

# MADISON TOWNSHIP

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## 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MADISON TOWNSHIP

# Springfest

Madison Township  
Springfest Gives Back

The 7th annual Madison Township Springfest is a one day community festival that allows the good people of this great township a chance to come together and celebrate all things that makes this a wonderful place to live.

A community festival is really not new to our township. Many years ago a hard working group of residents organized a similar event for all to enjoy. Many from that original festival committee still live in Madison Township and attend Springfest with their grandkids. Some from that original group have shared their knowledge and experience and still help with our festival today.

Several years back a handful of community members decided that Madison Township was way over due for a party. That group realized that the time had come to bridge our Township, school, residents, businesses, service and civic groups together. We have so much to be thankful for and to celebrate here in our community and this festival helps to highlight all that is good on this side of the Great Miami.

Guests this year can expect to enjoy much of what they have in the past, such as delicious food, free and low cost activities for the kids, crafters and vendors for shopping, fabulous entertainment, art and history exhibits and of course our huge basket raffle. Joining in the fun this year will be the Madison Fire Dept. hosting a water-ball competition, the Madison Athletic Dept. hosting a 5K run/walk and Mohawk Football with a punt, pass, kick competition.

The Madison Township Springfest is one day that you can just come out and enjoy your family, neighbors and friends in a low stress but, lively environment.

Madison Jr-Sr High has always graciously offered the use of our school facilities for this event; however, it is important to point out that this is not a school only event. This is a community event for all of Madison Township. This festival is fully funded by donations

[www.madisonspringfest.com](http://www.madisonspringfest.com)

and proceeds from the event. We enjoy great support from Madison Local Schools and the Madison Township Administration; however, we receive no funding from either.

None of this would be possible without the hard working Springfest committee planning and preparing months in advance and the army of volunteers that we depend on to pull it all together on Springfest day. Thank you to all that help to make this happen and to those who came before us.

Check out the Madison Twp. Springfest website for up to date details [www.madisonspringfest.com](http://www.madisonspringfest.com)

The people of Madison Township are caring people. So, it's only natural that Springfest should help to facilitate that virtue. Over the last several years, Springfest has not only provided a day of fun for all but, has also provided the following gifts to worthy Township organizations:

- 2005 - Memorial Gazebo and Garden at Madison Jr-Sr High
- 2006 - Donation to the Madison Life Squad
- 2007 - Madison Springfest permanent improvements/reusable signs
- 2008 - Donation to the Madison Twp. Historical Society
- 2009 - Set of flags for Madison Jr-Sr High School, and a donation to the Madison Lions Club
- 2010 - Donation to the new Madison Elementary School of a safety package consisting of 10 two-way radios and traffic cones

Beginning with the 2011 Springfest we will award \$500.00 in scholarship money to deserving Madison High School seniors. Madison Township Springfest also provides a venue for many non-profit and charitable groups to raise funds for their causes. The past few years Hoxworth Blood Center has been invited to set up at Springfest to make it easy for our residents to donate the gift of life.

Please contact  
Amy Schenck  
513-464-0730 to  
reserve a time to  
donate if you can.



# Your Township Administrator...

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**TODD FARLER** ..... 513-424-0821

### WEBSITE

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**P**art of my job as your township administrator is to keep you, the residents, informed on the status of our township.



One way I've tried to accomplish this is by creating these newsletters. Since we began producing them biannually in November of 2008, we've had a very positive response. Aside from keeping you informed

on issues and events in the township, it's also a great way for our local business to advertise directly to our residents, while their advertising money keeps down the cost of production. When utilizing one of our advertisers, please mention that you saw their ad in the newsletter!

Another means of communications that I utilized is e-mail. If you go to our website: [www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com](http://www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com), you'll see a link directly below the picture of our administration building that says, "Click here to register for the Madison Township Email Notification List". Simply click on the link, submit the information, and normally within 48 hours your e-mail will be added to the Notification list. This Notification List is another tool that helps me communicate more timely information such as trustees meetings, weather alerts, local road closures, and community events.

If you have any thoughts, ideas, or suggestions concerning the newsletter, the Notification List, or another form of communication, please contact me and share your ideas. The more informed you are, the more involved we hope you'll be!

Thanks for being a part of Madison Township.

A great place to live, work, and play!

Todd Farler

Township Administrator

## Madison Life Squad Building

The meeting room inside Madison Township Life Squad building, located at 5655 Mosiman Road can accommodate up to seventy people. The facility is great for receptions, parties, family gatherings, or business meetings.

**Call to reserve your date for your next special event!**

**Call 424-0821**

## MISSION STATEMENT OF MADISON TOWNSHIP

The mission of Madison Township is to serve the best interests of our residents by providing and maintaining a safe, healthy, and enjoyable community in which to live, work and play. To protect the general welfare of our rural community by utilizing efficient and effective public services and being dedicated to increasing the quality of life for our residents.



Finally, the seemingly endless winter is over and spring has arrived in Madison Township. I look forward to the feeling of renewal we get when spring comes upon our township. Spring also means increased activity at our township park. Therefore, while driving in our park, please be mindful of pedestrians using the different walking paths and small children in the playground who may also be crossing from field to field. As the children concentrate on enjoying the outdoors, please concentrate on your driving.

Spring can also be used as a time to reflect on the challenges presented by the past winters wrath, and how those challenges were met. Our road crew continues to prove that they are, in my opinion, the best at what they do. We had several snow and ice storms which could have presented major problems, but our road crew responded in a manner which should make all in Madison Township proud. Our Fire/EMS department has done an outstanding job which has become their standard. When a recent fire situation occurred and put them on a national stage, they responded in a way to make myself and all Madison Township proud. If you happen to see one of our road crew or Fire/EMS personnel be sure to thank them for a job well done.

Lastly, be assured in these economic times we, as our township trustees, will continue to be frugal stewards of what you have entrusted us with. Ever keeping in mind the economic challenges we all face, while continuing to provide the level of services that have made Madison Township second to none.



On March 16, 2011, **John Bolton** was formally presented the **Life Saving Award** by Fire Chief Hall and Captain Runnells. During a house fire in Madison Township, John Bolton was awoken by a fire alarm in his home. After waking and instructing his brother on how to safely exit the burning house, he continued to crawl throughout the house and wake a mother and two small children, ages 2 and 3 years old. Were it not for his valiant and courageous efforts, four lives could have been lost in this fire.

Thank you John Bolton for your heroic actions!

# Ready...Set...Grow!

## Farmers Market in the Park!

In the October newsletter, we put out a call to see if anyone would be interested in having a Farmers Market here in our township. Based on the optimistic response we received, we tentatively plan on starting the Farmers Market somewhere around the end of May. It will be held in the community park on Saturday mornings from 8:00 am till noon. Items to be sold will be traditional farmers' market produce; fruit, berries, vegetables, herbs, honey, eggs, apples, peaches, etc. These items will be home grown from the sellers. We will not have "flea market" items such as sunglasses, hats, CD's, purses, crafts, fake flowers, etc. Think perishable and edible.....that should cover most of it.



As it stands, we've had an overwhelming number of people wanting to buy produce, versus the number that have shown an interest in wanting to sell. I'm hoping as word spreads and people see there is a market for sellers, those that have the above items will venture into the market and we'll have equilibrium of buyers and seller. Remember, you don't have to sell 8 different types of produce. Maybe all you want to sell is your tomatoes or strawberries or cabbage? Bring what you grow and see if it sells!

If you've had past experiences with farmers market and would like to help in the initial organization, please contact me at [ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com](mailto:ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com) or call me at 513-424-0821. I will be looking for a small group of volunteers that would like to serve as the Farmers Market Committee. This group will help oversee the development and structure of the market. Time commitment will be minimal and we already have a preliminary plan that could be utilized. So get ready, set, and grow!

As we get closer to the starting dates, I'll send out more information via our E-mail Notification List. If you're currently not on this list and would like to be, simply go to our website: [www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com](http://www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com) and click on the "Notification" link below the picture of our administration building.

# MADISON Schools

By Tom York, Superintendent

The Madison Local Schools are excited to have the opportunity to again contribute to the Madison Township newsletter. We are proud to be partners with the Township in serving the needs of the Madison Community.

Our elementary building project is finished, as you know, and we have settled into a feeling of normalcy in the new building. It is a joy to see students and staff using the new facility and the new technologies made available through this project. The community can certainly be proud of the facilities they had a part in providing for our children.

The school year has included many great experiences and accomplishments by our students. Starting with Mr. Jackson parachuting out of a plane during the new building dedication to our most recent visit from artist Courtney Cooper, each day is eventful and filled with excitement. Last week, Grandparents visited the Jr/Sr High School for a biscuit and gravy breakfast. They were entertained by the members of the band and had a great time.

We invite community members to visit us anytime as we welcome the chance to showcase our kids and our facilities. You can also keep up-to-date by visiting our website at [www.madisonmohawks.org](http://www.madisonmohawks.org). Thank you so much!



[www.madisonmohawks.org](http://www.madisonmohawks.org)

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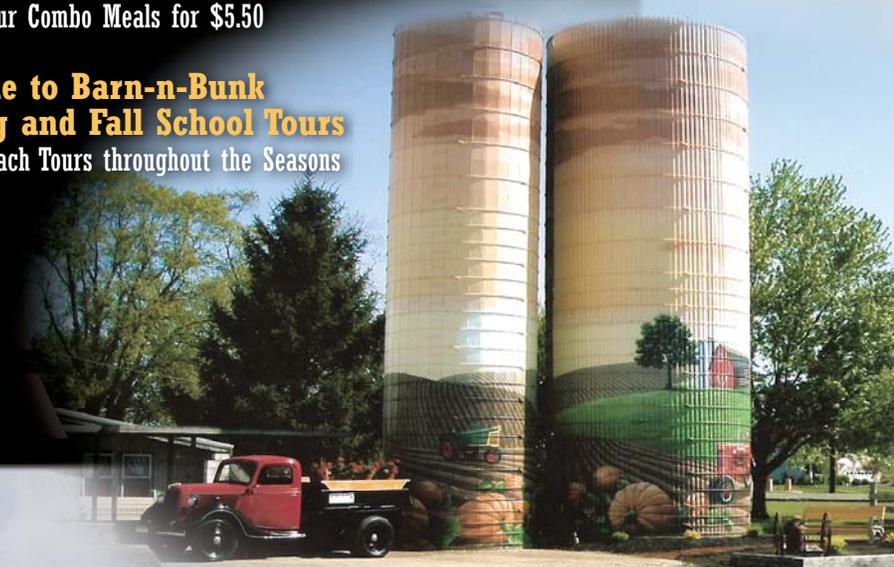
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### Sunday Brunch Buffet

10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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# FireDepartment

Brian D. Sebald - Deputy Chief/EMS

**A**gain we want to thank the citizens of Madison Twp. for passing our fire levy back in May 2010. Although we're just now beginning to receive the funding, we've been planning for improvement over the last year. Since our last news letter, we have extended our part-time EMS coverage through the weekend, added 12 LEAD Telemetry in our squads, added CPAP capabilities into our protocol, renewed our CE site certification, and received a grant for over \$73,000 towards the purchase of new bunker gear, through the administration office.

As of March 1st, 2011, we are now scheduling a "staffed squad" in station with part-time personnel Saturday and Sunday. This means that seven days a week (5a-5p) is covered by a paid crew in station. This is an increase from 5 days a week. Evenings and nights are still covered by very dedicated volunteers, who are not normally available during the "business hours" of a full time job. In December we added 12 LEAD Telemetry in our squads. This involves a chest pain patient and the use of our cardiac monitor. Scopes of Practice only allows the paramedic to read ECG in the field and treat appropriately. The 12 LEAD telemetry now allows the basic EMT to acquire the 12 LEAD, and then the monitor analyzes and transmits it to the receiving hospital. This allows the ER Doctor to interpret the ECG and have the cath lab ready if needed, all before the squad arrives at the hospital. This is another

step forward in pre-hospital treatment that your Madison EMT's can now offer to our residents. The CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) is an intervention that has been used for sleep apnea patients for years. Now it is being placed in EMS protocols for the respiratory distress patients that meet the criteria, for relief prior to hospital arrival. We will continue to have "in house" EMS trainings by renewing our CE site certification. This allows us to issue Continue Education hours that each member is required to have in order to renew their certification. This saves us money rather than sending members elsewhere and paying class fees.

We received word in March that we're the recipients of a federal grant for new fire bunker gear. This is a financial relief given that our bunker gear is past its life expectancy, and we were going to have to stagger bunker gear purchases over several years to be able to afford it. Also being purchased will be new SBCA's replacing all that expire later this year.

Madison Township is consistent with most departments nationwide that run both fire and EMS, in that 78% of our total calls are EMS related.

### GET READY FOR SUMMER HEAT!

**Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke Treatment (WebMD)**

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## SELF-CARE AT HOME

Home care is appropriate for mild forms of heat exhaustion. Heat stroke is a medical emergency, and an ambulance should be called immediately.

For mild cases of heat exhaustion: Rest in a cool shaded area. Give cool fluids such as water or sports drink (that will replace the salt that has been lost). Salty snacks are appropriate as tolerated. Loosen or remove clothing. Do not use an alcohol rub. Do not give any beverages containing alcohol or caffeine.

Heat stroke (do not attempt to treat a case of heat stroke at home, but you can help while waiting for medical assistance to arrive.) Call 911 immediately. Move the person to a cooler environment, or place him or her in a cool bath of water (as long as he or she is conscious and can be attended continuously). Alternatively, moisten the skin with lukewarm water and use a fan to blow cool air across the skin. Give cool beverages by mouth only if the person has a normal mental state and can tolerate it.

## MEDICAL TREATMENT

The treatment is directed at cooling the patient in a controlled fashion while making sure that the patient stays hydrated and that their blood flow is normal.

## HEAT EXHAUSTION

Because heat exhaustion generally develops gradually, a person will often be dehydrated. Usually they may be given something to drink, and a cool sport beverage (with 6% or less glucose) should be used. IV fluid may be used if the person does not tolerate oral replacement due to vomiting or other reasons. The patient should stay in a cool environment and avoid strenuous activity for several days.

## HEAT STROKE

Treatment is aimed at reducing the patient's core temperature to normal as quickly as possible. The doctor may use immersion, evaporative, or invasive cooling techniques. In the evaporative technique, cold or ice packs may be placed in the armpits or groin. The skin is kept moist with cool fluid, and fans are directed to blow across the body. An IV will be started and fluids are given rapidly. The patient's urine output will be monitored. Treatment will continue until the patient's body core temperature is 101.3-102.2°F (38.5-39°C) and then stopped to keep from making the patient too cold. The patient will be admitted to the hospital for further blood tests and observation.



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# Roads

By Todd Daniels - Road Superintendent

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of our services please contact our office  
**513-424-0821**

## SPRING is here

**A**fter a long and snowy winter, spring is finally here. This was a very challenging winter for us with the above average snowfall, including the wind and ice event that took place. More time and resources were needed than usual. This winter we used approximately 620 tons of salt at a cost of around \$40,000.00 as opposed to last year where we spent about \$32,000.00. I continue to be proud of the road department's effort towards making our roads safe and passable.

### Some of the projects this summer will include:

- Paving of Dickey Rd. ( Kalbfleisch to No Mans)
- Paving of Ora Lane, Darl Drive, Flora Lane and Hoover Ct.

We also will pick back up on our crack fill program. This year we hope to treat 12 lane miles of roadway.

### PARK

This spring we will complete the transformation of a detention pond to a conventional pond for better recreational use.

We will also complete the southwestern loop of the nature trail as well as begin phase I of the clearing and eradication of Japanese Honeysuckle in our park.

### CEMETERIES - NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS

As many of you know, Madison Township is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of four cemeteries; Elk Creek, Pleasant Hill, Mt. Pleasant and Augspurger. Of these, only Elk Creek and Pleasant Hill are active. In an effort to better maintain all our cemeteries with greater efficiency and safety, we will be implementing some new policies that will take effect June 6, 2011.

- Seasonal artificial decorations in good condition are permitted on monument stones only (or extensions where applicable) when securely attached or in permanently installed urns or vases and do not interfere with cemetery maintenance.
- The concrete border surrounding memorials is placed to aid in the maintenance of the grass and offers protection from

damage by the mowing equipment. Floral or any other decoration placed on this border negates its intention and may create a hazard.

- The use of wire, iron or steel to secure decorations in place is prohibited as well as shepherd hooks. These are dangerous when combined with a mower, endangering workers as well as visitors.
- The placing in the cemetery of boxes, toys, shells, ornaments, bottles, vases, glass, wood or iron cases, plastic blocks, styrofoam, artificial animals, tin cans, wire, crockery and any bric-a-brac of any description will not be permitted.
- The cemetery reserves the right of preventing or removal of all floral designs, structures and objects of any kind from the cemetery, if in the judgment of the Superintendent they shall be deemed inappropriate to the overall aesthetics of the cemetery.

If you have any questions concerning any of these new policies, please contact our office. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us keep our cemeteries beautiful.

### PLEASE REPORT THESE ISSUES:

**As we go thru the summer months, please report if you happen to notice:**

- Excess trash or tires along the roadways.
- Any damaged roads, potholes etc.
- Any fallen or leaning trees that may create a hazard or any other obstruction that you would deem unsafe.

**513-424-0821**

Thanks for all your help in making Madison Township a great place to live.

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!**  
Todd Daniel, Road Superintendent

# Update



## MADISON COMMUNITY PARK

If you went back into the community park towards the end of last year, you saw a few new significant changes and improvements had taken place. The walking path that goes around and through the park was paved, and two very nice shelters were built. The paved walking path now allows for a safer, friendlier walking surface for all residents and in the future will be 100% accessible for wheelchairs and strollers. The two new shelters offer a great place to get out of the hot sun or rain, or simply to meet together and gather at the picnic tables. Both projects were able to be completed because of grants we received through our administration office. The grant for the paved walking path came through the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources for \$35,000 and the grant for the shelters came from the Middletown Community Foundation in the amount of \$25,000. We are very thankful to both of these organizations and what their contributions have allowed us to accomplish. We are also still in the process of completing the hiking trails which should be completed sometime in early summer. Once all the hiking trails are completed, we'll install signage which will show trail routes and distances.

Another exciting improvement that will be coming this Spring will be the installation of electric and water supply into the park. This first phase will allow us to prepare for future construction of a concession stand and permanent restrooms, thus providing a better level of service to park patrons and removing the unsightly port-a-johns. Again, the installation of these utilities will be paid for by a grant we received through Community Development Block Grants, thus saving our township \$31,100 while still increasing our level of service to our residents.

The Madison Historical Society is also scheduled to complete the log cabin by mid-summer and we'd like to thank them for their contribution to our park, which will allow us to look back and "see into the past".

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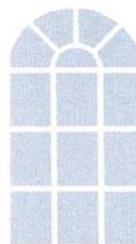


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# Gardening

## MADISON GARDENING GROUP

**A** bountiful THANK YOU to our group of volunteers that stepped forward to be a part of the Madison Gardening Group!

They have volunteered their time and talents to help keep Madison Township looking beautiful by working on the all the landscaping and plants located at our Administration building and Fire Station 153 (Life Squad Bldg). They've been digging, raking, planting, mulching, and trimming to help keep our public buildings looking the best they can for our community! Hopefully by the time you read this, the weather has cleared up and you've already noticed the wonderful job they did. They'll also be back in mid-Summer to refresh everything, and then again in late fall to prepare for winter. To have people step forward and volunteer in their community is what continues to make Madison Township a wonderful place to live, work, and play. Thank you again to our Garden Group Volunteers!



Pictured in the back row from left to right is: Jodi Yoon, Kenna Brongersma, Carl Roberts. Pictured in the front row from left to right is: Debra Smithson, Joanne Wagner, Sandy Estoye Not pictured are: Christine Carpenter, Jeff Willoughby, Rick Henry.

## Country Potato Chowder

**You will be in "Soup Love"  
after you've tasted this chowder!!!!  
Comfort food at it's BEST!**

### Ingredients:

- 6-8 Bacon strips, cooked and crumbled
- 1 Medium onion
- 3 Celery ribs, chopped
- 1/4 Cup of all purpose flour
- 4 Cups of half & half cream
- 4 Medium potatoes, peeled/cut into 1/2" cubes
- 2 Cans (10-3/4 oz. each) condensed cream of celery soup, diluted
- 2 Tablespoons of dried parsley flakes
- 1 Tablespoon of Worcestershire sauce
- 1 Teaspoon of seasoned salt
- 1/2 Teaspoon pepper
- 1 Can (14 3/4 ounces) of cream styled corn

In a dutch oven, (I do not have a dutch oven so I just used the pot in which I am making the soup) cook the bacon over medium heat until good and crispy. Remove with a slotted spoon to paper towels. Drain, reserving 2 Tablespoons of drippings, (I just kept all the drippings because it's not really too much over the 2 tablespoons, but you don't have to if you don't want a real bacon flavor). In the drippings, saute the onion and celery until tender. Sprinkle with the flour and stir until blended. Gradually add the half & half cream. Stir in the potatoes, soup, parsley, Worcestershire sauce, seasoned salt and pepper. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1 minute. Reduce the heat; cover and simmer for 25 minutes or until your potatoes and done.

Stir in corn and reserved bacon and heat through!!!

# Historical SOCIETY

## LOG CABIN PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

In the spring of 2008, the Raymond Blanton family donated their family homestead to the Society and thus began the project of moving the 1833 log cabin beneath its outer structure and reconstruction in the Madison Community Park. This will be used to educate the youth and adults of the area and will serve as a reminder to the community of its heritage, impress the historical significance of our pioneers in settling Madison Township, and serve to encourage historical preservation efforts. Our plan is to open the cabin to the public at certain prescribed times with an informational tour of the cabin and its furnishings. We were granted funding from the Middletown Community Foundation, Duke Energy, Butler Rural Electric, the Spring Fest Committee and donations in memory of our friend and project consultant, Ed Simpkins, who passed away August 16, 2009. Many businesses and contractors have donated their time and materials and the people of the township generously supported this project with their dollars and over 1,000 volunteer hours. Layered between the logs was insulation covered by a base of hand-carved styrofoam fitted between the logs and was completed last fall inside and out. The cabin was "shrink wrapped" for the winter and a final coat of permanent chinking will be added this spring. The porches and windows are now being constructed and the interior will be completed this summer. We will be accepting items for display in the cabin that is indicative of the 1833 era – space is limited

so we will have to choose carefully. We are looking for primitive furniture and home accessories. If you have items that you would like for us to consider for display, please call John and June Gilmore at 422-7988. This has been quite an undertaking for our society and completion of the log cabin reconstruction is planned for this summer. We extend our thanks to the many people who volunteered on this project.

*Last year the Society published a booklet entitled MADISON TOWNSHIP: The Second 100 Years 1910 - 2010 which included many family histories. The first printing was sold out and a second printing has been ordered. If you would like a copy, please call John and June Gilmore at 422-7988 or any officer. Copies will also be available at Spring Fest where we will have displays in the library.*

**SAVE THE DATE** – Mark your calendar now for future meetings – the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of June, September, and December at 7:00 PM at the Pleasant Ridge United Methodist Church. We provide a speaker with a variety of historical topics and discussions of historical interest. We encourage you to bring pictures and show-and-tell items to share with the group. Come join us for an evening of reliving the history of Madison Township. Officers are Donna Walter-President, Mark Whiteman-Vice President, John Gilmore-Treasurer, Connie Back-Secretary, Phyllis Richmond-Corresponding Secretary, and Directors Nancy McCann, David Kelhoffer, and Larry Helton.



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By Josh Martin

# OutDoorCorner

## ONE MORE PIECE OF THE PUZZLE



One of my favorite activities of the year actually comes during the “winter blues” months of February and March. My twin boys and I venture out into the woods and fields, in search of shed antlers from the deer that made it through the hunting season. Whitetail bucks shed their antlers on an annual basis and this makes for a great way to see which bucks will be back again for next fall. This would defiantly qualify as searching for a needle in a hay stack. It never ceases to amaze me when we do find a shed antler, but it sure does make it exciting when you have walked for miles and finally find one.

My boys Hunter and Logan sure do get excited about being in the outdoors and this is just one more way for them to be outside learning more about hunting and nature in general. They are already very accomplished hunters in their own right, even at 11 years old. They have taken 8 deer between the two of them in the last few years. I believe shed hunting has played a major role in this. It has told us where to spend most of our time in the stand, and this has really paid off. To say they are excited about hunting and the outdoors would be a major understatement. I think they talk about hunting more than I do, and this is really saying something! They do their fair share of the work that needs to be done to consistently take big bucks year after year, including putting in mile after mile of looking for sheds.

Now for myself being a whitetail fanatic, I not only shed hunt for fun with my kids, but also to feed my addiction of chasing big mature whitetails. This is a great way to keep an inventory of

which bucks will be back in your area next season. You can actually keep track of how much the bucks in your area are growing from year to year if you get out there and put in the miles to find his sheds. Sheds will tell you which bucks survived the hunting season and give you small clues to the buck’s core area. More than likely, where you find a bucks sheds is where he spends most of his time. Whether you find it in his bedding area or his feeding area, either place would be a great place to hang a stand for next fall. There is no better feeling than harvesting a buck that you have history with. And if you have his sheds it sure makes for a good story with family and friends.

I have harvested several bucks from which I have their sheds, and two bucks which I have a matching set of antlers from that particular buck. Now I’m assuming most of you are like me and are looking for every advantage you can get on that big buck you are chasing. I’m sure you all practice shooting your bow or gun, do some scouting, hang your stands in the right spot, and be as scent free as possible when chasing that buck. Shed hunting can be that last piece of the puzzle that gives you the advantage you need to finally close the deal on the buck of a lifetime.

If you’re looking for a challenge in the whitetail woods, get out and cover some ground looking for those shed antlers. It can be very beneficial to you come next season. Good luck to all my fellow hunters out their next season, I hope you get the big one you’re after!



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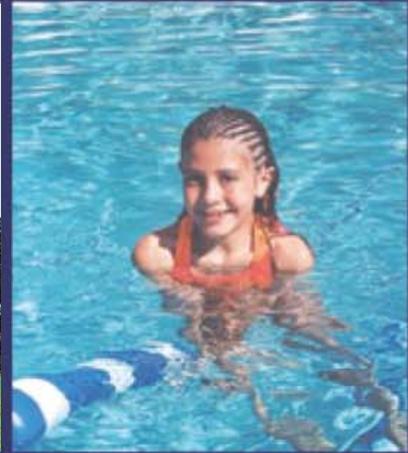
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# Thank You COMMUNITY PARKS

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR COMMUNITY PARK!

In October of last year, the Madison Fire Department ran a fund raiser for our Community Park!

It was a huge success and we'd like to thank everyone that donated:

Kelly Brandel	Barbara Bush	Evelyn Hudson	Robert Laubach	Alphia Caudill	Chad Colwell
Donna Walter	Harold Priest	Sharon Terrill	Frieda Mays	Shirley White	Charles Rhoads
Christy McQueen	Harold Johnson	Mary Lee Cast	Mary Clark	Ethel Kinder	William Childers
Kristy Taylor	James Branam	Bethal Turner	Alma McGee	Carol Carroll	Edward Opesky
Delbert Sharret	Charles French	Elizabeth Pague	Marie White	Barbara Williamalp	Brian Hancock
Christine Thomas	Maurice Swanson	Beverly Robert	David Meeker	Fred Gibbs	Pam Wendt
Marilee O'Connor	Larry McClure	Roy Chasten	Rhonda McGuire	Athalene Wallin I	Cariann Russell
Linda Arnold	Angela Snarks	Toni Dennis	Janet Gillman	Nez Hensley	Teresa Hammond
Karl Bagdal	Dan Rich	Todd Farler	Anora Edwards	Jeanette Stayton	Carolyn Lawson
Brenda Morris	Ray Wells	Bill Bowman	Dolly McClure	Judy Mattingly	Milton Salyer
Opal Frazier	Marla Parsley	Jonathan Morgan	Skip Campbell	Patricia Lanham	Harry Pratt
Gloria Freeman	Andy Barger	Shirley Tillman	Elsie Hughes	Verneda Abplanalp	Harroy Perkins
Clinton Fraley	Charles Chalfin	Betty McConnell	Donna Enright	Elaine Tack	Joanne Arnett
Dan Vanderpool	Robert Yost	Rosalie Stogsdill	Hazel Craft	Debbie Bauer	John Welling
Kenny Marts	Janet Harrison	Virginia Morris	Jenny Middleton	Rosie Cox	Seth Howard
Phyllis Smith	Rodney Sams	Rick Hough	Ruby Harris	Mono Cornett	Browns Run Self
Debbie Helsinger	Mary Lou	Barbara Wolf	Alice Marts	Tim Coldiron	Storage
James Hurtz	Roehll Thoams	Hazel Wolf	Mary Johnson	Church of God in	Marilee Levy
Mary Sheets	Byrne Phyllis	Heahdell Johnson	Robert Kelly	Jesus	Roger Craft
Joanne Murphy	Hartmen Margret	Pat Lovely	Afreda Turrill	John Esselman	Kirk Reich
Mary Swain	Hawkins Dan	Lynn Darbyshire	Joan Roberson	Tom Ristanio	James Back
Joan Sharrett	Meeker Betty	Michael Wenze	Vicki Rudder	Angela Bell	Ruth Ann
Bertha Davis	Creech Grant	Dee Markle	Richard Pate	Mary Gast	Young James
Mary McIntosh	Shepard Diana	George Coures	Danny Susong	Bridget Clark	Evans Wayne Gross
Linda Berg	Dunn Linda	Tracie Williams	Max Guiton	Nancy Wise	
Penny Reffitt	Jester Richard	Joyce Greenfield	Mark Mattingly	John Esselman	
Opal Hogg	Cockerham	Lynn McCann	Doris Hopkins	Timothy Limberg	

Because of this fundraiser, the township was able to purchase the much needed safety item of speed bumps for the park drive (annoying yes, but our children's safety is worth it), a small snow plow to clear the paved walking path (which was used throughout the entire winter by numerous park patrons), and continuing work on the hiking path located in the woods on the east end of the park. We hope everyone was happy with their family portraits and pictures! Thanks again for your continued support!



As a reminder and a thank you to everyone, last year the residents of Madison Township passed a fire levy. One big advantage to passing the fire levy is that **there will no longer be a "Life Squad Membership"**. All Madison Township **residents** are now covered for Fire and EMS runs and will not be personally billed for these services. We will continue to bill

your insurance company and accept their payment, but you will not be billed for any portion or balance due. For clarification, this is for Madison Township residents only. If someone is traveling through or visiting someone in Madison Township, and they require our fire/EMS services, they will be billed even if they are at your residence. Also, when our Fire and EMS assist with mutual aide calls in surrounding communities, these services will be billed. Our rationale is that you, the residents of Madison Township, are paying for these services through

the fire levy you passed, therefore those who are not paying through the form of our levy, will be bill the entire amount. If you have any questions concerning this issue, please call and let us know. Thanks again for supporting our Fire Levy!

On another note, our fire department will be making a large purchase within the next few months, made possible by the passage of the fire levy. We will be replacing 18-20 SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) at a cost of approximately \$100,000. These units were set to expire within the next few months due to age, so our timing is working out perfectly. We were also scheduled to replace 10 of 40 sets of turn out gear. The total cost to replace all turn out gear is also near \$100,000, therefore we budgeted to replace 10 sets per year over the next four years. However, we were notified in March that we'd won an Assistance to Firefighters Grant through FEMA, in the amount of \$73,150! Therefore, we will now be able to replace all 40 sets of turn out gear. We continue to thank you for your support and look forward to providing you the best Fire and EMS services we can.



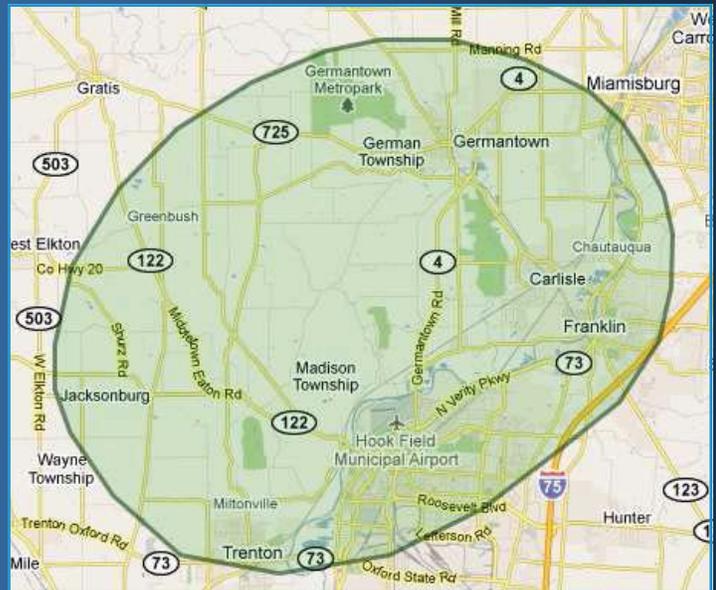
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# MADISON Military

## MADISON TOWNSHIP IN THE MILITARY...

**W**e are in the process of updating our "Soldiers Serving" page on our website. This page is in honor and recognition of our township residents that are serving our county. If you have a family member or friend that lives in Madison Township and is serving in the armed forces, please let us know. We would like to recognize them by placing their picture and contact information on our website. Simply e-mail a picture of the service person and their contact information to [ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com](mailto:ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com) and I'll see that their picture and information is posted on our website.

We owe a great deal to these service men and women that courageously wear the American uniform. They are the reason we continue to live a free and safe lifestyle that we so much enjoy here in America. Their security passes on even to Madison Township thru so many warm summer evenings in the park, Friday night football games, or simply relaxing on our own back porch. It is because of those that served, and those which continue to serve, that allows us to continue on with our daily schedules, seldom giving thought to the circumstances and situations that our military personnel may be in at any given moment.

We are proud of our local service personnel. May our thoughts and prayers be with them throughout their journeys.



## Volunteer to clean up the Great Miami Saturday, May 7

Madison Township:  
West River Bank at Rt. 122  
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# GardenGuru

By Rick Henry

## A VISION FOR YOUR BACKYARD GARDEN



Welcome to another installment of the Garden Guru. This particular article is written specifically for those who see their entire backyard not in sections, individual beds or separate areas, but as one unified garden. This article is written for those who both appreciate the beauty of nature and hope to find a kind of 'bliss in their own backyard.' Today we are asking the question, do you have a vision for your backyard garden?

With so much turmoil, uncertainty and stress to be found in the world, a well planted backyard garden can serve as a true place of retreat. There are many real benefits to be found in a well-designed backyard garden. But, for those of us who have obtained such a backyard retreat, we know that this did not happen by accident. And, while there was an initial desire, we know that the gardens we have now did not come into being just by our longing for them. The gardens that we have now came into reality by having a vision in mind first.

On a personal note, it took me several years to understand how critical it is to have some kind of vision or master plan in order to achieve the garden that I desired. When I first started working on my garden, about twenty-six years ago, this became a source of amusement for both my wife and my neighbors. My neighbors would watch me purchase new ornamental trees and shrubs and plant these each year, only to dig them up the following year—moving them from spot to spot. As I would be in the process of moving a tree in the spring that I planted the previous fall, my neighbors would smile as they walked past, and my wife would roll her eyes. I remember now even moving my water feature a time or two, and that was not an easy task! But, the point is, it was only when I stopped and took a breath and developed a vision/plan for my garden that it started to take on the shape and dimension for which I hoped.

This creative process does not have hard and fast rules that apply

to all gardeners in the same way. There are many different considerations and different styles of gardens ranging from informal to formal styles. I prefer an informal cottage-style garden. This is an individual thing whereby personal tastes and personal needs take priority over any kind of one-size-fits-all type of landscaping rule. For some people, a piece of graph paper or a laptop computer will be required. For others possibly just a cup of coffee or a glass of lemonade and a time of gazing upon the available space will bring things into view. Some people may do best with a landscape architect who will ask the right questions and plan out every detail. Others, with some horticultural knowledge, may obtain their goal with just a rough plan in mind which allows room for their garden to evolve over a period of time. My favorite gardens seem to be the result of both using some graph paper and allowing room for an evolutionary process along the way. Sometimes, regardless of how knowledgeable we are about landscape design and horticulture, over time we do see some superior options in terms of color, foliage, and texture with our plants. Much like the artist who chooses to change things on his canvas along the way, we should allow some room for flexibility in our vision as we attempt to bring it to fruition.

Hopefully, this article has been a help to some who would find 'bliss in their own backyard' to see the necessity of developing a vision. For a more concrete approach to this subject, there are many online helps and several excellent landscape architects in our area. These resources can help you consider form and function and make the process less abstract and easier. But, in order to not end up with a less-than-unique or generic and sterile landscape we need to be fully engaged in the process. We must always be contributing and determining things from our own point of view, as we develop our vision for our own backyard garden. Happy gardening!

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