

MADISON TOWNSHIP

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A FRESH NEW LOOK FOR MADISON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT



As you can see in the picture, some of the Madison Township Fire Department vehicles are beginning to look a bit different. As more vehicles are replaced throughout the department, the new paint scheme will become more common. With the acquisition of the fire levy money that began coming in last year thanks to all the residents that supported the levy, we're now fortunate enough to begin replacing some of our old and worn fire equipment. New fire vehicles are the single largest purchases that are currently budgeted over the next several years. The life squad in the picture above was received earlier this year and another is scheduled to be order by the end of this year. After researching and reviewing several options prior to purchasing the new squad, the choice was made to procure a "re-mount" vehicle. What this means is simply that the existing "box" was removed from the old squad and completely refurbished, both inside and outside. The box was then re-installed on a new 2012 Dodge cab and chassis, thereby giving us a new vehicle. This allowed us the advantage of getting a new squad and at the same time, we saved almost \$50,000 because we remodeled the existing box instead of purchasing a whole new life squad. This is just one way that we're being prudent and judicious in managing your township funds.

As Part of our planning before the passage of the fire levy, we created a 19 year budget for the fire department, based upon the expected revenue and expenditures. Projected levels of service along with capital budget and life expectancy of equipment were all part of the planning process. As with any budget, we expect there will be some variations in expenditures and revenue, but our process in planning was driven by the idea of always offering the expected level of service to our residents. Our goal is to always be more efficient, reliable, and responsive in providing Fire/EMS services to our residents.

As we move forward in the coming years, you'll see some of the more obvious changes such as new vehicles and new equipment. We've also increased the hours that are covered with EMS personnel from 6:00am to 10:00pm, seven days a week. What you may not see are the changes that are continually being implemented to help save on day to day operations, such as competing for better energy cost, communication cost, and building maintenance. All factors, internal and external, are taken into consideration when looking at maintaining and staying within our budget. This long term budget also allows us the flexibility to select several specific areas whereby we can create smaller budgets inside the main budget, consequently letting us maintain the budget instead of the budget maintaining us.

Your Township Administrator...

A FRESH NEW LOOK... CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT



By Todd Farler, Madison Township Administrator

We're always looking at other options and alternatives and as the township environment changes, so will we. Our job is to offer the highest level of service we can, while staying inside the budget that you allowed.

We want to thank all the residents of Madison Township for supporting our Fire Department. Just as important, we want our residents to thank our Fire Department. Although our EMS division is staffed from morning to evening, we still have plenty of volunteers that make runs throughout the night and offer backup services throughout the day. Our firemen still volunteer their time and skills on all fires, vehicle wrecks, and a multitude of other service calls. They maintain their trainings and certifications, all while volunteering to help protect our homes and families. Please take time from your day to recognize one of the volunteer fire personnel and simply give them a well deserved "Thank you".

We appreciate your support, both financially and morally, and thanks for making Madison Township a great place to live, work, and play.

Madison Township will be selling items on the website:

www.GovDeals.com

Check our website

www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

to see if we have anything up for auction!



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.

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TODD FARLER 513-424-0821

WEBSITE

www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

TOWNSHIP CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES ALWAYS CALL 911

Madison Township Admin. Building..... 513-424-0821

Fire Station #1 (Elk Creek Road)..... 513-988-9124

Fire Station #2 (Germantown Road) 513-424-3384

Life Squad Building (Mosiman Road)..... 513-425-9009

Madison Board of Education 513-420-4750

Butler County Sheriff 513-424-2456

Butler County Auditor..... 513-887-3149

Butler County Engineer 513-424-9144

Butler County Board of Elections 513-887-3700

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Butler County Health Department..... 513-863-1770

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Southwest Regional Water 800-232-5330

Duke Energy 800-634-4300

Dayton Power and Light..... 937-224-6000

Middletown Public Library 513-424-1251



By Brian McGuire, Trustee President

Difficult economic conditions are continuing to affect all us. Families look for ways to stretch their dollars and provide basic needs as they are faced with unprecedented financial challenges. National, state and local governments continue to look for ways to cut costs and still be responsive to the needs of the public. One of the local, state, and national ideas that are currently being discussed is forced consolidation of governments, believing it will reduce costs and taxes. This is the so called, "bigger is better" idea for local governments. This is a wrong assumption and wrong approach. Small local governments, like townships, are more accessible, responsive, and spend less than big government.

The Ohio Township Association has issued a report based on a study done by researcher Wendell Cox. The report is titled "Local Democracy in Ohio: A Review of City, Village and Township Financial Performance by Size". This extensive report confirms the fact that small local governments, like Madison Township, can rapidly respond to the changing needs of their communities because of their stronger ties and their understanding of the concerns of their residents. The report also confirms that townships are more fiscally responsible. Townships are more efficient and perform better with less, which is a stark contrast to larger governments. Madison Township is a prime example of this. A recent article in the Middletown Journal "Property Tax Revenue Make-up Varies Greatly by Townships"

looked at the amount residents pay in property taxes to fund township operations in Butler and Warren counties. Justin McClelland found that "Madison Township residents pay the least percentage of a townships property tax collections among the most populated in the two counties". We do more with less and will continue to be fiscally responsible with your tax dollars.

The OTA report and the Wendell Cox report are available on the townships web site: www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

Finally, as we go into the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons, we will reflect on the past year and will realize what we should be thankful for: The health and love our family and friends and this great nation we live in. And I am also thankful for the community we live in, and the people who care and support each other during difficult times.

Knowing this, I am assured we will make it through these difficult times together.



Madison Fire Station 153
The meeting room inside Madison Township Fire Station 153, 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!
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BURNING

This time of year is a great time for many residents to clean up, spruce up, and gather up all the natural debris that accumulated in their yards. Many residents choose to burn the leaves and branches that fell through the summer and fall months. You are "Open Burning" any time you light an outdoor fire. The Ohio EPA regulates open burning with fairly strict rules. Here's a few of the materials that may not be burned:

- Garbage-any wastes created in the process of handling, preparing, cooking, or the consumption of food.
- Dead animals or animal waste, including straw cleaned from stables or animal pens.
- Any materials containing rubber, grease, asphalt or made from petroleum, such as tires, cars and auto parts, plastic, or plastic-coated wire
- Fires are normally to be limited to 5ft by 5ft, and should burn for no more than three hours.
- No open burning can take place within 1,000 feet of an inhabited building located off property where the fire is set. Nor can the fire obscure visibility for roadways, railroad tracks, or air fields. Also, open burning is prohibited when air pollution warnings, alerts, or emergencies are in effect.

If you have any questions or would like more information concerning Ohio's Open Burning Regulations, please contact the Division of Air Pollution of the Ohio EPA, at 614-644-2270.

FIREARMS

Our administration office occasionally receives calls regarding the discharge of firearms (shooting of guns). Discharging of firearms for hunting and target practice is allowed in Madison Township, as it is in almost all unincorporated areas in the State of Ohio. Madison Township follows the Ohio Revised Code regarding this matter which states that a person can shoot guns as long as it is done in a safe manner. Madison Township cannot enact any other laws restricting the discharging of firearms other than those addressed in the Ohio Revised Code. Whether you're hunting or shooting your guns for target practice, please be safe, respect your neighbor's property and privacy, and at all times keep a proper distance from their homes and animals. If you feel someone is discharging a firearm in an unsafe manner, please call the Butler County Sheriff's Office.

Butler County Sheriff's Office

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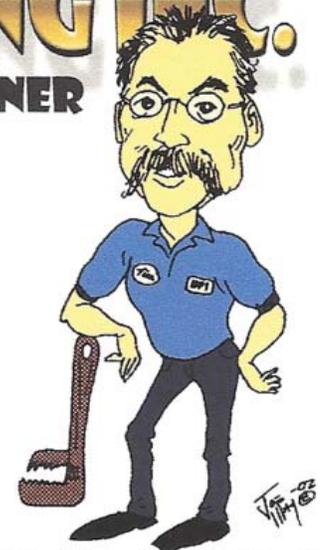
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Madison Local Schools



UPCOMING DATES:

November 7, 2012

Veteran's Day Assembly, Madison Elementary School

November 7, 2012

VIP Breakfast, Madison Jr/Sr High School

November 9-11, 2012

"The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon" Madison Jr/Sr High School Fall Production

November 21-23, 2012

No School, Thanksgiving Break

SENIOR HOMECOMING COURT



Left to right; Austin Dunn, Madison Banks, Dylan Brown, Kelsey Klinefelter, David Schenck, Sara Clark, Chris Small, Katie Sturgis, Brandon Thobe, Kaylee Bush, Brandon Farler, Rylie Markle, Brandon Mize, Abby Szabo.



Congratulations to the 2012 Homecoming King and Queen, Brandon Thobe and Katie Sturgis!

MADISON'S FALL PLAY: THE BROTHERS GRIMM SPECTACULATHON



On this, the 200th anniversary of the publication of the original Brothers Grimm fairy tales, we celebrate the rich cultural legacy left to us by those collectors of folk stories: Cinderella, Snow White, Rapunzel, Little Red Riding Hood, the Talking Crab People, the Devil's Grandmother, the Girl with No Hands ... wait, what???

Madison's fall play is a hilarious, fast-moving comedy that attempts (with limited success) to mash all 209 of the Brothers Grimm fairy tales into one gigantic mega super-story. It may not make sense, but it will make for a fun evening of family-friendly entertainment. Combining well-known stories with little-known tales, and a few that may be totally made up, two hosts guide you through a fairy tale landscape of laughs, zingers, physical comedy and audience participation that will leave you little time to catch your breath between fast jokes and fast transitions.

With Ashley Wagner and Dylan Bolen as your hosts, the cast also includes Abby Brown, Morgan Cornett, Lexy Earley, Delaney Flack, Jordan Hawthorn, Hannah Helton, Brianna Hill, Dylan Hoskins, Kara Jackson, Paige King, Kayla Lewis, Kirsten Marsh, Stormi Mitchell, Ben Morgan, Noah Oliver, Katie Philpot, Kelsey Philpot, Samantha Sennet, Bryce Thomas, Kaitlin Thompson, Hannah Tuttle, and Hannah Van Winkle.

**7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 9th & Saturday, Nov. 10th • Final performance 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 11th
Admission: Adults \$8 • Students (K-12)/Seniors \$5 • Preschoolers Free**



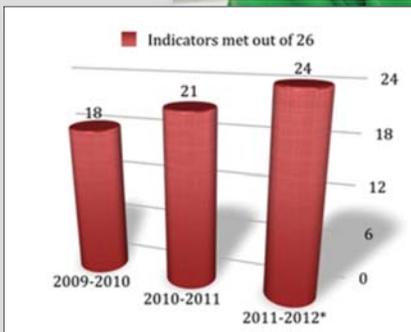
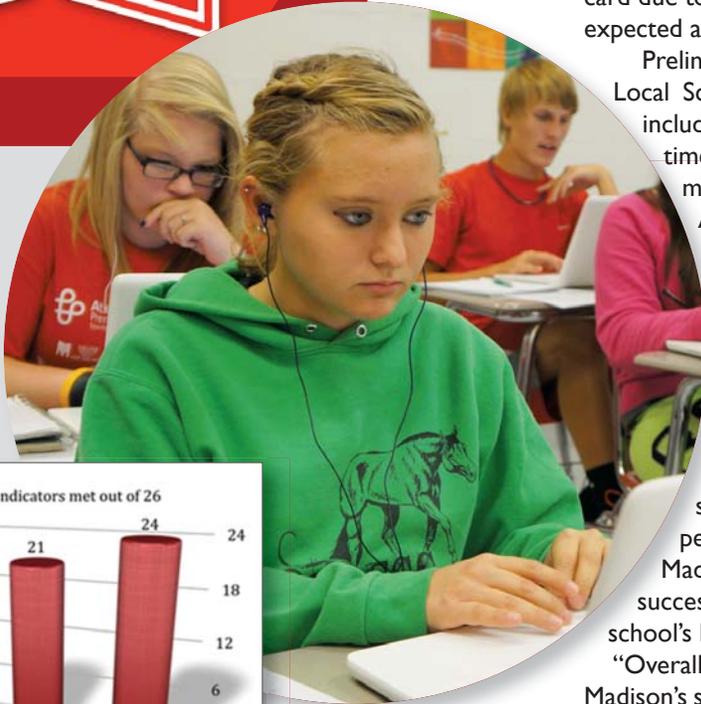
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Each fall Madison Local Schools anxiously awaits the state report card results issued by the Ohio Department of Education. The statewide report provides confirmation of the hard work and success of the students and staff, ultimately showing the progress the district has made from one year to the next. This year however the department was forced to delay the release of the full report card due to data inconsistencies across the state. The final data is expected at the conclusion of the investigation.

Preliminary data indicates extraordinary gains for Madison Local School District for the 2011-2012 school year. This includes all indicators being met in grades 7-12 for the first time ever and a 2% increase in scores for intermediate math and a 5% increase in intermediate science. Additionally preliminary results show more than a year's worth of academic growth on the value-added measurement and meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). This is the district's best report card to date and we are certainly pleased with the efforts of our excellent teachers, administrators and support staff as well as our dedicated students and grateful for the support of our community.

In 2010-2011, Madison Local School District successfully met 21 of 26 indicators including academic performance and attendance requirements. In 2011-2012, Madison Local Schools increased to 24 of the 26 indicators successfully receiving the highest number of indicators in the school's history.

"Overall we are very encouraged by the preliminary results. Madison's students and staff continue to work extremely hard and we look forward to the final results so we can officially celebrate our achievements," said Superintendent, Curtis Philpot.



DATA INDICATES EXTRAORDINARY GAINS

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT

RESULTS AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2012

The Madison Mohawks' athletic teams have had an outstanding fall 2012 season. Contributing to the overall success was the Varsity Golf Team, named the 2012 SWBL Buckeye Division Golf Champions. Coach Casey Weidner was voted SWBL Buckeye Division Coach of the Year and sophomore, Seth Sipple, earned the title of Individual SWBL Buckeye Division Golf Champ. Also helping the boys was freshman, Lexie Fields, who qualified for the District Girls Golf Championship. She shot an 82 which put her just 4 strokes back in qualifying for state. Also finishing strong in third place in the SWBL Buckeye Division was the Lady Mohawks' Varsity Tennis Team. Rylie Markle, senior, earned the SWBL Buckeye Division Champ title for the 2nd year in a row.

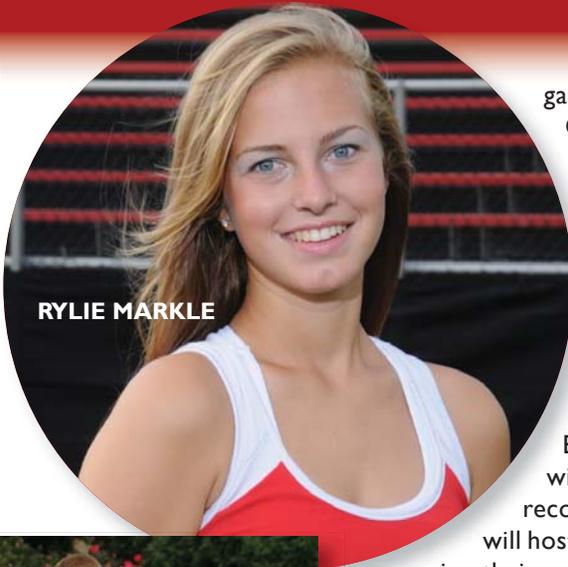
The men and women's Mohawk Soccer Teams continue to dominate this season. At the time of publication, the girls' team, under the direction of Coach Samantha McGuire, defeated Preble Shawnee to claim the title of SWBL Buckeye Division Champions! Their Sectional Tournament

GIRLS SOCCER TEAM



Varsity Football – Chris Wells, Head Coach
 Varsity Volleyball – Charity Norman, Head Coach
 Varsity Boys Soccer – Scott Markle, Head Coach
 Varsity Girls Soccer – Samantha McGuire, Head Coach
 Varsity Boys Golf – Casey Weidner, Head Coach
 Varsity Girls Tennis – Matt Scholp, Head Coach
 Varsity Cross Country – Warren Elam, Head Coach

Record - 4 - 4 (2 - 2)
 Record - 3 - 12 (3 - 7)
 Record - 11 - 2 - 3 (6 - 1 - 1)
 Record - 11 - 3 - 2 (9 - 1 - 2)
 Record - 12 - 2 (6 - 0)
 Record - 7 - 3 (3 - 2)
 Record – N/A



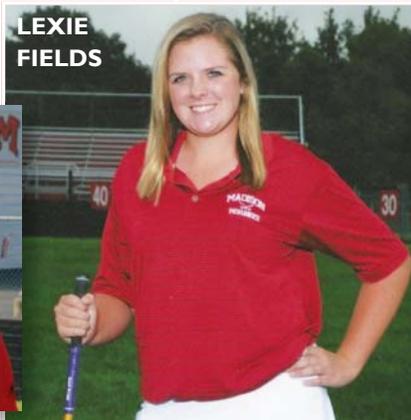
RYLIE MARKLE

game will be on October 17th at 7 p.m. They will travel to Valley View to take on the Spartans. Coach Scott Markle and the boys' team are in second place in the SWBL Buckeye Division with an overall record of 6-1-1. They will host Twin Valley South in their opening Sectional game on October 16th at 7 p.m. This is the first home sectional game for the boys in over 8 years.

The cross-country team traveled to Milton Union for the SWBL Cross Country Championship on October 13th. The girls finished in the top 3 for the third year in a row and the boys finished strong in fourth.



SETH SIPPLE



LEXIE FIELDS



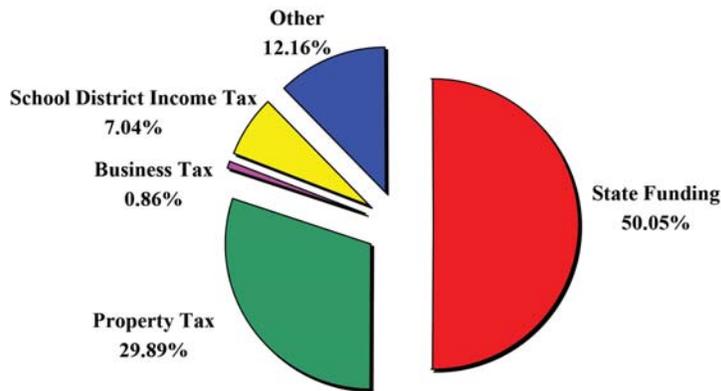
COACH CASEY WEIDNER



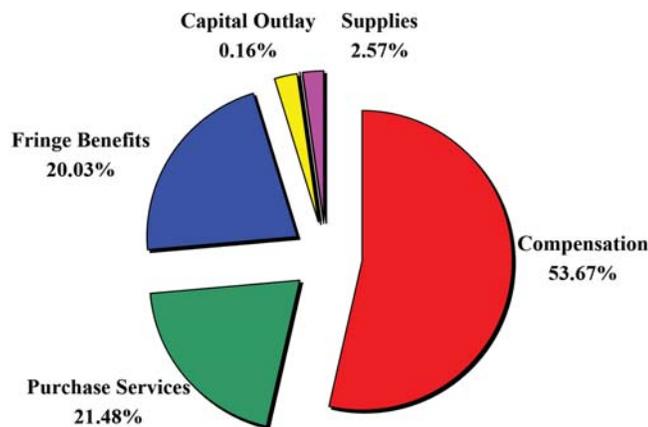
VARSITY GOLF TEAM

TREASURER'S REPORT

District Revenue



District Expenditures



QUICK FACTS

- The 2011—2012 General Fund included \$12,227,771 in revenues and \$12,128,891 in expenditures.
- Cost per student in 2011 was \$9,191.
- Budget and staffing changes resulted in a \$243,818 reduction in general fund expenditures from fiscal year 2011 to fiscal year 2012.
- Income tax revenues have shown increases over the past two years following two years of decline.
- Revenues from the State in 2012 were up slightly after 3 years of declines. However, 2012's State funding is over \$600,000 less than 2008's funding.
- Expenditures for salaries have declined each year of the past 3 years.
- Log onto the district website at madisonmohawks.org for additional financial information.

Making a Difference



Fiscal Officer, Amy Schenck recently attained her Certified Municipal Clerk's designation, from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) promotes continuing education and certification and professional development programs. The Certified Municipal Clerk program is designed to enhance the job performance of the Clerk in small and large municipalities. To earn the

CMC designation, a Clerk must attend extensive education programs. The CMC designation also requires pertinent experience in a municipality. The CMC program prepares the applicants to meet the challenges of the complex role of the Clerk by providing them with quality education in partnership with institutions of higher learning. The Certified Municipal Clerks Designation requires that the Clerk/ Fiscal Officer perform the core duties of a municipal clerk by serving a Legislative Government Body in an administrative capacity with management responsibilities, which include execution of official documents, general management, records management, elections, meeting administration, management of legal instruments, human resources management, and financial management. These diverse continuing educational programs promote life-long learning, skill development, and public service and foster a spirit of mutual assistance and goodwill among Clerks around the globe. IIMC continually strives to advance leading practices in professional and personal development, create opportunities for its diverse membership to engage in training and development activities and programs, and support education programs that enrich knowledge. The certifications and educational programs offered through IIMC empower its members to achieve academic and professional success. In the State of Ohio there are 937 municipalities and 1308 townships; there are currently only 112 Certified Municipal Clerks serving these local governments.

Madison Township

Road Superintendent - Todd Daniel -

OKI Outstanding Public Servant

On July 1, 2012, Madison Road Superintendent, Todd Daniel was recognized as an Outstanding Public Servant by OKI (Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments). Todd has always gone above and beyond for the people of Madison Township but in these tough economic times he has really stepped up to help not only our township but lead the way for other townships in Butler County as well.

Mr. Daniel set up meetings with the Butler County Engineer and the Butler County township road superintendents to discuss collaboration between the townships and the engineer's office. Todd researched ways that Madison Township could save in some of our largest expenditures including propane, fuels and use of equipment. He initiated a pre-buy technique on our propane purchases; this new practice alone saved at least 25% over previous years. He began a program of purchasing fuel off of the state bid which will save our township approximately 6-8% over previous years. He has developed relationships with other road superintendents to share equipment and resources. Last summer, Madison Township and Liberty Township traded out our seal coating machine for their milling machine for 4 weeks; this saved approximately \$10,000 with no impact on personnel or services. Earlier this year, Todd Daniel contacted all of the

townships in Butler County about cooperative buying for signs and sign posts. He was able to get five Butler County townships to participate and they put out bids and because of the size of the order were able to save between 15-20% on each order; this translated into several thousand dollars in savings. He also spearheaded an effort to pool the order for crack fill product; eight townships participated in the program and saved approximately \$835.00 per township. Todd Daniel has been instrumental in setting up meetings at our facilities to bring the Butler County Township Road Superintendents together to discuss real cost saving strategies and to share ideas and ways to get things done.

We have all heard a lot of talk about collaboration and resource sharing; Todd Daniel has taken the necessary steps to actually make those things happen! He is a wonderful example of what real people can do to make a real difference. Todd Daniel's leadership has improved the not only the operations in Madison Township but all over Butler County. He has established and improved the communication between local entities and helped to build friendships which foster trust. He is an exemplary public servant and was most deserving of this recognition.

Recently your Township **Administrator, Todd Farler**, graduated from the Ohio Township Assoc. Leadership Academy. The purpose of the academy, which was created by the Ohio Township Association and Miami University, is to enhance the leadership and decision making skills of the township leadership team through required workshops and a specified training curriculum over a three year period. Training covered a variety of factors dealing with local, state, and federal issues, all of which affect our local township. The spectrum of classes ranged from conducting effective meetings and team building, to financial cognizance and intergovernmental relations. This training and certification continually helps our township to be a better community, and helps the affinity of our relationship with other communities and government bodies. The better relationship we have with local, state, and federal entities, the more productive, effective, and efficient we can serve our own community.



Eagle Scout



Ben Morgan recently completed his Eagle Scout Project, with the help of his fellow Troup 29 Scouts, by constructing and installing three park benches and two picnic tables for the back woods trails at the Madison Community Park. Ben has been in Scouting for over 10 years and is also active in Madison Thespian Group, Student Council, Spanish Club and Madison Bands including marching band, concert band, jazz band, pep band and steel drum band. Next time you are at the park, please check out and enjoy his creations.

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Thank You

By Kent Hall, Fire Chief, Madison Fire Department
Rife Denlinger, President, Madison Fire Association

The Madison Fire Department and the Madison Fire Association would like to thank the following sponsors for their support in the 2012 Madison Fire Department Golf Outing that was recently held at the Weatherwax Golf Course. The money raised from the event



goes towards buying equipment, supporting scholarships, assisting in the Needy Family Program and other helpful events that occur over the calendar year. **A special Thank You to Carling Coffing (pictured center, in black) who won the 2010 Big Break Reality Golf Championship and came to help raise donations.**

<p>Posey Properties Roush Construction Al's Welding Mohawk Pizzeria Linsay's Shell Sutphen Corp. Flowers By Nancy</p>	<p>Digital Visuals Wood Propane Blair Heating and Air Preferred Fire Service Fralely Excavating MED3000 Brooks Electric</p>	<p>Golf Galaxy Exhibit Concepts - Jenny Ward Safe T Propane Blashock Plumbing B.D. Morgan Co. Vogelpohl Fire Equipment Remax of Springboro Madison Auto Care Sheriff Richard K. Jones Halie Davis at Dennis Jeep Chrysler Norvell Landscaping S.C. Wells Concrete Middletown Electric</p>	<p>Madison Inn II Blast Zone Paris Ellis Attorney at Law Teresa Hall Real estate Trenton IGA Dave Dennis Jeep Chrysler Howell Rescue Findley Fire Rebitco Inc. Roberson's Sporting Goods C and C Garage Doors All Drains Plumbing Sunoco - Poastown</p>
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MIDPOINTE
LIBRARY SYSTEM

Gardening

By Rick Henry

DROUGHT 2012: A CHALLENGING GROWING SEASON

Due to the lack of rain, this past summer was the worst summer for gardening that I have had in my 34 years of gardening. Across Ohio the drought ranged from moderate to severe. The drought that we experienced in Madison Township, and in Ohio as a whole, brought about the failure of new tree plantings, the failure of hay cuttings, decreases in corn, soybean, and wheat production. As well we have seen increased insect activity and increased diseases in plants and crops; and drought stress on even very well established trees and shrubs. Some of us had turf that passed the dormant stage and died, which required reseeding.

Basically, this year there were two groups of people: 1.) Those who watered their gardens and lawns; and 2.) Those who didn't. Those who did hand water or set-up watering systems probably didn't notice a huge difference this year. For example, I talked to one Madison Township resident recently who used a timer for his vegetable garden and watered it for 11 minutes each night. He reported that his tomato harvest was very good. But, for those like myself who didn't water through the summer, the consensus seems to be that we had sickly plants (and fruits) with few or no tomatoes to can for the upcoming year.

When I was younger, I think I would just plant whatever I wanted to plant wherever I wanted to plant it. I really just did whatever I wanted to do based on my vision for my garden. I was not interested in planting guidelines; in fact I disregarded them

even when I was aware of them.

I killed a lot of plants when

I was first starting out

with gardening. Then

through the years,

by means of both

i n d e p e n d e n t

study and formal

training, and

some trial and

error, I realized

the importance

of selecting the

right plant for the

right spot. I realized

that what we plant

and

how we plant can make

our gardening experience a very

pleasant one, or it can make it a trying

time, a frustrating experience. In many ways we do reap what we sow

based on how we plant and what we plant.

Possibly, because I am getting a bit older I am more interested in making my gardening experience easier. I lost my share of plants/shrubs this

year and

as I think

about what

I will re-

place them

with next

spring my at-

tention is now

turning to recom-

mended drought tol-

erant plants for Ohio.

And, I find my attention

turning toward practices which

include 'efficient irrigation' (like the

man above who waters his garden with a

timer at night); the 'proper use of mulch,' (which is: '2 to 3 inches for trees

and shrubs, and 1 to 2 inches for vegetables, annuals and perennials'); and

selecting plants for the growing conditions which are unique to one's own

landscape.

Space does not permit a detailed essay of practices or a plant list of

drought tolerant trees, shrubs, and perennials for Ohio. But, there is a

short and very helpful article full of helps (and plant lists) on this topic

that is put out by the Ohio State Extension office. It is fact sheet #HYG

1643-94, titled, "Drought Resistance in the Home Landscape," by Mi-

chael T. Loos. This can be viewed on the Ohio University Extension Of-

fice website as well at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/1000/1643.html>.

There are so many parallels between gardening and life in general. As

with certain challenges that plants face at times, it seems like we can try

to do everything right—we can habitually try to do the right thing. But,

sometimes it seems like there is a natural order that cannot be overcome,

and it seems that there is a principle of fate and destiny in play that seems

to prevail. For example, in one bed, I lost a 15' border of succulents this

year! However, much like our present growing season which has been full

of challenges this year, I think we see that it is really how we respond to

a challenge that provides 'the rule' for success or failure. Again, like the

man above who watered his tomatoes at night for a brief period of time, it

was his personal practice, his actions, that allowed him to reap a bountiful

harvest at the end of challenging year.

In both gardening and our lives, when we experience challenging seasons

there is time to be passive and a time to be active. There is a time to be

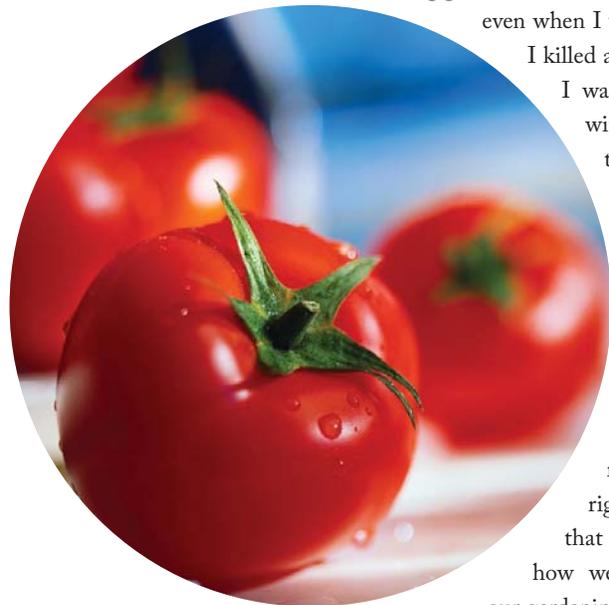
a responder and a time to be pro-active. But, in our lives as a rule, I think

Emerson says it best in the following: "Sow a thought and you reap an ac-

tion; sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character;

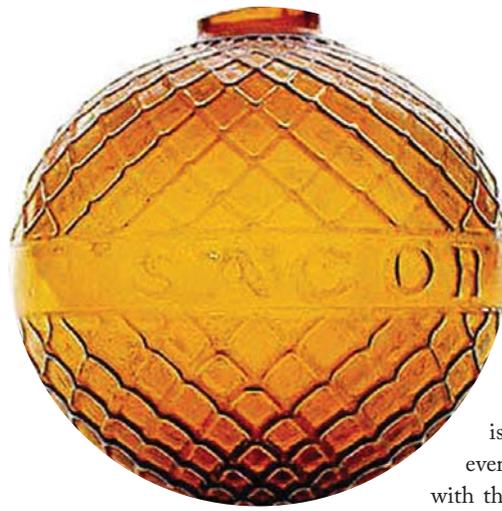
sow a character and you reap a destiny."

Happy Gardening!



SOCIETY Historical

By Donna Walter



You are probably familiar with trap shooting - the firing with a shotgun at round, clay disks thrown into the air. The first clay targets were produced by George Ligowsky in Cincinnati in 1880. Prior to that, thousands of live birds were released simultaneously, particularly pigeons (which is why those clay disks are still called "clay pigeons"), and used as targets in competition. In an effort to equalize the type of shots presented to each shooter, the idea of using glass balls as aerial targets was eventually hit upon.

Charles Portlock of Boston introduced the popular sport of "glass ball" shooting in the U.S. in the year 1866 with the first competitive shoots beginning in 1867 in the Boston area. Glass target balls were made in England, Canada and the United States and some in mainland Europe. Annie Oakley used them in the Wild West Shows into the early 1900's and is said to have had silk streamers stuffed inside to enhance the explosion. The glass spheres were also filled with feathers or powder which gave an illusion of a bird being hit.

In one six month period, the Bohemian Glass Works made 1,250,000 glass balls. Very few of these balls carried the name of their maker and all of these balls were hand blown into molds at the end of a blowpipe. A diamond pattern was raised on the surface of the ball which helped ensure that pellets would shatter the sphere rather than glancing off. Glass balls generally may be identified by a jagged neck caused by breaking away the ball from the end of the blowpipe after the glass had cooled.

These balls were cold packaged in barrels full of sawdust and occasionally full barrels of these are located. Most are found in barns adjoining the areas on which the trap clubs were located. Another source comes from the use of these balls as Christmas tree ornaments handed down by sev-

eral generations in some families. Be sure to check your old glass ornaments this winter!

Many varieties exist today and in almost every color imaginable with the most popular being all shades of amber and second

most popular being blue, which also varied from light to dark.

Clay pigeons did gradually ease glass balls out of the picture in competitive trap shooting. Not so, however, in the Wild West shows. Shattering glass balls were far more spectacular for show business, and balls were manufactured until the 1920's.

These glass orbs are now hunted by a growing number of collectors for their rarity and their link to a colorful era long past. In their heyday, target balls sold for a little over a penny each; today one has sold for as much as \$14,850, although "common" balls can be found for under a hundred dollars. Richard Haley is a local collector who displayed his fantastic collection at the September historical society meeting. And just when we thought we had seen everything!

The next meeting of the society will be Thursday, December 13th at 7:00 PM at the Pleasant Ridge United Methodist Church. Historian Roger Miller will highlight his new book with a slide presentation of old postcards of the Middletown area which gives us a walk down memory lane. For more information, call 423-4132.

Pumpkin Scones with Spiced Glaze

YIELD: 12 SCONES

For the Scones:

- 2 Cups all-purpose flour
- 7 Tablespoons (T) granulated sugar
- 1 Tn baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves
- ¼ teaspoon ground ginger
- 6 T cold butter
- ½ Cup canned pumpkin
- 3 T half-and-half
- 1 large egg



For the Powdered Sugar Glaze:

- 1 Cup + 1 T powdered sugar
- 2 T milk

For the Spiced Glaze:

- 1 Cup plus 3 T powdered sugar
- 2 T milk
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ⅛ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1 pinch ground ginger
- 1 pinch ground cloves

1. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper; set aside.
2. Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and ginger in a large bowl. Use a fork to cut the butter into the dry ingredients until mixture is crumbly and no chunks of butter are obvious; set aside.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk together the pumpkin, half-and-half and egg. Fold wet ingredients into dry ingredients, and form the dough into a ball. Pat out dough onto a lightly floured surface and form it into a 1-inch thick rectangle about 3 times as long as wide. Use a large knife or a pizza cutter to slice the dough twice through the width, making three equal portions. Cut each of the portions in an X pattern (four pieces) so you end up with 12 triangular slices of dough. Place on prepared baking sheet. Bake for 14-16 minutes, or until light brown. Place on wire rack to cool.
4. To make the powdered sugar glaze, mix the powdered sugar and milk together until smooth. When scones are cool, use a brush to spread plain glaze over the top of each scone.
5. To make the spiced glaze, while the powdered sugar glaze is firming, combine all of the ingredients for the spiced glaze. Drizzle over each scone and allow the icing to dry before serving (about an hour).

Park

By Todd Farler

It's been another great year for the Madison Township Community Park. As we've been continual in our quest for grant monies from various funding sources, we've continued growing our park facilities. The most recent upgrade has been the completed installation of underground utilities; water and electric. The installation of these utilities now allows us to move towards the final goal of constructing a concession stand and permanent restrooms. We should know by early Spring if our recent grant request for the concession stand will be awarded, and if so, it'll be another exciting and busy summer in the park!

We were also fortunate enough to have ANOTHER Eagle Scout give back to his community and add more amenities to our park. Ben Morgan, a sophomore at Madison High School, designed and built three benches and two picnic tables which he placed throughout the wooded area and hiking trails. Congratulations to Ben Morgan on his distinguished accomplishment of becoming an Eagle Scout. You'll see a picture of Ben sitting on one of his benches a few pages into the newsletter.

The Madison Township Historical Society also recently added a few improvements to the log cabin in the park. A wheelchair ramp and railing were added along one side to allow for easier access in to the cabin, and a hand chiseled stagecoach stepping stone (Circa 1850) now sits along the side of the cabin. Public and private tours and showings for the cabin can be made by calling Donna Walter at 423-4132.

Have you noticed the two new park signs on SR 122!



Facilities

in our park now include: Soccer, football, and a baseball fields. Two shelters with picnic tables. An original log cabin, complete with interior period décor. A small fishing pond. A designated playground area with playground equipment. Almost a mile of paved walking paths and over a mile of hiking trails that meander throughout 30 acres of our wooded park.

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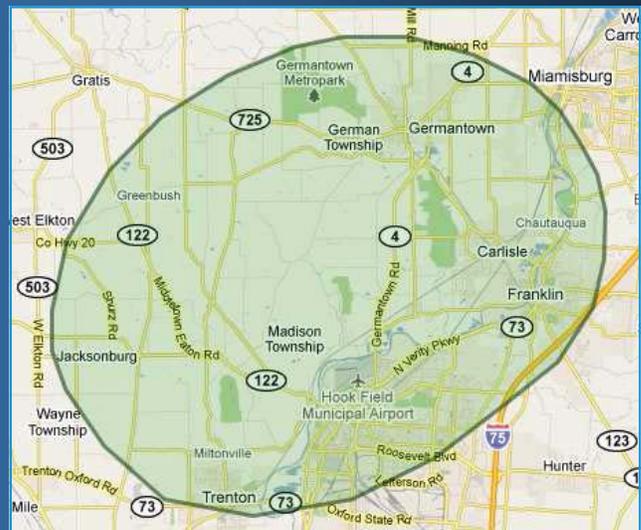
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- West College Corner, IN
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- Springdale, OH
- Trenton, OH



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Fire Department

By Kent Hall, Fire Chief

THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

The Madison Fire Department was established in 1955 with the opening of the South Madison Fire Department located at the intersection of Howe and Elk Creek Roads. The following year in 1956, the North Madison Fire Department was established this located on State Route 4 in Poastown. In the 1970's, the Madison Life Squad (private squad) was established and stationed in a cemetery on State Route 122 near Hursh Road. In the year 2000, the Madison Township Trustees made a decision to join the two fire stations together forming one fire department with one fire chief. For many previous years the two fire stations operated with two fire chiefs, in a sense operating as two separate fire stations. In the year 2006, the private life squad came under the umbrella of the township trustees, thus merging together with the Madison Fire Department. At the present time the Madison Fire Department operates three full service fire stations providing excellent coverage for the 45 square miles of Madison Township.

Do to the recent fire levy that was pasted by our residents, Madison Township fire department has been able to :

- purchase new fire gear.
- purchase new air packs.
- upgrades on the Jaws of Life.
- purchase new fire pagers.
- upgrades to pumps to grass trucks.
- allow addition money for training.

- add additional part time life squad coverage (16 hours) a day from 6AM to 10PM seven days a week.
- recently purchase and receive a new life squad, while remounting the existing box onto a new 2012 Dodge chassis. This remount saved us approximately \$55,000.
- create a 20 year plan showing replacement of all apparatus, this apparatus paid for at the time of purchase.
- create a carry over of monies from year to year, thus allowing room for any unexpected expenses in the fire department.



Three important things to always remember :

- check smoke detectors to make sure they are operating correctly
- have proper house number signs positioned near the roadway for the emergency responders
- check with your insurance agent to make sure you are getting your proper insurance rating, if you are near a hydrant your rating should be a (6), if not then your rating is a (9).



Waste Tire Recycling Event

When: Saturday, November 3, 2012
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Where: Ross High School
3601 Hamilton-Cleves Road
Hamilton, OH 45013

What: Car tires, truck tires and tractor tires
All tire sizes accepted
Tires should be off the rim



This program is open to all Butler County residents free of charge.

For information and directions,
visit www.butlercountyrecycles.org or call 887-3653

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By Larry Helton, Jr.

OutdoorCorner

MADISON TOWNSHIP WILDLIFE

In the years 1779-1780, the Rev. David Zeisberger, a German, Moravian missionary lived at his mission along the Muskingum River here in Ohio.

He kept an extensive journal on the Indians and animals that he observed: "There are three kinds of squirrels, the black, the grey, and the red; deer, bear; elk; buffalo (bison); panther (cougar); wildcat (bobcat); fox - red, grey, black; raccoon; otter; beaver; opossum; pole-cat (skunk); porcupine; marten (or fisher); moose; muskrat; ground squirrel; groundhog; wildcat (lynx); hare (cottontail rabbit & snowshoe hare); white deer (albino); and wolves."

By the time Madison Township was formed from Lemon Township in 1810, the last elk had been killed in c1798 by Robert McClellan and the

last buffalo killed in c1800 by a Fall family ancestor, both along Elk Creek. The horns from this last buffalo in the township lands are on display at the Canal Museum in Middletown. The last buffalo to be killed in the state was in 1803 and the last elk in 1835. Today, a few elk can be seen on a farm along Elk Creek Road near Jacktown.

Another mammal being over-hunted in the township in the 1800s was the black bear. Daniel Mattix killed the last one in c1822, with none remaining in the state by 1850. Black bear but made a comeback in c1981.

Other mammals that have disappeared from not only Madison Township, but from the state of Ohio were cougars by 1836, the last gray wolf killed in 1842, and fishers by 1850.

Mammals that either disappeared and returned or first appeared in Ohio include: beavers, none in the state by 1830, but returned in 1836; bobcats, none in the state by 1850, but returned in the 1950s, they are an endangered species and are protected by state law, of which I spotted one crossing Kalbfliesch Road in 2009; badgers, first appeared in 1882; white-tailed deer, none in the state by 1904, but re-introduced in the 1920s & 1930s; snowshoe hares were gone by the early 1900s, but reintroduced in the year 2000; coyotes first appeared in c1919 and have been reported in every county in Ohio; and lynx were gone from the state by 1960.

Many other mammals live amongst us here in Madison Twp.: foxes, which seem to be more plentiful in 2012 than in recent years; rabbits, which have become mostly nocturnal; raccoons, opossums, skunks, groundhogs, muskrats, mink, bats, chipmunks, and squirrels. There are

six types of squirrels in the township: the gray, the fox, the red, the white (albino), the black, and the flying, which is actually in the majority, but seldom seen since they are nocturnal.

According to Rev. David Zeisberger, in 1799-1780, the black squirrel was "most commonly found". Black squirrels were heavily harvested for their fur, thus making them the minority of the squirrel family today. A large population of black squirrels can be found in the small town of Glendale, just past the Tri-County Mall on State Route 747. The community celebrates this by having several black squirrel statues on the street corners throughout town. A few have been spotted in Madison Township, plus I found a dead one in Woodsdale along Wayne-Madison Road in 2011.

Birds are also highly visible in our township. Aside from the many common birds and songbirds, there are a few worth singling out. At one time passenger pigeons were the most abundant bird in the world, so that the skies were often darkened by the flocks overhead. The last one in the wild was killed in 1900 in Pike County, Ohio and the last one in captivity died in 1914 at the Cincinnati Zoo. Of course there are the owls, the hawks, the vultures, and the occasional grouse or ring-necked pheasants, which were first imported to Ohio in 1896, then again in 1914. The ring-necked pheasant is not a native bird of the United States, but is from China. The wild turkeys were all but gone in Ohio by 1904, but began making a comeback in the 1930s. In recent years their population has been on an upswing, with a 10% increase in 2007, and another major gain in 2008 due to the seventeen-year cicada food supply. After a devastating blow to the bobwhite quail population from the Blizzard of 1978, their call can again be frequently heard.

Along the Great Miami River one can usually spot a great blue heron along the shallows, Canadian geese in abundance, a variety of ducks, and the double-crested cormorant. These cormorants are waterfowl that were common in the Lake Erie region in the 1880s, but not again until the 1990s, and can now be found in the Great Miami and Little Miami River corridors.

Lastly, our national bird, the bald eagle, returned to Southwestern Ohio in the 1970s. In the last couple of years, bald eagles have been spotted along the Great Miami River outside of Trenton, near the wastewater treatment plant at Excello, along Hinkle Road here in the township, and a possible nest in a distant tree line on Woodsdale Road.

Many of our animals were over-hunted before laws set parameters and limits, others suffered due to chemicals and pollution, but also deforestation played a major role. By 1900, the state had gone from 95% forestation to 10%. Today we are increasing and are presently 33% forested, with many species of animals returning. There are also a variety of reptiles, amphibians, fish, insects, and other creatures not to be overlooked. In Madison Township, aside from the many miles and acres we drive by each day, there are public wildlife viewing opportunities at the Madison Township Community Park, Sebald Park, Woodsdale Regional Park, and on the Miami Conservancy Lands along the Great Miami River.



Sweet Sounds

By Katherine Duffey Krynak

of Summer

SUMMER-TIME IN MADISON

As a child I spent many of my summer days riding my bicycle back and forth from home to Weatherwax Golf Course, listening to the chorus of cricket frogs calling from the ponds of the greens. The males of the species sing a song that sounds much like two stones being tapped together, and still today this species can be heard in many of the roadside ponds of Madison Township. This is interesting because this same species has been in dramatic decline across the northern portions of its range over the past 30 years. As a PhD Candidate at Case Western Reserve University, I am studying this species in effort to understand why some amphibian populations are thriving while others are declining to extinction. My studies focus on the immune defenses of these frogs and how the environment may be altering how effective these defenses are against disease.

You may be asking yourself, Why should I care if amphibians are disappearing? To answer this, let's examine the scope of the problem. According to the IUCN (The World Conservation Union) nearly 1/2 of the world's described amphibians are threatened by extinction. This extinction crisis is happening at a rate that has been compared to the disappearance of the dinosaurs (2700 times the background extinction rate). Can you imagine a world without amphibians? Of course we would miss the sweet sounds of peeps, trills, dinks, and bonks, but what may be more noticeable is the not-so-



Volunteer Frog Wranglers Rebekah Lenos and Sarah Wolfe at the Williamson Pond. Photo by Katherine Duffey Krynak



Madison Township Community Park Pond, just the right amount of aquatic and emergent vegetation for a hopping cricket frog population. Photo by Katherine Duffey Krynak

sweet sounds of biting insects as they get louder and louder. Without amphibians to feed upon them, insect populations are likely to increase, possibly leading to an increase of insect born disease in humans and livestock.

Additionally, amphibians are often referred to as the cold and slimy version of the canary in the coal mine. Because amphibians breathe and drink through their skin, they can tell us much about the health of our environment and warn us of trouble ahead.

By studying ways in which the environment may alter the immune defenses of amphibians we may be able to better conserve these species, and in turn protect ourselves. I would like to thank the Madison Township Administrator Todd Farler, Gary and Diana Williamson, John Mynheir, Rebekah and Lisa Lenos, Sarah Wolfe, Gary Sturgis, and Robert and Patricia Duffey for their assistance with these studies.

Acris crepitans, the Northern Cricket Frog. Photo by Tim Krynak



Township Funding

TAXES - Tax money is distributed to townships through the collection of inside millage, levies, motor and lodging taxes. Townships are primarily funded through property taxes levied on real property within the township.

INSIDE MILLAGE - The Ohio Constitution prohibits taxes on property in excess of 1% of true value without voter approval (Article XII, Section 2). Actual implementation of this amendment involved the creation of a statutory limit of ten mills. Apportionment of those ten mills followed a formula by which each local government received two-thirds of the taxes allowed to it under a previous system. Townships usually have somewhere between 1 and 2½ unvoted mills. Generally, unvoted mills are used for general fund purposes. Some townships have divided the millage into two funds: general fund and road and bridge fund.

LEVIES - When a board of township trustees votes to collect revenue in excess of the ten mill limitation, a levy must be put before the residents of the township for a vote. Ohio Revised Code Section 5705.19 lists all of the different purposes for which a township may levy a tax in excess of the ten mill limitation.

Pass along taxes, such as the motor vehicle license tax or the hotel bed tax, may be implemented by a majority vote of the board of township trustees but both are subject to referendum by township residents.

ADDITIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE TAX - Pursuant to ORC §4504.18, a township may levy an annual \$5 motor vehicle license plate tax for the purposes of paying the costs of construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance and repair of township roads, bridges, cost and maintenance of traffic control devices, purchase and maintenance of township road equipment and the construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance and repair of township road buildings.

LODGING TAX - Ohio Revised Code §5739.08 permits a township to levy an excise tax up to 3% on guests that stay at a lodging facility located within the township. The revenue received from this specific lodging tax may be placed in a township's general fund for use on any lawful township purpose. In addition, townships may impose an "additional" lodging excise tax of up to 3% under authority granted by ORC §5739.09(B)(1); however, this "additional" tax may not be imposed if the county has already imposed a lodging tax under authority provided by ORC §5739.09(A)(1).

FIXED FUNDING

Fixed funding, for purposes of this document, are monies the Ohio Revised Code provides the authority for townships to collect. They require a limited amount of work on the township's part. These funds include the Local Government Fund, motor vehicle license fees, gasoline tax, TPP reimbursement, public utility taxes, the estate tax, solid waste and C&DD host community fees, Cigarette license and liquor permit fees.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (LGF) - Ohio's Local Government Fund (LGF) was established by the General Assembly in 1934. The LGF was created during the peak of the Great Depression, when many local governments were experiencing severe

financial difficulties. The LGF has undergone many changes since its inception, but the basic elements of the program have remained constant over the years: a designated portion of state revenues are deposited into the LGF; a formula is used to allocate the monies to the county undivided local government fund in each Ohio county; and county budget commissions authorize and determine the distribution to local governments. Townships use this money to offset operational costs and fund unfunded mandates.

MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE FEE - The state imposes several motor vehicle license fees upon owners of motor vehicles. The revenue the state receives from these various fees are collected and credited to the state's auto registration distribution fund. The state creates an account for each county and district of registration of the state, including townships. Of the total amount collected and deposited into the fund, not withstanding some prohibitions listed in ORC §4S01.03, 5% is distributed to townships. The township pot is divided based on a percentage of the total number of miles of township roads in the state and the township's number of miles of road maintained. When buying or renewing your license plates, remember to tell the License Bureau that you live in Madison Township and not Middletown. This assures us that our allotment comes back to Madison Township.

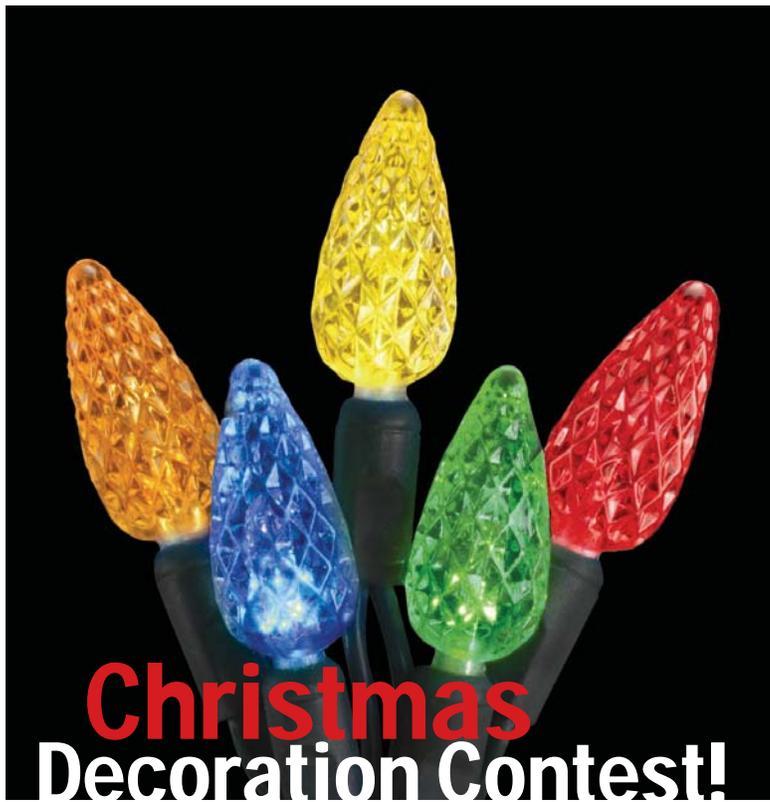
GASOLINE TAX - The General Assembly adopted the first gasoline tax in 1925. The revenue collected from the tax is apportioned to state agencies and for use by counties, municipalities and townships. The tax is actually comprised of five separate statutory levies that have been enacted over the years. Townships receive a portion of proceeds from three of the five motor fuel tax levies. All told, townships receive about 1.9 ¢ or 6.8% of the total 28¢ per gallon motor fuel tax to maintain the 41,387 miles of township roads. The Ohio Constitution and state law require that any revenue received from any of the gasoline taxes be used only for expenditures on roads and bridges.

TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT - Although phased out for most taxpayers in 2009, the tax base of tangible personal property (TPP) is property located and used in business in Ohio, including machinery, equipment and inventories. Telephone companies and internet exchange telecommunications companies continued to pay TPP taxes through tax year 2010. Townships were reimbursed for the loss of tax revenue due to the elimination of the TPP tax. Replacement payments are based on levies approved prior to September 1, 2005 and TPP values that existed as of August 31, 2005. As township revenues have decreased since 2005, replacement payments have increased in order to hold townships "harmless" on qualifying levies through fiscal year 2011. Replacement payments to townships will begin to decline in fiscal year 2012 until fiscal year 2018 (fiscal year 2019 for telephone property), when townships will receive no replacement payments.

PUBLIC UTILITY PROPERTY TAX - Public utilities are still subject to the taxation on TPP. Public utilities include electric, rural electric, natural gas, pipeline, water works, water transportation and heating. For most public utilities, the personal property tax base consists of all TPP owned and located in Ohio on December 31 of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

MADISON TOWNSHIP ESTABLISH 1810



We are having our Christmas Decoration contest again this year in Madison Township!

Any Madison Township residents can enter the competition by simply sending in their name, address, and phone number to ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com or by calling us at 424-0821. Your phone number will be used only to confirm your entry and will not be made public. The judging of the decorations will be done by residents at our website: www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com. We're asking that each person only vote one time. To vote, simply go throughout the township and view the entries, then go to our website and cast a vote for your favorite decorations! The website voting will be up and running sometime in early December.

If you'd like to have your house entered, make sure that your decorations are in place before December 10th, as the deadline for entry submission is December 10th.

Once all the entries are received by December 10th, a listing of the addresses will be sent out via our Notification List and posted on our website. If you would like to be added to our Notification List, simply go to our website and click on the link directly below the picture of the Administration building.

Voting will begin on December 12th and will last until December 30th. That should give everyone plenty of time to get out and see decorations in the weeks leading up to Christmas. The winner will be announced in early January and a picture of the winning decorations will also be included in our next newsletter!

Help build a sense of unity and support in our township by showcasing your Christmas decorations, and by voting for your favorite decorations!

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Calendar

WANT YOUR PICTURE IN THE NEXT CALENDAR?

By now, everyone should have received their 2012-2013 township/school calendars. If not, or if you would like additional calendars, please contact our office as we still have some remaining copies.

For the next calendar, we'll again be using pictures submitted by the residents of Madison! Any resident can submit a picture as long as the picture is taken inside of Madison Township. We'll need seasonal pictures to make the calendar complete, so don't forget those beautiful sunrises and sunsets over your back yard, the frosty look of the first snowfall, or the wild flowers as they begin to bloom in spring! It can be pictures of your child at school, a school activity, or in any activity/event in the township or school district. Maybe the nearby creek, an old farm wagon sitting in the field, or the wild life wandering across your back yard.

Here are the official rules and guidelines:

- Photos taken in 2012 or later are suitable for the 2013-2014 calendars. Photos from all seasons are encouraged, so take your pictures throughout the year.
- Please submit only photographs, either color or black and white. Printed photos should be unmounted, 5" x 7" (or larger) professionally processed photos. Please do not submit photos printed

on a home computer or photo printer as these are unsuitable for reproduction. Digital versions of photos are highly encouraged but are not required. Please submit digital photos in JPEG or TIFF format with a resolution of at least 300 dpi and 7" on the longest dimension.

- Photos become the property of Madison Township once they have been submitted. We are sorry that we are unable to return photos. Whenever possible, the original layout of the photo will be maintained. Madison Township reserves the right to crop photos to fit the calendar format. It is for this reason that horizontally oriented photos are strongly encouraged, but not required.
- The contest is open to all residents of Madison Township. Photos taken outside of Madison Township limits will be disqualified.
- No compensation will be offered to the winning photographers. All photos submitted may be used elsewhere by the township. Winning entries will be used in the 2013-2014 calendars.
- Please submit your photos by July 15, 2013. Digital photos should be e-mailed to ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com. You can also mail your photos to Madison Township Administration, 5610 West Alexandria Road, Middletown, OH 45042. If mailing, please mark your envelope to the attention of: Calendar Photo Contest.
- Please print your name clearly on the back of the photo or digital medium. There is no limit to the number of photos you may submit. Please be sure to include your name, address, phone, e-mail, photo title, and the location where the photo was taken with your entry. Printable entry forms are available on our website: www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com for those mailing or dropping off files.
- Get a fresh pack of batteries and start taking pictures throughout the year!

CALENDAR PHOTO - ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Location (where photo was taken) _____

Approximate date when photo was taken _____

Photo Caption or Name of Photo _____

Comments _____

I understand that upon submission, this photo becomes the property of the Township of Madison. I hereby grant permission to the Township of Madison to use this photo at its discretion, with no compensation to me or to any of the subjects in the photo. When the photo is of identifiable people, I have obtained the permission of those in the photo to submit this photo for use by Madison Township.

Signed _____ Date _____

Mail your entry to: Calendar Photo, Madison Township, 5610 West Alexandria Road, Middletown, Ohio 45042. Or email your photo to Todd Farler at toddF@madisontownshiponline.com. Please include all the information requested above in your email. Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi at 5" x 7".

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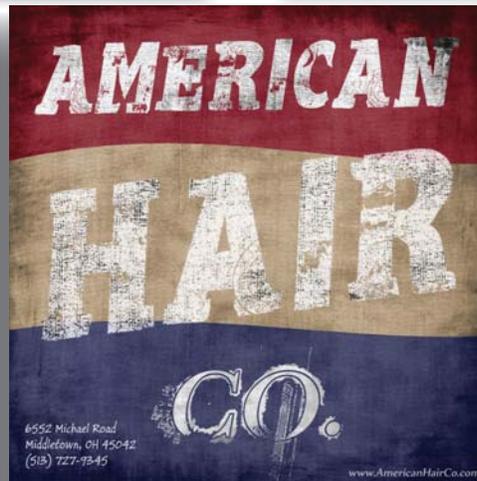
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Jody Cole • Jenny Stewart • Mary Russell Brumfield

TOWNSHIP FUNDING CONTUNIED FROM PAGE 18.

the preceding year. Tax rates vary by taxing township and are the sum of all levies for the township in which the property is located or to which it is apportioned. After local administrative deductions, revenue is distributed to townships according to the taxable values and total millage levied.

ESTATE TAX - Estates of Ohio residents with a net taxable value over \$338,333 are subject to the state's estate tax law. Townships receive 80% of the revenue generated from the estate tax, while the remaining 20% is deposited into the state's general revenue fund. Townships use this revenue for capital investments such as new road or fire vehicles or improvements to a township building or park. Funds are also used to maintain a quality level of basic governmental services such as road repair, police, fire and emergency medical services.

KILOWATT HOUR AND NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION TAXES - These taxes were created to replace revenues lost due to tax changes made by Senate Bill 3 and Senate Bill 287 (123rd General Assembly). Since 2002, townships have received "replacement" revenues in the form of payments from this tax. The kWh and Mcf taxes were originally designed to generate the amount of money that was "lost" due to other tax changes made by SB 3 and SB 287. The amount of money needed to replace the revenue that townships lost was deposited into the Local Replacement Fund. Initially, the amount distributed to each township was based solely on the amount of money that each lost due to tax changes made by the two bills. Since 2007, these "direct replacement" payments have begun to be phased-out and will continue until 2016, after which time these payments will be eliminated. At the same time, while replacement payments are starting to phase out, a new distribution method is being phased in. Starting in August 2007, townships began to receive distributions of "surplus" revenues, which is the amount of money left over in the Local Replacement Fund after the payments have been made but the distribution is based on a different formula. In 2017, townships will receive revenue from the Local Replacement Fund based solely on the new formula.

SOLID WASTE COMMUNITY HOST FEE - For the purposes of defraying the added costs to a township of maintaining roads and other public facilities and providing emergency and other public services, a township in which such a solid waste disposal facility is located may levy a fee of not more than 25¢ per ton on the disposal of solid wastes at the facility. All revenue collected from this fee is to be deposited into the township's general fund pursuant to ORC §3734.57 (C).

CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS COMMUNITY HOST FEE - Similar to solid waste law, ORC §3714.07 (C) permits a township in which a construction and demolition debris (C&DD) facility is located to levy a C&OD host community fee of up to 4¢ per cubic yard or up to 8¢ per ton of the disposal fee required to be paid by the facility. Money received shall be paid into the township's general fund and may be used for the same purposes as the solid waste community host fee.

CIGARETTE LICENSE FEE - Ohio levies a charge on every person desiring to engage in the wholesale or retail business of trafficking in cigarettes. The township in which the charge originates shall receive 37.5% of the total wholesaler fees and 62.5% of the total retailer fees.

LIQUOR PERMIT FEE - Similar to the cigarette tax, a township that has liquor permit establishments located within the unincorporated territory are entitled to receive 35% of the undivided liquor permit fund, which is comprised of all liquor permit fees, except B8-2a and S permit fees from B-2a and S permit holders who do not also hold A-2 permits.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS - In addition to the above funding, townships receive help from a limited number of state and federal grants and donations from residents, local businesses and/or foundations.



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FunFact

MADISON TOWNSHIP

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