderson Township Senior Center members who could provide further direction for the future of the center. "We want to harness the passion that many seniors have for the center and their fellow members. Who better to determine the future of the center than the users themselves?"

Senior Center Available for Rental After Hours

Anderson Township's Senior Center is an excellent location for dances, small wedding receptions, parties, family dinners, meetings and special occasions. It's open for rental on the weekends from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and weekdays between 4 and 11 p.m. Setup of chairs and tables is provided.

While there is no access to the kitchen, patrons may bring in their own food or food from a caterer.

Cost is \$50 per hour on Fridays and Saturdays and \$35 per hour from Sunday through Thursday.

For rental information, contact Amy Meyer at 688-8400 or email her at ameyer@AndersonTownship.org.



Anderson Center Opens Shared Office Space Rental Options

The new CoWorks venture taps into flexible workspace trend by offering offices, conference room, amenities and convenience for a monthly fee.

This summer, Anderson Township plans to adapt to one of the nation's popular workspace trends by opening up a portion of vacant Anderson Center space for shared office rental opportunities.

Anderson's CoWorks venture is located in approximately 2,500 square feet of the lower level of Anderson Center, in an area formerly occupied by the Anderson Community Television (ACTV) station. The ACTV cable-access station now operates in the studio and control room at the site.

Available for monthly rental are a variety of workspace areas, including open office cubicles, shared work spaces, and two types of private offices. In addition, access to a conference room, a printing and copy area, and a break room is included.

Township officials hope to connect with those looking for office space in a more professional setting, searching for an area to work on a business project, starting a new business, or seeking a satellite office space so they can work closer to home.

"Anderson Township is pleased to offer this new shared space option that will provide convenience and solution-oriented options to today's fluid and mobile worker," said Steve Sievers, assistant administrator for operations. "Opening this space up to the public for rental will not only provide a service and allow residents to access the many amenities at Anderson Center, but it will bring in revenue to help with our continuing budget challenges."

Sievers said when full, CoWorks could generate nearly \$3,000 in revenue per month, plus more if businesses or individuals choose to rent out Anderson Center's regular rental spaces for business meetings.

"The collaborative, flexible workplace environment is a national trend we see continuing in the commercial real estate community," said Trustee Vice President Josh Gerth. "It's one of the attractions new mixed-use developments offer and one of the reasons areas like Over-the-Rhine have taken off. Anderson Township needs to adapt to these trends and this space in Anderson Center is the perfect place to test out the market."

CoWorks amenities include:

- Access during regular Anderson Center business hours
- Mail service
- Business services, including land line, Wi-Fi, print and copying services

Memberships for the CoWorks space are \$125 a month, with five dedicated, private offices either \$175 or \$375 per month. Anderson Township residents receive a 10 percent discount.

"We hope the CoWorks space will continue to provide opportunities for Anderson residents to utilize Anderson Center, and that businesses will eventually thrive and seek more permanent office space in our community," Sievers added.

"CoWorks offers the convenience of an office close to home in a great environment—do some work, take a break and walk around the lake, go next door for a workout, or walk up the hill for a bite to eat. Everything you could want is right there," said Trustee Dee Stone.

It is anticipated that the CoWorks space ready for occupancy by September 1. A brochure about CoWorks may be downloaded at AndersonTownship.org and applications will be available August 8. For more information, contact Sievers at 688-8400 or ssievers@AndersonTownship.org.



Anderson Center soon will be the home of a new shared space rental program called CoWorks.

Public Safety Levy *(continued from page 1)*



Anderson Township Fire and Rescue responds to emergencies on the Ohio and Little Miami rivers.



The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office supplies 35 officers through a contract with Anderson Township.

county would no longer fund a portion of law enforcement services previously provided by the Sheriff's Office since the 1980s.

Between 2009 and 2015, the cost for law enforcement gradually increased as the township began paying for the full cost of officers directly serving Anderson. Costs rose from \$2.2 million in 2009 to \$3.3 million in 2015, an average increase of 7.9 percent per year.

Despite this increased cost for law enforcement, the township still projects the cost of forming and maintaining its own police department would be approximately 50 percent more than the current contracted rate with Hamilton County.

Earhart said that the fire department budget was kept relatively flat, averaging a less than 2 percent increase per year

despite 89 percent of the budget being attributed to personnel costs. Instead of putting a levy on the 2015 ballot, Earhart said trustees opted to use (TIF) funds to cover fire and police budget shortfalls and to allow time for exploration of further cost-cutting strategies. (TIF revenues are traditionally used for capital purchases, but can cover public safety operating expenses as long as the monies are paid back before the TIF expires.)

"I want to know when I call 911 I will get a quick response, and I want to know when something is going on in my neighborhood, someone will be there quickly," Pappas said. "We've got to pay to keep our services intact. Our primary responsibility in keeping property values high is to keep Anderson safe."

Effective Tax Rate - Here's a Basic Explanation

Why does it seem state taxing authorities ask for additional money through levies more frequently than you would like?

The answer has to do with an Ohio law passed in 1976, known as House Bill 920 (H.B. 920). The law was largely enacted to limit the impact of inflation on property tax bills.

Anderson Township, along with most taxing authorities, receives the majority of its income from voted mills. H.B. 920 froze income received from each levy the moment the levy was approved by the voters. Even when home values increase, revenue remains the same because of H.B. 920. No revenue increase is permitted except for the revenue related to the added value of new construction.

One major factor that makes the impact of H.B. 920 "devastating" is inflation, according to Fiscal Officer Ken Dietz. Every three years the value of taxable property is determined by the county auditor. If inflation has caused the value of the property to increase, the auditor reduces the tax rate so the taxing authorities do not receive more money. This is called the effective tax rate.

Inflation drives up the value of property but H.B. 920 prevents taxing authorities from collecting more money. Similarly, inflation increases the taxing authority's expenses, leaving them with little choice but to return to the voters, he said.

Anderson Township Safety Services by the Numbers

Anderson Township:

- Employs 65 fulltime firefighter-paramedics
- Provides fire and EMS services to 43,500 township residents and 2,600 Newtown residents
- Provides coverage along state highways and rivers
- Provides law enforcement services to approximately 15,500 households and almost 800 businesses
- Contracts with Hamilton County for 35 sheriff's officers to cover 31.2 square miles

Property Taxes- What You Pay as a Homeowner

Do you know where the money goes?

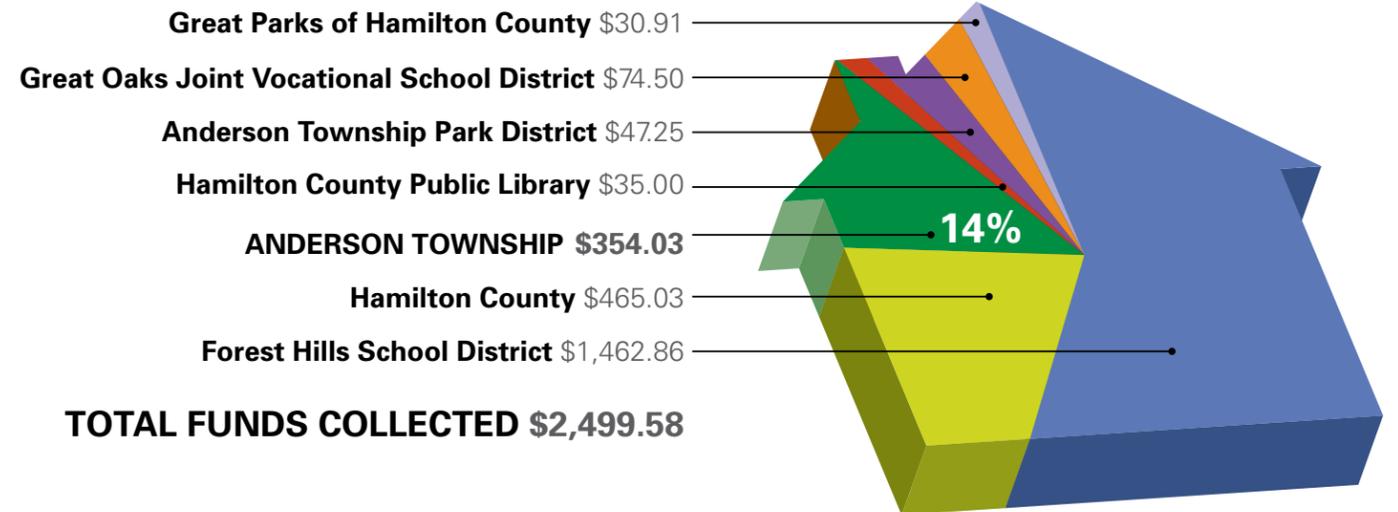
Your property taxes fund a number of services in Anderson Township including parks, roads, safety services and more. Here's a look at how your property taxes are distributed each year, including county and school allocations. Approximately 83 percent (64 percent property tax + 19 percent Tax Increment Financing) of the township's revenue stream is from property taxes; most of those taxes have been approved through the direct vote of taxpayers.

Anderson Township will be returning to the voters this fall to request funding for its safety services, an action last undertaken in 2008.

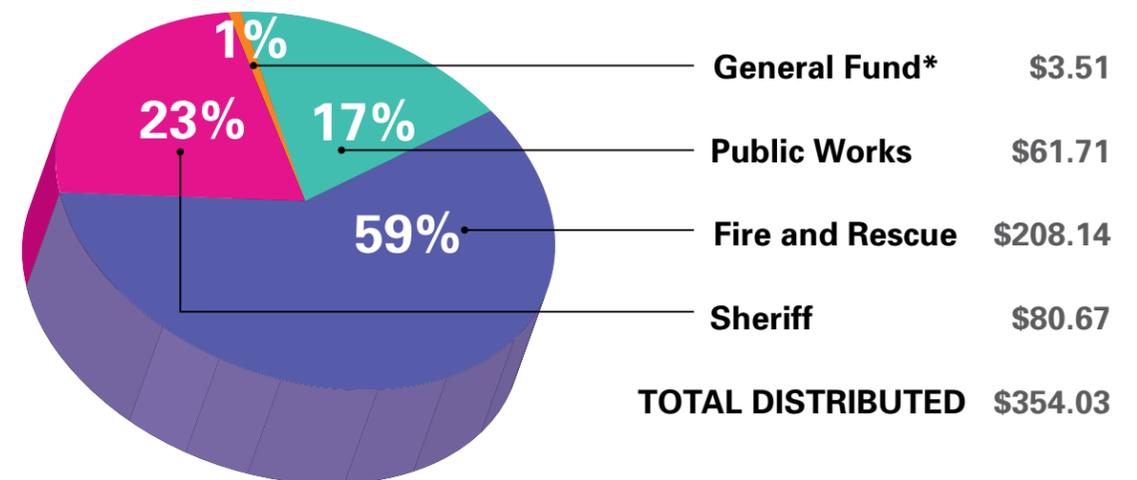
Township Administrator Vicky Earhart notes that the township is also facing a decline in its general fund. Between 2006 and 2013, the general fund revenues averaged \$4.7 million. However, in 2014-2015, the average dropped to \$1.7 million with the loss of several key revenue streams in this area that were cut by the state of Ohio.

These revenues fund basic township operations, Earhart added, but the township now unfortunately has very limited revenue sources for the general fund. "We are currently looking at strategies to continue the many township services and quality of life offerings that residents have come to expect," she said.

Taxes collected on a \$100,000 market value property



What Anderson Township's Tax Revenue Funds



* General Fund – Senior Center, Drop Off Recycling Center, ACTV, Events, Street Lighting, Anderson Insights Newsletter, Planning and Economic Development Consultants, Building and Grounds Maintenance, Township Departments (Planning and Zoning, Administration, Fiscal)

Road Closures Continue as Summer Construction Rolls Along

Road work presents short-term challenges while long-term projects move forward.



Road closures in and around the Anderson Towne Center will continue for some time, as this summer's long-anticipated construction projects ramp into full swing.

The Beechmont and Five Mile Continuous Flow intersection work is well underway, and the traffic impacts of this are seen as the underground sewer upgrades are completed and construction of new travel lanes begins. This will restrict traffic on Five Mile to two lanes in each direction.

Work on the changes to Wolfangel and Beechmont Avenue also recently began and this widening work will continue through summer. Construction on the new Wolfangel sidewalk will likely start in August and wrap up early next year.

Over the past several months, residents maneuvered around Anderson Towne Center redevelopment by wandering a bit around the site to find a way in or out. This will continue with new construction near the Anderson Professional Center.

In addition, Towne Center Way north of Bowen is closed. Access from Wolfangel to the Anderson Towne Center and the Crotty Court area remains open. However, traffic must enter from Five Mile Road to reach the Anderson Towne Center parking area behind Kroger, as well as the Anderson Professional Center, Anderson Center and Anderson Center Station.

According to Assistant Administrator for Operations Steve Sievers, Towne Center Way will likely remain closed until it is connected to the end of Bowen Avenue later this fall. It will be renamed Towne Center Way east of Wolfangel Road.

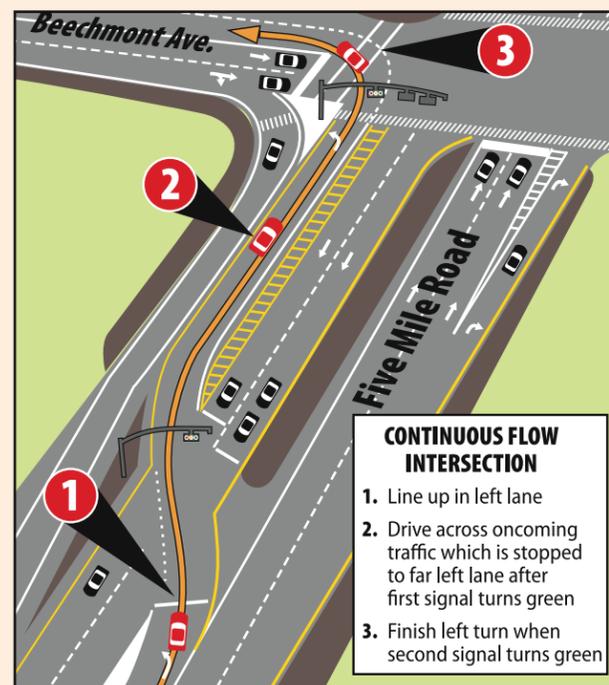
Trustee Vice President Josh Gerth noted that while this summer's construction will continue to impact traffic flow, it's part of several local long-range plans, including the Anderson Plan, the Anderson Trails Plan, and the Downtown Anderson Plan.

"While its messy now, once completed, the improvements will result in a much safer and efficient transportation system, for motorists, pedestrians and METRO riders," he said.

Other summer improvement projects include:

- Widening of Wolfangel Road from Bowen Avenue to Beechmont to add a center turn lane, with a new traffic signal at the Bowen/Wolfangel intersection, including left turn lanes on Wolfangel.
- Construction of sidewalks on both sides of Wolfangel from Bowen to Beechmont, with bus pull off on east side of Wolfangel, north of Valvoline.
- Installation of new right turn lane from southbound Wolfangel to Westbound Beechmont.
- Installation of new right turn lane from westbound Beechmont into Kroger's driveway (formerly Towne Center Way).

CFI Traffic Flow Explained



As residents can see from daily driving in Anderson Township, work on the Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) at the corner of Beechmont Avenue and Five Mile Road is well under way. Much of the work to date has been storm sewer work, performed at night to minimize traffic disruptions.

To clarify a graphic of the CFI that appeared in April's Anderson Insights, motorists turning left or right from Five Mile to Beechmont under the new alignment will turn into their respective lanes on Beechmont Avenue. This allows both turns to be completed at the same time, which helps to move more vehicles through the intersection. The CFI is anticipated to be fully operational by later this year, with some wrap up work occurring next spring.

Local Response to Heroin Epidemic Continues

A multi-pronged approach addresses the regional heroin/opiate epidemic that expands far beyond the township's borders.



The Regional Heroin Forum was hosted at Anderson Center theater.

To address solutions, township staff members and elected officials have become involved in regional organizations working on various aspects of the problem. Fire Chief Mark Ober serves on the Hamilton County Heroin Coalition Task Force. Trustee Vice President Josh Gerth serves as co-chair of the Much in Common Planning Committee, a regional forum of government leaders focusing on the heroin and opiate epidemic.

"Our No. 1 priority is the safety of our community and the heroin epidemic is a threat to that priority," said Gerth. "It's literally stealing our residents' possessions and their lives."

In the past year alone, Gerth said Anderson had six heroin-related overdose deaths. "We also had an innocent cyclist killed by someone who appeared to be under the influence of prescription narcotics. We have no choice but to address this and while we will continue to be reactive, we need to also look at proactive ways we can combat this," he said.

According to Lt. Matt Guy, District 5 commander, Anderson also posted nine arrests for operating a vehicle while intoxicated (OVI), along with 43 arrests and 22 overdoses in the past year.

Police Response

From a policing standpoint, the township has continued funding a Regional Enforcement Narcotics Unit (RENU) officer for the third year. All Hamilton County Sheriff's deputies in the township and Anderson Township Fire and Rescue paramedics have access to and are trained on administering Narcan, the overdose antidote. From January through the end of May this year, Narcan was administered 18 times by Anderson Township Fire

and Rescue paramedics, according to information supplied by the Fire and Rescue Department.

Additionally, Anderson has looked for ways to get the message out to not only its residents but to the region as a whole. This year alone Anderson Center has played host to a Regional Heroin Forum drawing about 180 participants. According to Vicky Earhart, township administrator, Anderson also plans to distribute information about the heroin problem at the Greater Anderson Days township booth.

Local Leadership

One proactive approach Gerth has taken is to chair a forum called Much in Common: The Heroin Epidemic. Gerth and his committee invited elected officials from all over the Tristate to join in on a three-part series educating elected officials on the magnitude of the problem and how no community is immune.

The forum wrapped up in June and is now working on steps to give all communities access to resources that will help them combat the problem. "Hospitals, law enforcement, and social service organizations recognize the severity of this epidemic and are working together to fight it," Gerth said. "The elected officials who often oversee the budgets of these departments and hear the concerns of their constituents have to be part of the conversation if we are ultimately going to win this battle."



Visit InjectHope.com for details on how some Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana counties are working together to combat heroin.

NEWS AND NOTES

Compare Prices, Save Money on Energy

Want to explore saving money on your monthly electric bill? Dynergy Energy Services provides a way for Anderson residents to check their rate.

First, find out your current rate by checking the bottom of your bill. (See billing example.) Then, go to the AndersonTownship.org and navigate to the News section. Click on "Energy Savings" to be directed to a link that provides a price comparison or go to dynergyohio.com/affinity/anderson-township.

For example, at press time, Dynergy Energy Services price was 5.39 cents per kWh. A yearly savings estimate based on current rates is available for your convenience.

In addition, Ohio.gov offers a free website that helps you compare prices on energy suppliers. Go to: energychoice.ohio.gov to learn more about energy choice options.

Explanation of Current Charges			
Generation Charge			
			
Dynergy Energy Services Rate DE67 - Dynergy Energy Services			
Supplier Energy Charge	1,188 kWh @ \$0.05190000	\$ 61.66	61.66
Total Current Electric Charges			\$ 123.79

Check this portion of your bill for the kilowatt - hour price.

ACTV Contract Renewed through mid-2017

Local shows, including series on addiction, available online through Anderson Community TV.

Funding for ACTV, Anderson's cable access television station housed at Anderson Center, has been extended through mid-2017. The station, fully supported by the township's general fund, airs government and school district meetings, high school sports, church services and other shows of local interest. ACTV is open five days a week, operating with one employee and volunteers.

ACTV now occupies a reconfigured portion of its former location, with a studio, playback room and control room space. The other portion of the former ACTV facility will be transformed into a CoWorks space for shared office rental use by the public. (See article on page 3.)

In an effort to expand its communications, Anderson Township continues to utilize ACTV for the filming of trustee and zoning meetings, the monthly "Trustee Talk" series, and coverage of special events such as the Anderson Independence Day Parade and Holiday Tree Lighting.

A recent comprehensive project, called The Addiction Series, was recently produced by ACTV. This series addresses multiple angles of the region's heroin problem. Interviews with former addicts and addiction specialists are online in this series. Notes Shane Reinert, director of operations, "Another exciting new series coming to ACTV is on the topic of human trafficking with firsthand accounts as well as educational pieces created in conjunction with the Underground Freedom Center and law enforcement."

"We hope that more people will take advantage of what ACTV has to offer. Residents can create and submit their own shows," said Trustee Dee Stone. "There are also opportunities for new businesses that wish to be highlighted."

To learn more contact Reinert at 474-3488 or andersoncommunitytelevision@gmail.com or visit online at ac-tv.org. ACTV is open 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday. Closed on weekends.



Parade Contest Winners 2016



Best Neighborhood or Organization – Sponsored by the Anderson Towne Center: Forest Hills School District Marching Band



Most Spirited – Sponsored by Mercy Health: Anderson High School cheerleaders



Best Business – Sponsored Mt. Washington Care Center: Scallywag Tag



Best Float – Sponsored by Kroger: Anderson Township Park District



Best Patriotic – Sponsored by Sports Clip Haircuts: Immaculate Heart of Mary Festival

Yard Waste Site a Freebie

Cleaning up your yard this summer? Bzak Landscaping (3295 Turpin Lane) in Anderson Township takes your yard waste for free. Sponsored by the Hamilton County Recycling and Solid Waste District, this service allows township residents to drop off leaves, brush and tree branches for recycling. Brush and tree branches must be cut into lengths of 4 feet or less and no larger than 12 inches in diameter.

Commercial vehicles are not accepted. No bricks, stones, fencing, nails or wire taken at the site. The site is open until November 22 from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends. Hours change during the winter.

Sign up for Vacant House Check

Enjoy greater peace of mind when you leave your home for vacation through a free service offered by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

At your request, a deputy will inspect your home's physical security while you are out of town. Setting up the service involves a quick form submission online at AndersonTownship.org. Click on Departments, Sheriff's District 5 and look for "Vacation/Vacant House Check" listed under Township Programs.

By phone, contact the Sheriff's Office at 474-5770 to request the vacant home check and to provide security information.

Find Us on Facebook!

If you're a social media user, don't miss Anderson Township's very active Facebook page! It's one of the busiest places to learn about all things Anderson Township.

Find us on FB at: Anderson Township, Ohio, to receive reminders about upcoming events, road closures, emergency information, news tips about Anderson and interesting historical photos that draw plenty of comment.

Avoid Recycling Stream Contamination by 'Right Recycling' Efforts

Do you know what items should and should not be accepted in your curbside recycling bin? What about yogurt cups, aluminum foil or laundry jugs? Or how about light bulbs, cat litter jugs or metal lids off glass jars?

An extensive recycling service is provided by Rumpke Recycling at the

curbside for your regular trash pickup. But putting the wrong materials in your cart or bin causes contamination of the recycling stream.

Because the recycled material moves along quickly through a Material Recovery Facility, it cannot be sorted quickly enough to remove all the unacceptable items.

If inappropriate items enter the system, contamination occurs and the recovered recyclable items cannot be sold. This defeats the whole purpose of recycling.

Although curbside recycling participation is growing, so is contamination of those materials.

Plastics

Any plastic bottle or jug can be accepted. Lids are acceptable if left on the empty bottle. Rinse before recycling.



RECYCLE

- Water and Pop Bottles
- Shampoo Bottles
- Salad Dressing Bottles
- Milk Jugs
- Juice Bottles
- Contact Solution Bottles
- Ketchup and Mustard Bottles
- Liquid Laundry Detergent Jugs
- Cat Litter Jugs

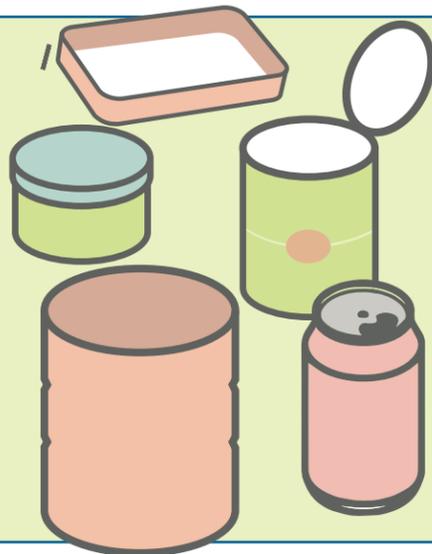
(NOTE: Lids OK if left on empty Bottle/Jug)

DO NOT RECYCLE

- Butter or Margarine Tubs
- Whipped Topping Containers
- Yogurt Containers
- Deli Containers
- Storage Containers
- Styrofoam®
- Plastic Wrap and Packaging
- Plastic Bags
- Lotion Tubes
- Plastic Hangers
- Food Film/Plastic Food Containers (Single Serve Frozen Meals)
- Hinged Containers (To-Go Box, Clam Shell)
- Cat Litter Buckets or Containers

Metal

Recycle all food-related aluminum and steel cans. Rinse out before recycling.



RECYCLE

- Soup Cans
- Pop Cans
- Beer Cans
- Fruit and Vegetable Cans
- Tuna/Salmon/Meat Cans
- Juice Cans
- Metal Coffee Cans
- Empty Aerosol Cans (NOTE: Remove Tips)

DO NOT RECYCLE

- Metal Hangers
- Scrap Metal
- Aluminum Foil
- Non-Food Related Metal
- Non-Drink Related Metal
- Empty Paint Containers

Glass

Recycle any bottle or jar. Remove the lid and place in recycling separately. Rinse before recycling.



RECYCLE

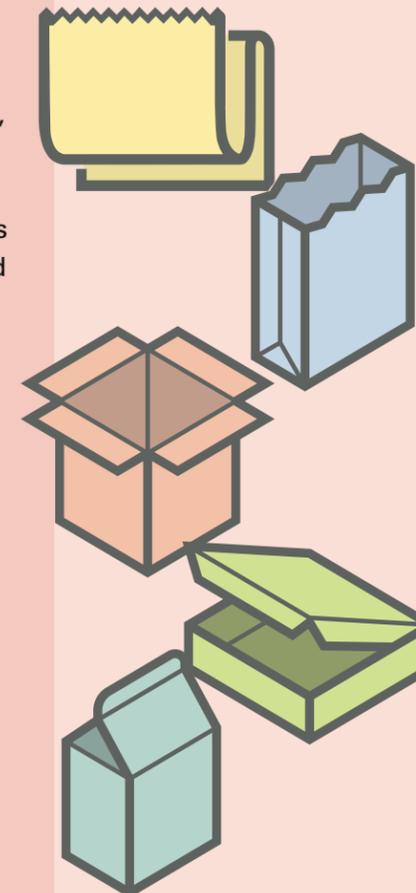
- Pop Bottles
- Beer and Wine Bottles
- Juice Bottles
- Jelly Jars
- Tomato Sauce Jars
- Pickle Jars
- Salsa Jars

DO NOT RECYCLE

- Drinking Glasses
- Baking Dishes
- Dinnerware
- Window Glass
- Vases, Aquariums
- Light Bulbs, Compact Fluorescent or Regular Fluorescent Lights

Paper

With few exceptions, any type of paper that can be torn can be recycled. All types of paper, paperboard (i.e., cereal boxes, frozen dinner boxes, 12-pack beverage containers, etc.), paper cartons (remove caps or straws), and cardboard are recyclable. Clean pizza boxes can be recycled.



RECYCLE

- Newspapers And Inserts
- Magazines—Dull or Glossy
- Phone Books
- Catalogs
- Junk Mail
- Cardboard Boxes—Flatten
- Brown Paper Grocery Bags
- Beverage Carriers
- Envelopes—With or Without Windows
- Paperboard (E.g., Boxes From Cereal, Crackers, Cake Mixes, Frozen Dinners)
- Paper Towel/Toilet Paper Cores
- Office Paper—With Or Without Staples
- Clean Pizza Boxes
- Shredded Paper (Place in Clear Plastic Bag)
- Paper Cartons (Example: Milk, OJ, Juice Box, Soup/Stock Boxes) – Without Caps Or Straws
- Ice Cream Cartons (Paper Based)

DO NOT RECYCLE

- Bound Books
- Paper Plates
- Napkins
- Paper Soiled With Food
- Foil-Coated Paper
- Wax-Coated Paper
- Photographs
- Wax Paper

Summer Fun - Delights of the Past in Anderson

How do you stay cool and enjoy the summer months? Long before central air-conditioning, houses were built to include shady porches where families could spend time on warm days.

Often homes were constructed with floor layouts featuring a central hallway with doors at either end to promote cross ventilation. Rooms had high ceilings with multiple windows. Shutters and curtains would block the hot sunlight while letting air circulate. We have a marvelous image of the Aaron Hopper family relaxing on their comfortable porch in the summer. You can see the doors and window are open so breezes can blow through the house.

The shade offered by tall trees was prized in the summer months. Deciduous trees were often planted around houses to block the hot rays of summer sun. Once leaves fell in the fall, sunlight was welcomed in the winter months. Groves of trees provided cool places for recreation. One of the attractions of Coney Island since its early days in the 1870s was "the majestic shade trees."

Casual photography was not common a century ago. Fortunately, a member of the Ebersole family whose home was on a hill overlooking the Ohio River did take photographs of the family enjoying themselves in the summer: posing in the shade, enjoying watermelons on the lawn and boating on the river. Notice the light-colored, loose-fitting dresses of the women and the casual wear of the men. The women's enormous hats played a practical role in providing shade.

Another popular summer activity in the early 1900s was participating in local baseball teams. Picnicking was fun as well. On

Labor Day in 1922, Thelma Widman and her girlfriends celebrated by walking down to the creek alongside Clough Pike. They spent the day cooking eggs and bacon and wading in the water. Thelma recorded in her album that two of the girls "worn (sic) their socks rolled on our way home. A glorious day." Whether you choose to spend time in air-conditioned comfort or decide to indulge in watermelons on the lawn, enjoy the glorious days of summer.



Stanley Ebersole enjoyed boating on the Ohio River on his friend Bert Finch's launch "Laura." Photo about 1900.



The Aaron Hopper family relaxing on their shady porch in about 1885. Photo by Andrew Finch McCall, Jr. of Bethel. Notice the central hallway with open doors to let air circulate through the house.



Ebersole family and friends enjoying watermelon on the lawn. Photo about 1900.



The Labor Day 1922 picnic also included wading in Clough Creek.



Stanley Ebersole and relatives posed under tall trees, gathered around one of the features of their lawn. Photo about 1900.



The Forestville/Cherry Grove baseball team in the summer of 1909.

Anderson, Great Oaks Partner for Local Leadership Training

A new partnership between Great Oaks Career Campuses and Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department is benefitting Anderson Township residents: Great Oaks' Public Safety Services is now offering Fire Officer 1 (Supervising Officer) training to Anderson Township Fire and Rescue Department employees.

The training, conducted at Anderson Township Station 6, (Beechmont Avenue) prepares current firefighters for greater leadership and supervisory roles in the department.

"Great Oaks has extensive experience in this area," noted Fire and Rescue Chief Mark Ober. "They can provide the training cost-effectively for Anderson Township Fire and Rescue, developing

leadership skills among those who have proven their dedication to the residents of Anderson Township."

The combined classes total 88 hours of classroom and include practical exercises plus eight hours of testing with qualified members becoming certified as fire officers.

The course includes subjects related to leadership/supervision, communications, health/safety, training and incident management/operations.



Beechmont Fire Station Open for Day of Fun for Kids

The Fire and Rescue Department and Sheriff's Office plan educational exploration on October 8.

As part of Emergency Services Day, the Beechmont Fire Station (Station 6), 7954 Beechmont Ave., will be set up with a fire engine and medic unit display, water rescue boats, a ladder truck and a fire training trailer from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8. Also on display will be equipment from the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, along with deputies who will interact with the children.

The event corresponds to the start of the annual Fire Prevention Week, scheduled for October 9-16, with this year's theme: "Don't Wait, Check the Date: Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years." It also runs in line with October being Crime Prevention Month.

"During our Emergency Services Day, kids can imagine what it's like to be a firefighter, or pretend they are patients in an ambulance," notes Firefighter-Paramedic Marv Conley, the head of public education outreach for Anderson Township Fire and Rescue. They also can try their hand at knocking down a simulated "fire" with a one-inch hose spraying water at the flames.

"Not only will this be enjoyable for the kids, but it will be a great opportunity to partner with the fire and rescue department as we continue to build safe neighborhoods," noted Cpl. Dave Boiman of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office.

Conley noted children will learn through life and fire safety education and prevention messages including handouts, fire hats, coloring books, pencils, refrigerator magnets, electrical outlet safety plug covers, tattoos and more.

Opportunities for fun and learning include:

- A Fire Blast Trainer allows participants to walk through a specialized trailer to view how fire training is undertaken.
- The fire and rescue mascot Lt. Big Ben will appear at the event.
- A fire extinguisher simulator allows children to view a "fire" on an LED screen, then knock it down with a "real" fire extinguisher.
- Children can try on fire gear and get photos of themselves in uniform.
- Sheriff's Office vehicles and specialized units will be on site.



First Group of Township 'Great Trees' Named

Anderson's first group of "Great Tree" award winners were named this year by the Anderson Township Street Tree Committee in four categories. Anderson's first group of "Great Tree" award winners were named this year by the Anderson Township Street Tree Committee in four categories.

Winners are:



John Winstel

Shade Tree: Black Tupelo (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
Also known as Black Gum or Sour Gum.

Landowner: Breezy Acres Kennels, 2517 Eight Mile Road

Nominated by: John Winstel

This grand old Tupelo's stately form, dazzling fall color, and incredible size and age made it an easy winner. If you want to see some fall color, take a drive along Eight Mile Road north of Clough to take in the beauty of this Great Tree.



Josh Eastlake

Ornamental Tree: Sargent Crabapple (*Malus sargentii*)

Landowner: Virginia Schaffner, 1980 Flintshire Court

Nominated by: Virginia Schaffner

Virginia Schaffner of the Sherwood Forest subdivision is so proud of this beautiful Flowering Crabapple that she throws a party in April every year when it reaches the height of its spring bloom! While the tree's 15-foot height is not unusual for this dwarf crabapple species, its 40-foot spread makes it spectacular when adorned with white flowers in the spring.



Tim Kloppenborg

Tree Grove: Sugar Maples (*Acer saccharum*)

Landowner: Jason and Carolyn Schwettman, 7105 Saint Edmunds Dr.

Nominated by: Tim Kloppenborg

This group of relatively young Sugar Maples shows that front yards comprised of naturalistic groupings of native trees can be at least as attractive as lawns and more traditional, tightly manicured landscapes. Such plantings also provide a far greater number of ecosystem services, such as wildlife food and habitat, cooling shade, and carbon sequestration, than lawns. They also require far less time, money and energy to maintain in the long term.

Evergreen Tree: Fat Albert Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens* 'Fat Albert')

Landowner: Heritage Universalist Unitarian Church, 2710 Newtown Road

Nominated by: Josh Eastlake

A pair of beautiful blue spruces wins this award. These two eye-catching specimens located at the entrances to the Heritage Unitarian-Universalist Church and Five Mile Trail parking lots on Newtown Road serve as wayfinding beacons for both the church and the north trailhead. The spruces were planted in the early 1990s by the congregation, who refer to them as "The Sisters."



Josh Eastlake

Nominate a Great Tree for 2017. Send in a tree photo of the tree when it is at its best (flowering or in fall color, etc.) Send information to committee member Josh Eastlake at joshua.eastlake@gmail.com or go to: www.surveymonkey.com/r/TreeNomination.

ANDERSON EVENTS

Independence Day Parade



Winner of the 2016 Independence Day Parade Photo Contest - Kelli Peterson



Photo courtesy Gregg Smith

Memorial Day at Anderson Center



Recycling and Shredding Days



Garden Tour



History to Schools



Arbor Day Tree Planting



Anderson Center Station Yard Sale



Bike Rodeo



Anderson Farmers' Market



Little Miami Bike Trail Extension Grand Opening



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Greater Anderson Days Packed with Fun and Entertainment

Returning for its 18th year, Greater Anderson Days includes three evenings offering food, fun and fireworks on July 29, 30 and 31 at Beech Acres Park.

Each year, thousands enjoy live music, a talent show, games, rides, food and a noted fireworks show by Rozzi's Famous Fireworks, courtesy of the Beechmont Automotive Group. The fireworks display, 9:45 p.m. on Sunday, July 31, is the finale to this popular weekend.

Businesses and groups also have the opportunity to promote their offerings through the many booths set up at the event.

Partners for Greater Anderson Days include the Anderson Township Park District, Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, Anderson Township and American Legion Post 318.

The event supports the community by raising money for the Anderson Township Park District's Anderson Foundation for Parks and Recreation Playground Fund and the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce. Proceeds from the charitable gaming benefit American Legion Post 318.

The event runs 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, July 29 and 30, and 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday, July 31.

For more information and band line-up, visit AndersonParks.com/anderson-days.



Forest Hills Advisory Committee Seeks Members

The Forest Hills School District Business Advisory Committee, a volunteer committee established in 2010 by Board of Education President Randy Smith, and led by Treasurer Rick Toepfer, is seeking additional members. Any district resident is welcome to apply.

The Business Advisory Committee's purpose is to support Forest Hills students, parents, staff and taxpayers by discussing challenges, decisions and opportunities facing the district.

"Our community has a wealth of knowledge and we want to tap in to our local resources to ensure we are as effective as possible and explore all angles of important issues," said Smith. "The wide range of thoughts and opinions from this group is very helpful as the district works to meet the needs of a



diverse study body, employee base and community."

Committee member Dan Earley noted, "Leadership is about listening and considering many different views and Forest Hills School District is to be commended for establishing its Business

Advisory Committee years ago. The guidance that each member provides affords a balanced perspective that has proven invaluable to the community, our students and taxpayers."

Current members include representatives of civic organizations, educators, engineers, business owners, parents, accountants, business administrators and retirees.

The committee meets five times a year. For an application, visit the District Offices at 7500 Forest Road, call the district at 231-3600, or visit the "community resources" page at www.foresthills.edu.

Anderson has a New Library Branch Manager

Denise Scretchen recently joined the staff at the Anderson Township Branch Library as the new senior branch manager. She has more than 19 years of experience with the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, starting out as a student shelver and later working as a reference librarian, children's librarian and manager at other local branches.

"My goals at the Anderson Branch are to get to know the community, staff and Anderson Township Library Association members, work together, and of course have some fun," said Scretchen.

The Anderson Township Branch circulated 631,709 items last year. One of the popular features is the multi-functional large-screen monitor in the meeting room that can be used for video games, movie screenings and PowerPoint presentations.

The branch is supported by the Anderson Township Library Association, a group of volunteers who sort donated books and media items for two annual book sales. The proceeds help fund programs at the Anderson and Mt. Washington branches.



Anderson's Got Talent returns to Greater Anderson Days

The Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce presents the fifth annual Anderson's Got Talent, kicking off at 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 29, and from 5-6 p.m. Saturday, July 30, at Greater Anderson Days. Greater Anderson Days is hosted at Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road.

Comedians, singers, dancers, jugglers, gymnasts and performers of all ages participate. To learn more, visit AndersonsGotTalent.com.

Twenty-five acts will be live on stage on Friday. The Top 10 acts will advance to the finals on Saturday for a chance to win the grand prize of \$1,000. Judging is conducted by a panel of five industry judges. On Friday night only, the viewing public will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite contestant via text.



Summertime is Easy at Anderson Township Senior Center

Spend some of your summertime exploring opportunities with other older adults.

While new management started this month (see page 2 for details), many elements of the center have stayed the same.

Take advantage of this great opportunity to see what the center has to offer. Get connected with the community, meet people, make new friends and see the sights of Cincinnati on some day trips. Take an exercise class or play cards and take up a new hobby. Something is happening every day to keep your interest and energy flowing.

Hours at the center (7970 Beechmont Ave.) remain the same: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Call the center at 474-3100. For registration for lunch at the center or for transportation-related needs, call Cincinnati Area Senior Services (CASS) at 721-0375.



Some changes include:

- Free Senior Center registration is now offered for individuals over age 60 through 2016.
- Lunch will be served daily 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for just a \$1 donation. This is a reduced price from previous years. Note: Reservations now are required by calling 474-3100.
- CASS provides home-delivered meals during the week.
- CASS offers daily rides to and from the center, with all scheduling now undertaken through CASS.
- CASS is providing transportation services for residents of Anderson Township from the senior center. Destinations include grocery store trips as well as medical appointments in Anderson Township.

Elderly Residents in Need are the Focus of Fire Department Outreach

Baby Boomer generation aging, but desires to remain independent.

Senior citizens living in Anderson mirror a national trend of choosing to stay in their own homes longer, often into their later years when fragility and confusion can cause serious safety issues. Because they respond to a crisis or safety-related situation, Anderson Township Fire and Rescue team members often find themselves at the forefront of help once an emergency occurs at a home in Anderson.

Whether seniors are living in unsafe or unsanitary conditions, sick, or are lacking in mobility, the department sees its share of residents who are unable to tend to normal activities of daily living.

In the past two years, Anderson Township Fire and Rescue has developed a protocol to work with elderly residents, providing referrals to the Council on Aging or the Anderson Township Senior Center when the situation warrants concern.

Firefighter/Paramedic Brad Baker heads up the township's collaborative program, writing referrals to the two organizations, checking up on seniors who have been flagged as having issues, or checking into life safety issues to determine what could be done to help.

"Anderson Township residents may not realize how often their Fire/EMS teams are responding to emergency and non-emergency 911 calls from older residents of the community," said Laurie Petrie, vice president of communications for Council on Aging.

"People are living longer, often with disabilities and chronic conditions, but they don't always have the amount of help they need to stay in their homes. In addition, some will not accept the services they need, and that can be a problem," she said.

Through referrals, Baker can suggest services such as cleaning help, transportation and meals services, pest control and safety modifications to help elderly residents stay in their homes longer.

Baker has trained all fire and rescue personnel to observe and document information at the scene. Since the program began about two years ago, 19 referrals have been made. However, Baker notes, only four or five of the referrals have led to offers for service.

Not every senior needing services will accept help, Baker notes, a common dilemma he faces every week. "Some people have gotten upset because we approached them and a referral was made," he said. Sometimes the individuals indicate at the time of an incident they will accept help, but the next day change their minds, Baker said. "There are a lot of frustrations, but we have had several success stories."

Chief Mark Ober is optimistic the program can make a difference. "Over the past 10 years we have seen an increase in our aging population with some of the related issues bringing this outreach to the forefront," he said. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that in 2014, nearly 6,000 Anderson residents were 65 and over, an increase of 14.9 percent since 2000.

"By monitoring our data, we started to see patterns that we felt compelled to address. Safety is our No. 1 concern and we continue to improve our services with programs such as these," Ober added.

"This is another service offered to our residents. We hope that by offering assistance, we can make an impact on a person's welling being," Trustee Dee Stone said.



Firefighter/Paramedic Brad Baker

Community Resource Officer Can Help in a Crisis

When a first responder in the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office comes upon a situation where someone may need more help than is available through law enforcement channels, Community Resource Officer Matt Rusk goes to work.

If the situation is an immediate issue requiring action, Rusk calls the Mobile Crisis Unit based out of University Hospital. They can be in Anderson in 20 minutes, Rusk said, in situations where someone may be harmful to themselves or if there is need of an emergency psychological evaluation.

Other less immediate issues may warrant a referral to Hamilton County's Job and Family Services Department, for either adult or child protective services.

"Usually, getting someone the help they may need is a combined effort," Rusk said. "It starts with a phone call and I have a good variety of resources I can call in a situation like that."



Community Resource Officer Matt Rusk

Anderson's Beautiful Places Awarded

Five winners have been named in the annual Beautification Awards sponsored by the township's volunteer Betterment and Beautification Committee.

Awards have been presented to the follow businesses, residents or neighborhood groups in the following categories:



Private Residential Landscape Design: 6873 High Meadows Dr.



Nonresidential, Site Improvement: Audi 8639 Beechmont Ave.



Outstanding Landscape Design-common areas: Nagel Woods



Nonresidential Garden/Landscape Design: The Goddard School



Nonresidential Site Improvement: 8460 Beechmont Avenue

Mobile Ticketing App to Increase Convenience for METRO Riders



Buying a METRO monthly pass or METRO ticket just got easier. The Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority soon will launch a new public transit fare purchase program that can be used on smartphones and tablets. The program is set to launch in August.

Notes Metro CEO Dwight A. Ferrell, "The mobile ticketing app will alleviate the need to carry cash or visit a ticket vending machine, which will make using public transportation even more attractive and seamless and is just one more way we are working to reinvent Metro's service."

The mobile ticketing app will enable passengers to plan, track their bus in real-time and pay for their trip in one simple, secure step. Riders will have the option to purchase bus and streetcar fare electronically through their cell phone or tablet and simply display the fare purchase on their mobile device for validation when they ride.

Anderson Township hosts a METRO Park and Ride at Anderson Center Station, 7832 Five Mile Road. Visit www.go-metro.com for schedules, most popular destinations, and more.

EVENTS

Explore Historical Society's Country Store

Take a trip to Anderson's pioneer past at the 47th Annual Country Store, hosted at the historic Miller-Leuser Log House from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday Sept. 24, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25.

Sponsored by the Anderson Township Historical Society, the weekend event offers the Cobweb Corner Flea Market featuring antiques and collectibles, along with a silent auction, a

raffle and children's games and activities. Enjoy the Farmer's Market and a Bake Shop for fresh produce, plants, pies and more. Live entertainment and food are available both days.

Proceeds help support the restoration, preservation and maintenance of the 220-year-old Miller-Leuser Log House, 6550 Clough Pike. Info: AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org.



Annual Fall Festival Celebrates Arrival of the Season

Anderson's Farmers' Market ushers in a new season with a popular event, hosting food trucks, games for children, the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, a petting zoo and entertainment at the annual Fall Festival on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Enjoy the bounty of farm fresh produce and unique items from local cottage vendors at the market, which is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Anderson Center Station, 7832 Five Mile Road.

"We're at the peak of the bounty during this time of year, so come help us celebrate another successful year," said Market Coordinator Nancy Downs.

Want to know who's bringing what each week at the market? Get a weekly download of everything market related an e-blast! Sign up for this Thursday notice at AndersonFarmersMarket.org.

CONNECT

JULY



Greater Anderson Days

Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road

Friday, July 29, 5-11 p.m.

Saturday, July 30, 5-11 p.m.

Sunday, July 31, 5-10 p.m.

Info: 474-0003 or AndersonParks.com

AUGUST

Farmer in the Dell

Beech Acres Park, 6910 Salem Road

Wednesday, Aug. 17, 5:30-8 p.m.

\$5 per child, appropriate for ages 10 and under

Info: 388-4513 or AndersonParks.com

Beechmont Players - The Wizard of Oz

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

Thursday, Aug. 4, 8 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 6, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 7, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 10, 8 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 12, 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 13, 3 and 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$15; Students, seniors and

active military: \$13

Info: 233-2468 or beechmontplayers.org

SEPTEMBER

Matinee Musicale-Tribute to

Casals-Amit Peled, cello

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

Sunday, Sept. 18, 3 p.m.

Tickets: \$15, Adult, \$3, Student with ID

Info: matinee-musicale-cincinnati.org

Anderson Township Historical Society

Country Store

Clough Pike at Bartels Road

Saturday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 25, noon-5 p.m.

Info: 231-2114 or AndersonTownshipHistoricalSociety.org

Free

The township does not endorse the purposes and policies of any renter or user of facilities at Anderson Center, Anderson Center Station, Anderson Senior Center, the Anderson Township Heritage Center or any other township-owned facilities.

OCTOBER

Emergency Services Day

Beechmont Fire Station, 7954 Beechmont Ave.

Saturday, Oct. 8, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Free

Info: 688-8400 or AndersonTownship.org



Jack-O-Lantern Walk

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road

Saturday, October 29, 7-9 p.m.

Free

Info: Molly Mohrfield at 688-8400 or mmohrfield@AndersonTownship.org

Beechmont Players - And Then There Were None

Anderson Center Theater, 7850 Five Mile Road

Friday and Saturday, Oct. 21 and 22, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 23, 3 p.m.; Friday and Saturday,

Oct. 28 and 29, 8 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 30, 3 p.m.

Tickets: \$15; Students, seniors and

active military: \$13

Info: 233-2468 or beechmontplayers.org

ONGOING EVENTS

Anderson Township Farmers' Market

Anderson Center Station, 7832 Five Mile Road

Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Info: Nancy Downs at 688-8400 or

AndersonFarmersMarket.org

Dates to remember:

Aug. 20: Salsa Competition

Sept. 10: Fall Festival

Market runs through mid-October

Party on the Plaza

Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road

Select Thursdays, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Info: Eric Miller at 474-4802 or AndersonPartyonthePlaza.com

Dates and bands are:

July 28-The SunBurners

Aug. 11-The Dan Varner Band

Sept. 1-Haymarket Riot

Public Meetings

(Times and dates subject to change with notice)

Board of Township Trustees

Interim meeting

August 4, 2 p.m.

Regular Monthly Meeting

August 18, 6 p.m.

Betterment & Beautification Committee

Thursday, Sept. 8, 4 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals

August 4, 5:30 p.m.

Economic Development Committee

Tuesday, Sept. 27, 3:30 p.m.

Greenspace Advisory Committee

Contact Ronald Edgerton

at 231-5642

Meets as needed

Street Tree Committee

Monday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

Transportation Advisory Committee

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7 p.m.

Zoning Commission

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

All meetings are held at Anderson Center
7850 Five Mile Road
Anderson Township,
Ohio 45230
688-8400

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

Publisher:

Vicky Earhart

Editors:

Steve Sievers

Nancy Caine



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**Anderson Township
 Mission Statement:**

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

**Government Services
 at Anderson Center:**

7850 Five Mile Road
 Anderson Township,
 Ohio 45230
 688-8400

Administration and
 Fiscal Office

Planning and Zoning

Public Works

Fire and Rescue

Hamilton County
 Sheriff's Office

*info@AndersonTownship.org
 AndersonTownship.org
 AndersonCenterEvents.org
 Facebook:
 Anderson Township, Ohio*

Community Asked for Opinions About 'What's Next?' for Anderson Township

Comprehensive Plan update process hopes to make community even better.



A group of township residents is thinking about a future big picture vision for Anderson, and they are asking for your opinion.

What will the Anderson Township of 2026 and 2036 look like? Will there be a push for more neighborhood walkability, further economic development, or expanded housing geared toward seniors looking to downsize?

This "What's Next?" question was the topic of a June workshop which drew together more than 120 residents of all ages who shared their opinions in small groups at Anderson Center. Comments from the two-hour workshop and an online survey (see note below) will be used to develop new recommendations as part of the update to the comprehensive plan.

This year the township entered into a six-month process to review its Comprehensive Plan, which was initially adopted in 2005. The first update was completed in 2011, and a number of the recommendations contained in that plan have been completed or are ongoing. This public process for the second update is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

Using a steering team of some 30 township residents and business owners, planners hope to uncover local trends and integrate local township culture and history when creating priorities and areas of emphasis.

Interesting trends in Anderson shared at the June public meeting included:

- Most homes in the township were built between 1970 and 2000. There has been very little construction after 2010 because of a lack of available land, which has led to slower rates of growth.
- Residents show a higher median household income, with faster growth, compared to Hamilton County.
- Fewer families in Anderson live below the poverty line, but that statistic has grown from 3 percent to 6 percent since the year 2000.

"This planning process follows the strong planning and implementation legacy which has led to the Anderson we know and love today," said Planning and Zoning Director Paul Drury. "Anderson Tomorrow is about making a great place even better."

Share your thoughts!

A survey probing resident views on neighborhoods and housing, quality of life, infrastructure, sustainability and more is available online until August 2. Opinions will help determine goals and vision for the 2016 Comprehensive Plan update. Go to www.AndersonTomorrow.com to participate.