

MADISON TOWNSHIP

WWW.MADISONTOWNSHIPONLINE.COM

From Fiction TO FEATURE FILMS

By Ana Sulentic, *Madison High School Student*

While at Madison High School, Denise Hunter was a cheerleader, drill/flag corp co-captain, member of National Honor Society, and class Treasurer. Now, she is the author of more than twenty five books, is happily married with three sons, and resides in Indiana. Although she had always loved to read and write it wasn't until 1996 when her grandfather passed away that she began writing her first novel. Inspiration can come from many things, but for Denise her grandfather's passing was a message that, "life doesn't last forever" and that it was time for her to go after her dream. Two years later Hunter published her first book and has been writing ever since.

She says that Madison schools prepared her and gave her the educational foundation needed to succeed in her career. As a successful writer Denise represents and carries through her books many of the small community values we still see present today. Almost all of her stories are set in small towns and include many Christian aspects. Since she was raised in a Christian home faith has a large presence in her stories and provides a base for characters to grow throughout the course of the novels. Hunter says her family is a huge inspiration in her work and finds little pieces of them in different stories. Her novels are "contemporary romance with women's fiction elements" and she says they always have a happy ending.

Do you have any advice for students who may be interested in becoming a writer? Read, read, read. And while you're reading, figure out what makes the book work—or not work. How is a scene constructed? Why do I like or dislike this character? Why is the pace dragging? Pay attention in English class, and ask your teachers for feedback. Attend local workshops or conferences, and don't forget to do the actual work . . . writing. You don't need a particular degree to write a novel. Publishers don't care if you have a masters degree; they only want to know if you can tell a gripping story. That said, it's always a good idea to have a Plan B. It took me years to make a living wage, and many authors never do.



What is your favorite thing

about being a writer? It's hard to choose just one! It's very rewarding to hear from a reader that your words impacted their life or caused them to change in some way. That's probably the best thing. But I also enjoy working independently, taking research trips with my husband, and building relationships within the industry.

Two of your books, *The Convenient Groom* and *A December Bride*, were made into Hallmark movies last year. What can you tell us about that?

Last year was a somebody-pinch-me kind of year! I think every novelist dreams of having a book made into a movie—I certainly did. But having it happen twice in one year was really a God thing. My publisher pitched the two books to a producer, who decided to option them. Then she sold them to Hallmark. My husband and I got to go on set for *A December Bride*, and we even have a little cameo toward the end of the movie. It was pretty amazing watching the scenes I'd written come to life.

Are you currently working on a new book? I have a book due every six months, so I'm always working on a book. My next release is *Blue Ridge Sunrise* (Nov. 6, 2017), and the one after that is *Honeysuckle Dreams* (May 1, 2018). Both are already written, and I'm now working on my Nov '18 release. **MT**

YOUR Township Administrator...



By **Todd Farler,**

Madison Township Administrator

Do you know...

- Over 50 % of the Madison Township residents enrolled in the Madison Township Electric Aggregation, making us the highest percentage aggregation township in Ohio! Members of the aggregations are receiving a generation charge of only .0529KhW, which is a significant saving over what some were paying. You can still join the aggregation by calling 1-877-861-2772. There is no enrollment fee or early termination fee. It's just a simple way for you to save money every month!
- If you're 62 years or older, you can call Rumpke at 513-851-0122 and request a senior citizen discount of approximately \$2 per month on your trash collection fee
- We received approximately 2000 tires during the three day tire recycling event in September. We took in everything from bicycle training tires, to car and truck tires, to dragster racing tires, to semi-truck tires! Not only was this a great environmental benefit to our township, but aesthetically it helped clean up tires around the barns, garages, and ditch lines. And, we gave out almost 400 free township t-shirts! We'll be hosting another tire recycling event in the spring of 2018. This past event and the spring event were made possible by a grant we received from the Ohio EPA

and Butler County Solid Waste and Recycling. Look for another mailer in your mailbox this coming spring!

- We hosted our first Movie in the Park Night in August of this year and had a good turnout, including popcorn and drinks. It's a wonderful way to spend quality family time in a great environment, and get to see a family movie for free! We've recently applied for a grant that would allow the township to purchase its own A/V equipment, thereby allowing us to host numerous free movies in the park throughout the year!
- Madison Township has its own Facebook page! Find us under Madison Township of Butler County. We post public notices, road closures, weather alerts, township events, and information pertaining to county events that you may find beneficial.
- Madison Township residents will have the opportunity to begin curbside recycling this year! You'll find more information further into the newsletter and you'll be receiving a mailer directly from Rumpke. To participate, you must be a customer of Rumpke trash collection, BUT we need at least 30% of these customers to sign up for the recycling bins. It's only \$4 a month and the first three months are FREE! No more having to load and unload your recyclables into your car or truck to bring them to the township building. Just set it at your curb once a week and Rumpke will come by and pick it up! **MT**

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www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

TOWNSHIP CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES ALWAYS CALL911

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

Fire Station 151 (Elk Creek Road)..... 513-988-9124

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Butler Rural Electric Cooperative.....	513-867-4400
Southwest Regional Water.....	800-232-5330
Duke Energy.....	800-634-4300
Dayton Power and Light.....	937-224-6000
Middletown Public Library	513-424-1251

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.

Thomas Hall
Trustee



A STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP...

Hello! In the last few months, our township has stayed busy with lots of new and exciting things. For starters, in the last month we had our first movie night at our townships own community park. This event was a great success with lots of families attending. This gives us great enthusiasm to carry this event on to the spring time. We also just finished up a tire amnesty event where over 2,000 tires were recycled in a three day period. WOW! Speaking to recycling, we are excited to announce that our township has the amazing opportunity to bring recycling to every household in Madison Township. More details will be later in this newsletter.

As far as our road department, we have had a great year thus far. With Madison being one of the largest townships (land wise) in the state, our road crew keeps busy day in and day out. They do a tremendous job for our community, and myself included, cannot thank them enough for the work they do.

In regards to our Fire Dept., they have never been busier. Call volumes for the life squad are up over approximately 15% for this year alone. Each and every day I grow more and more thankful to have such an amazing fire and life squad department in our

community. These are people just like us, who are just as involved with our school district and sports teams. If you see any of our personnel out, say hi, thank them!

Last but certainly not least. Our townships over the last several weeks have endured multiple car break ins. These break ins have not been targeted, as they have spanned the entire township. I have met and stayed in touch with the Sheriff's office who continues to go out each and every day to catch these criminals. Riding with some of the deputies, I have seen first-hand what they deal with. Their job is in no way easy, yet each day they sacrifice their lives for the protection of our people. Please remember, to keep outdoor cars locked, have outdoor night lighting installed, and most importantly, to always call if you hear or feel like there is someone outside.

I hope everyone can join us at our upcoming trustee meetings, which takes place on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., at our township building. If any of you has any questions or problems, please feel free to contact myself or any of us from the township. God Bless each and every one of you! **MT**



Butler County
OHIO
RECYCLING AND SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
513-887-3653

WASTE TIRE RECYCLING EVENT

WHEN: Saturday, November 4, 2017
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

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

WHAT: Car tires, truck tires or tractor tires

- 10 Tire Limit per household
- Open to Butler County residents only
- Large quantities of tires will **not** be accepted - No exceptions

For large quantities of tires contact Rumpke 742-2900 or Liberty Tire (614) 871-8097

Township History

By J. Larry Helton, Jr.

MADISON TOWNSHIP TRIBUTES

We are a society of individuals who erect and display monuments, statues, plaques, and signs of people, places, events, achievements, or items of historical significance to honor, mark, or memorialize. Lately in the news there has been controversy over the display and removal of Confederate monuments. The closet Confederate monument in relation to Madison Township was over in Franklin Township. It was one honoring Robert E. Lee and the Dixie Highway. It has been removed for the time being and is to be relocated to another place and at another time. In Madison Township there are many memorials that contribute to the history of Madison Township and its people. Here are the locations and reasons for those memorials.

- **Madison Township Administration Building, 5610 West Alexandria Road:** At the front entrance, a plaque upon a boulder reads: "This monument is dedicated in the memory of those who worked for and served in Madison Township – Merle Creekbaum, Carlos Glenn, Brian Bowling"
- **Madison Township Community Park, 5610 West Alexandria Road:** Blanton Cabin circa 1833 that was moved from No Mans Road and restored by the Historical Society of Madison Township; a millstone from the David Banker mill circa 1819 that was on the Great Miami River at Poasttown; and a carriage step that was used along Crawford Street in Middletown during the days of horse drawn transportation in the 1800s.
- **Madison Local Schools, 1324 Middletown-Eaton Road:** (Larry) Brandenburg Field; A. David Thaeler MSC Ball Diamonds; and at the front of the gazebo at the high school



MADISON TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



ELK CREEK CEMETERY



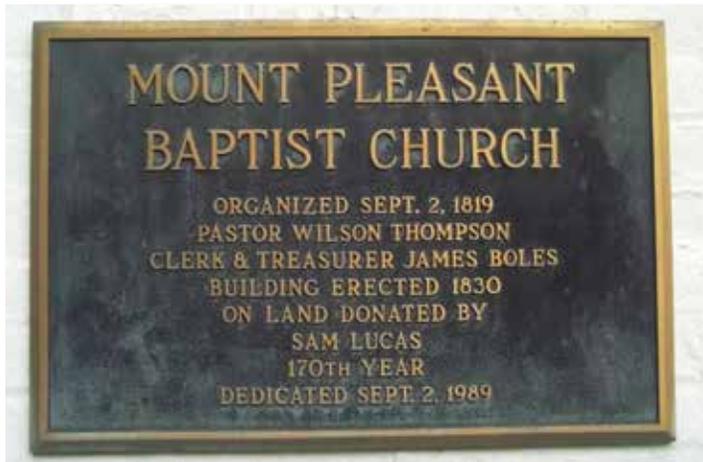
ROBERT LEDFORD MEMORIAL (FIRE STATION 152)

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are brick name pavers honoring those students and staff members who lost their lives while attending or employed with the school district.

- **Along State Route 122**, after crossing the bridge from Middletown and before crossing the railroad tracks into West Middletown, are two signs honoring the school district's state champions and teams in basketball, wrestling, track, and golf.
- **Elk Creek Cemetery, State Route 122:** At the rear of the cemetery in an open area can be found a dated cornerstone from the Zion Evangelical Reformed Church built in 1848. It was later used by the local Grange and upon wanting more room, attempted to dig a basement, which caused the building to collapse. The building was then rebuilt a little to the east in 1921.
- **Fire Station 152, 6415 Middletown-Germantown Rd., Poasttown:** Originally this building was Poasttown School #6 from 1857 to 1937. The school bell is in the memorial for Robert J. Ledford, who was the owner of the grocery store and gas station that now houses Flower by Nancy. Mr. Ledford was shot and killed during a hold-up in 1978. The large pine tree in front of the station is marked with a plaque: "In memory of John "Too Tall" Sebald for his dedication to the Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department from 1971-1996 "God Bless You John"".
- **Poasttown First Church of God, 6376 Middletown-Germantown Road, Poasttown:** The fellowship hall signage reads: "Wallace Hall, Dedicated in loving memory of our Pastor Randy Wallace 1993-2009". Pastor Wallace passed away from cancer in 2009 at the age of 50.



MOUNT PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH

- **Mount Pleasant Baptist Church and Cemetery, off Thomas Road:** The plaque between the church doors reads: "Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Organized Sept. 2, 1819, Pastor Wilson Thompson, Clerk & Treasurer James Boles, Building erected 1830 on land donated by Sam Lucas, 170th Year, Dedicated Sept. 3, 1989" and a plaque on a boulder reads: "Sidewalk & Ramp Made Possible by Contributions of Charles & Gretchen Zander, August 23, 1989".



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By Alan Cady

WHY YOU SHOULD GIVE A HOOT ABOUT OWLS

We all have heard their familiar calls at night, perhaps startling you or cutting short a conversation. They are birds of legend and superstition and have been regarded as pests. Owls are our common woodland and countryside companions, but they also venture into residential areas and parks. I thought that sharing a few facts about owls would help you understand and appreciate these birds of lore and legend for what they are, efficient birds of prey which help control rodent populations.

OWLS IN GENERAL

There are 215 species of owls in the world, belonging to their own order, the Strigiformes. Almost all are nocturnal (night-active) and usually nest in cavities. Some are small and secretive, but others are relatively large and powerful. They possess very strong talons which they use to trap and subdue their prey, [insert talon image] and their feathers are specially adapted with a fringed edge to permit silent flight. Their large eyes gather much light (very handy if you're flying through the woods at night). They are one of the few birds which have their eyes facing forward (providing them binocular vision, like us), but they are fixed in their sockets. Thus, owls must move their whole head to shift their gaze. As a result they have very flexible necks (rotating 270° vs. our 90°) allowing them to literally look over their backs.



GREAT HORNED OWL TALONS

Owls have one of the most acute senses of hearing among animals. The Great Grey Owl may hear the movements of a vole under 3 feet of snow. The ears of many owls are situated at distinctly different levels on the sides of their skulls, enabling very accurate triangulation of sound to locate their prey.



BARRED OWL

Furthermore, the familiar 'disc' shaped face of many owls acts like a parabolic antenna to gather and concentrate sounds, relaying that information to their ears. They then swoop down silently from their perch.

Cryptic coloration (camouflaging) is found in most owls. This allows them to blend-into their background environments very well, which is why it is difficult to see owls when they don't want to be seen. The hunting strategy for many owls is to sit silently in a tree, scanning the ground for sounds. They move their heads to

Continued on page 11.

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Alumni

ALUMNI HALL AND CLASS PHOTO PROJECT

In August, Madison Local School District held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Alumni Hall and Class Photo Project in the Madison Jr/Sr High School. The project includes decade boards featuring the class composite photos from 1961 through last year's graduating class. The project itself was several years in the making and ultimately made possible through a generous donation from Dr. Dawn (Blanton) Henderson, Madison Class of '75. Dr. Henderson was one of several alumni who represented their graduating decade at the ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony.



Upcoming Dates

OCTOBER 26 – 3:30-6:30PM

FAFSA Help Night – MJSHS Media Center

NOVEMBER 10 – 1:30PM

MES Veteran's Day Assembly

NOVEMBER 17-19

Fall Play – "Christmas Chaos"

NOVEMBER 22

No School-Conference Exchange Day

NOVEMBER 23-24

Thanksgiving Break

Follow Madison Local School District on Social Media

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 www.twitter.com/MadisonMohawk

 Instagram: #GoodtoBeaMohawk



MADISON LOCAL SCHOOLS

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Homecoming 2017



SENIOR CLASS OF 2018:

Hannah Hicks,
Dominic Wnek,
Madi Porter,
AJ Brinley,
Ana Sulentic,
Clayton Asher,
Connor Lovely,
Damon Stepp,
Patience Schenck,
Stephen Watts,
Sy Beachler,
Levi Wilson,
Lacey Charles,
Zach Banks



QUEEN AND KING

Ana Sulentic and Levi Wilson



**FRESHMEN
CLASS OF 2021:**

Brogan Babcock,
Paige Porter,
Shayla Fleming,
Ethan Adams

**SOPHOMORE
CLASS OF 2020:**

Hunter Burnett,
Kenzi Saunders,
Shelby Howse,
Brenden Payne



**JUNIOR CLASS
OF 2019:**

Cole Pelgen,
Danielle Wagner,
Cai Ratliff,
Dylan Roll



Madison Township *Will You Recycle?*

Madison Township wants curbside recycling service available for its residents and if enough households pledge to participate the service could be offered early next year.

The township recently reached out to the Butler County Recycling & Solid Waste District, as well as Rumpke, to learn the requirements for establishing curbside recycling services for the residents of Madison Township. To make the service economical, Rumpke needs a commitment from 30 percent of the township's residents to participate. If enough households sign-up, curbside recycling will be offered weekly on Fridays, at a rate of \$4 per month.* Residents that choose to participate will be provided with a 65-gallon, wheeled recycling cart or a small 18-gallon bin. You must be a Rumpke residential trash customer to be eligible for the recycling service.

To encourage residents to participate, Butler County Recycling & Solid Waste District has graciously agreed to pay for the first three months of recycling services!

3 FREE MONTHS to get you started!

- Watch your mailboxes soon for the Rumpke promotional mailer for all the details!
- Call the Madison Township Administration building for questions: **(513) 424-0821**

Following items are accepted in Rumpke's curbside & drop box recycling programs:

- Plastic bottles and jugs (please empty, flatten and reattach the lid)
- Cartons
- Glass bottles and jars
- Aluminum and steel cans
- Empty aerosol cans (with lids and tips removed)
- Paperboard (cereal boxes, 12-pack containers, etc.)
- Cardboard
- Paper products, including:
 - Office paper
 - Newspaper
 - Magazines
 - Junk mail and envelopes
 - Telephone books
 - Paper grocery bags



All items should be placed in recycling containers loose. For more information on recycling, visit www.rumpke.com.

*The cost to recycle helps offset the cost of curbside collection and hauling.

Remember **we need a minimum of 30 percent of residents to participate or the program will not be implemented!**

A BIG special thank you goes out to Butler County Recycling and Solid Waste for stepping in to help offset the initial 3 months cost of kicking off our recycling program! There will be no cost to you for the first 3 months!



Continued from page 6.

center the sounds and identify what it might be. They then follow that path to its source.

Owls swallow their smaller food items whole and the digestion processes leave bones, fur, and feathers as an undigested 'pellet' which is regurgitated. These pellets are valuable because you may tell exactly what the owl has been eating by breaking open the pellet and identifying the remains.

Often when an owl is discovered at a daytime roost by other birds or especially crows (there is no love lost between owls and crows), they all start calling loudly, summoning others from a distance. Soon a large group of frantically calling birds assembles, which is termed 'mobbing' (this also occurs with other birds of prey). Great Horned Owls are a favorite target, and you may find an owl during the day by locating the mob. The owl often tries to escape, but the mob usually follows until the owl is driven away.

You may locate owls on your own by imitating or playing recordings of their calls. They are territorial, and often respond to your calls since they are curious who this 'new' interloper may be. You also may find their pellets at the base of a tree where they are nesting.



EASTER SCREECH OWL

OUR OWLS

There are 19 'regular' species of owls recorded for North America, and 12 have been recorded in Ohio, making this a good state for owls! There are three species that are common in our area, the Eastern Screech Owl (*Megascops asio*), the Barred Owl (*Strix varia*), and the Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*). Let's take a look at each of them.

EASTERN SCREECH OWL

This is the most common owl in Ohio, and is a small-ish owl, about the size of a robin. They are one of the may 'eared' owls which means they have tufts of feathers on either side on top of their heads that look like ears (they are not ears). They come in two color phases, red and gray, the latter being most common. They are fairly common in woodlands, the edges of open country, and even residential areas, cemeteries, and parks. They prefer cavities to nest in, and often occupy old flicker cavities or nest boxes for larger birds. You can attract Screech Owls by placing nest boxes on larger trees. They have the most varied diet of any owl around, eating everything from other birds to fish.

These little owls will be mobbed by other birds too, but not by crows and jays, but the smaller songbirds in the area (chickadees, titmice, nuthatches). Following this group of agitated birds is good way to pinpoint the owl. Screech owl vocalizations are not so much of a 'screech' but a wavering, almost unearthly descending, trilling whistle (similar to a 'whinny') or a steady trill. If one of these owls unexpectedly calls and you're not expecting it (being out there alone in the dark woods), it can give you a start! They are curious birds, and I've had them gather in close-by trees to watch me working in the woods at night.

Continued on page 13.

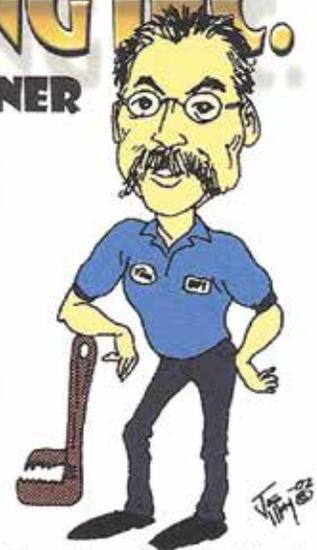
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Continued from page 11.

BARRED OWL

This is also a fairly common owl in our woods. They are much larger than Screech Owls, approaching the height of a Great Horned Owl, but not nearly as heavy as the latter. They do not have 'ear tufts', but do have a prominent facial disc. They are the only common owl in Ohio with dark eyes (other owls' are yellow; Barn owls also have dark eyes but are uncommon), and they have a 'barred' chest and breast.

They like to live in more mature, unbroken woodlands with older trees providing them nesting cavities. They like swampy woods with ravines and similar topography. Barred Owls often are active in late afternoon, and may be heard calling in the daytime. Their typical call is 9 notes 'Who cooks for you, Who cooks for you all', with the 'all' at the end being a lower note. They respond well to calling back at them, but be patient and observant. They fly silently and will sit and watch you for many minutes without you knowing. These owls are famous for calling back-and-forth at each other with a variety of raucous hoots, screams, chuckles, and other caterwauling that could tingle your spine. These exchanges may go on for many minutes.

GREAT HORNED OWL

This is by far the largest and most powerful owl living here with us. They are bigger than crows, with large yellow eyes and prominent, widely-spaced 'ear tufts'. The second most common owl in our area, they occupy a variety of habitats from woods to open country, urban parks to scrub areas. Their favorite habitat is a mosaic of meadows, marshes, and woodlots, similar to what humans have produced in our area.

They are active only at night and rarely seen during the day

except when mobbed by other birds. They are known to take a large variety of prey from large insects to woodchucks. Rabbits a favorite, and they are one of the few predators which will capture skunks! As with most birds, owls are anosmic (have no sense of smell) so a skunk's main defense does not bother them. In fact, one way to locate a Great Horned's nest is by smell. If you sense skunk smell up in a tree, it's probably a GHO's nest. Another thing to keep in mind is that domestic cats are exactly in the prey size range of the Great Horned Owl, giving them a common name of 'Cat Owl'.

The call of the Great Horned Owl is familiar, and has earned it the name 'hoot-owl' in many areas. It is 5 notes 'whooh whoohoooo whooh whooh', with second and third notes spaced close together and the last two notes drawn-out a little. Sometime it is shortened to the last 2-3 notes. They will respond to calls, but not like the Barred Owl.

I hope that you now know a little more about these interesting and important birds. You may easily find recordings of their calls online (the Cornell University Ornithology Lab is good). They are a significant part of our local ecosystem and also are a companion when outdoors. **MT**



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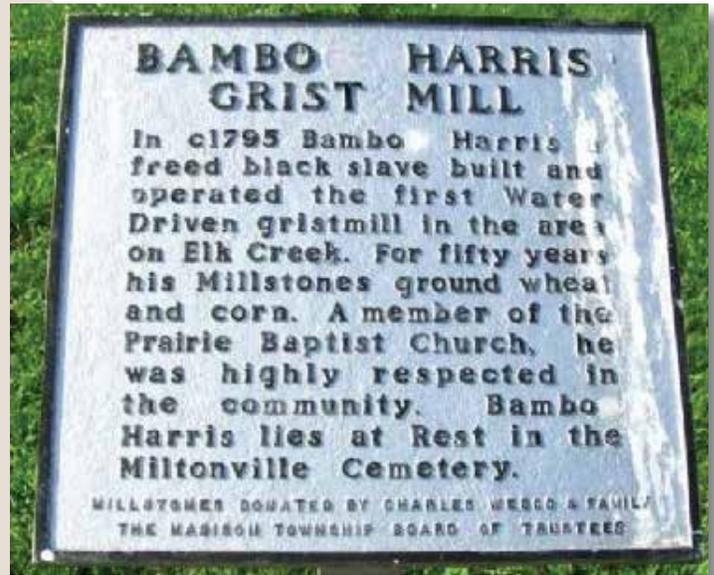
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Don Roberson, NRA Certified Instructor

- **Old Pike School 1861-1937** is a sign at 7475 Old Middletown-Germantown Pike. An old school house that is now home to Kent Selby.
- **Brown's Run Country Club 6855 Sloebig Road:** There are 'In Memory' plaques at the entrance to the banquet center on the fountain, the park bench, and at two of the trees. It was nice to see that a Madison student, that had been killed in a car accident, was not only recognized with a stone at the high school's gazebo, but also with the planting of a tree at this site as well.
- **At a private residence at the corners of Eck Rd. and Connie Lane** there is a large eagle carved from a tree trunk with the following plaque: "Dedicated to the men and women of our armed forces who paid the ultimate price for our freedom, Thank You, Henry Gross, Vietnam Veteran". This monument to our veterans had been located, at the now closed, Weatherwax Golf Course.



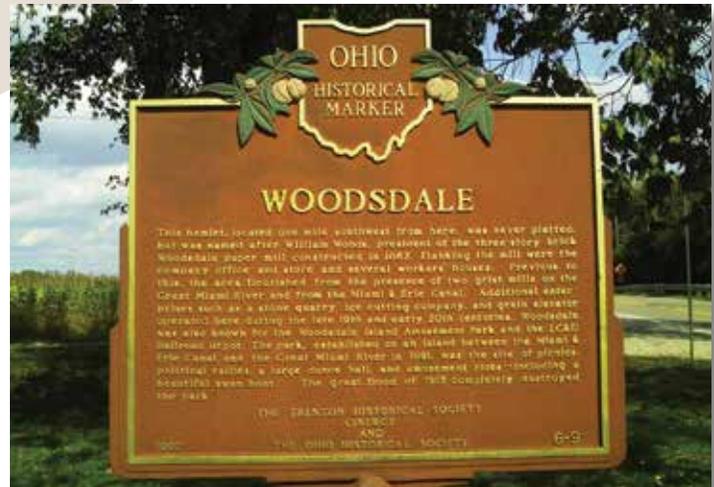
FIRE STATION 151

Trenton Historical Society and The Ohio Historical Society.” and another historical marker with three millstones: “Bambo Harris Grist Mill - In c1795 Bambo Harris a freed black slave built and operated the first Water Driven gristmill in the area on Elk Creek. For fifty years his Millstones ground wheat and corn. A member of the Prairie Baptist Church, he was highly respected in the community. Bambo Harris lies at Rest in the Miltonville Cemetery. Millstones donated by Charles Wesco & Family. Erected by Madison Township Board of Trustees.



VILLAGE OF MILTONVILLE (FIRE STATION 151)

- **Fire Station 151, 4398 Elk Creek Road, Miltonville:** An historical marker with U.B. Church 1873 plaque below it: “Village of Miltonville - The village of Miltonville, located along the banks of Elk Creek, was platted in 1816 by George Bennett, Theophilus Eaglesfield, and Richard V. V. Crane. The creek served two gristmills, one built around 1804 and operated by a free black, Bambo Harris, and the second built by George Bennett in 1815. An Indian burial ground was located on the east bank of Elk Creek near the site of Huff's Ferry. Eagle Tavern, the area's first three-story brick inn, was a stopover for stagecoach lines traveling the Miltonville-Trenton Turnpike. The village was known for pottery factories, vineyards and wineries, and Frisch's brickyard, established in 1880. The United Brethren Church, organized in 1811, and Miltonville Cemetery were the sites of church conferences and celebrations. The Miltonville School operated from the 1800s to 1936, and the local post office was in service during the years 1889-1904. Erected 1996 by



CHRISHOLM METROPARK

- **Chrisholm MetroPark Farmstead, 2070 Woodsdale Road, Woodsdale:** Front of historical marker: “Woodsdale - This hamlet, located one mile southwest from here, was never platted, but was named after William Woods, president of the three-story brick Woodsdale paper mill constructed in 1867. Flanking the mill were the company office and store and several workers' houses. Previous to this, the area flourished from the presence of two gristmills on the Great Miami River and from the Miami & Erie Canal. Additional enterprises such as a stone quarry, ice-cutting company, and

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VENISON CHILI

- 2 lb ground venison
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tsp crushed red pepper
- 1 tsp hot sauce (I like Frank's)
- 2 tsp Italian seasoning
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- 3 cloves minced garlic
- 3 tomatoes, diced
- 1/2 medium onion, chopped
- 1 can (24 ounces) tomato sauce
- 1 large can (40.5 ounces) dark red kidney beans
- Cheddar cheese, for topping



In a medium bowl, mix together the venison, pork, salt, pepper, red pepper, hot sauce, Italian seasoning, chili powder, cumin, and nutmeg. In a large sauce pan over medium-high heat, cook the meat and onion until browned. Drain.

Add in the garlic, tomatoes, tomato sauce, and beans. Reduce the heat to medium and cook until the chili bubbles.

Reduce the heat to low, and let simmer about 20 minutes so that all the flavors will meld together. Sprinkle with cheese and serve hot!

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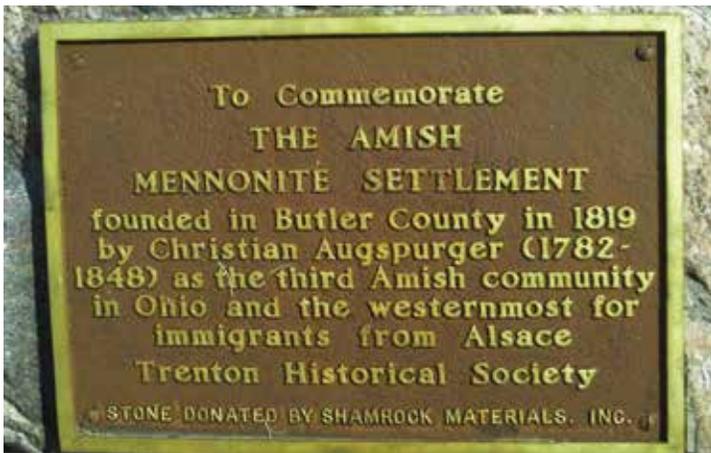
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CHRISHOLM METROPARK

the Great Miami River. Christian's son, Samuel, inherited the farm and lived there with his wife, Eliza Holly, and their seven children. The large, two-story farmhouse was built in 1874 and after fire destroyed the original 1830 stone house. It typifies the stark simplicity and balanced building style of Amish Mennonite settlements in Ohio. The property also features a large bank barn with a stone foundation. Samuel Augspurger (1825-1900) was an innovative entrepreneur responsible for Woodsdale's industrial growth. Among other things, he directed the construction of Woodsdale's first bridge over the Great Miami River, served as director of three turnpikes, and oversaw grist and saw mills. An incorporator of the paper company, he was also instrumental in establishing the Woodsdale School and post office."; and another marker on the farmstead's ground upon a boulder reads: "To Commemorate The Amish Mennonite Settlement founded in Butler County in 1818 by Christian Augspurger (1782-1848) as the third Amish community in Ohio and the westernmost for immigrants from Alsace, Trenton Historical Society, Stone donated by Shamrock Materials, Inc."

- **At the city limits of Trenton**, the only city in Madison Township, on State and North Miami Streets, can be found historical markers shaped liked Ohio that read: "Trenton, Founded in 1816 by Michael Pearce, Named for Trenton, New Jersey".
- **Founder's Park, corners of West State Street and Hamilton-Trenton Road, Trenton:** A photo of the founder's house and plaque inscription upon the boulder: "Founder's Park - Site of the home of Trenton's founder, Michael Pearce, and his wife, Phebe Squier Pearce. The family migrated from New Jersey in 1801, purchased 1,500 acres, and settled in this location. Michael Pearce and David Enyeart platted the village of 33 lots in 1816 under the name of Bloomfield. The name was changed to Trenton in 1820 upon application for a Post Office." In front of the boulder are brick name pavers with those who were on the Founder's Park Committee for the dedication on November 10th, 1996 and those on Trenton City Council when the park was rededicated on September 1st, 1997; within in this memorial park is an historical marker

that states on the front: "The Village of Trenton - Platted 1816. Incorporated as Village 1895. Became a city 1971

Trenton's founder, Michael Pearce, came to the area in 1801. The original village of 33 lots was named Bloomfield. When the post office was established in 1820, it was named Trenton to honor the founder's home state of New Jersey. Pearce's son-in-law, Squier Littell, was the first resident doctor in Butler County. Originally settled by the English, Trenton saw a migration of Germans by 1840. By 1851, the farming community became a grain center with the introduction of the Cincinnati, Hamilton, and Dayton Railroad. Further development occurred when a franchise was granted to operate interurban electric traction cars through the village in 1896. Early commercial endeavors were Dietz, Good & Company grain elevator, Trenton Foundry, and Magnode Corporation. By 1991, the largest industries were Miller Brewing Company and Cinery/Cincinnati Gas & Electric." and on the reverse: "The Elk Creek Baptist Church & Cemetery -

Elder Stephen Gard, Michael Pearce's son-in-law, organized Trenton's first church, Elk Creek Baptist, in 1802. It was the earliest church organized in Butler County. Deacon Michael Pearce, founder of Trenton, donated ground for both the church and cemetery. The first burial was that of Phebe Gard, Stephen Gard's sister, in 1804. Both Michael Pearce and his wife Phebe Pearce are buried there. Elder Gard was the pastor for 39 years and went on to found many of the Baptist churches in the Miami Valley. The cemetery is now called the Pioneer Cemetery and is no longer used for burials. In the beginning, a log building served the small congregation. By 1820, the log building was replaced with a brick structure, which was forty feet wide and sixty feet long and accommodated 250 people. The congregation disbanded circa 1900. In 1924, the building was demolished.

Erected 2003 by The Trenton Historical Society, The Trenton Lions Club, and The Ohio Historical Society." Above the rear of Founder's Park is the Pioneer Cemetery and is marked with a plaque that reads: "1802 Site of The Elk Creek Baptist Church, The earliest church established in Butler County and the first church built in Trenton. All that remains are the original steps to the two front doors of the church. The Trenton Historical Society"

- **Trenton Gracepoint Church of the Nazarene, 220 North Miami Street, Trenton:** Within the brick structure that hold the church's sign is the 1868 bell from St. John's German Evangelical Church that previously stood on this site.

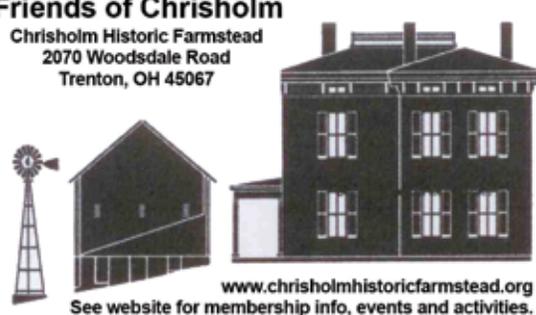
Within the walls of the schools, the churches, and other institutions and businesses in the township are many more memorials to be found, but these are the ones that can be visited most anytime since they are outdoors. They represent someone, some place, or something from another time and will hopefully be there for generations to come. **MT**

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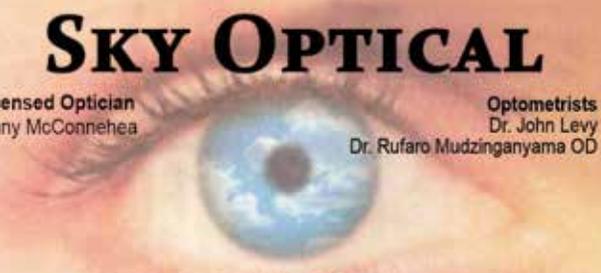
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By Rick Henry

Gardening

UNDERSTANDING & GROWING PERENNIALS



What does it mean when someone speaks of a perennial? What is a perennial plant or a perennial flower? I remember when I first became interested in gardening, I would hear people speak about perennials, annuals, biennials, and even herbaceous perennials. It was confusing to me at first understanding the difference between a perennial and an annual. One definition of the word perennial is: “lasting or existing for a long or apparently infinite time; enduring or continually recurring.” This is a good definition as it applies to perennial plants. Simply put, a perennial is a plant (other than a tree or shrub) that lives for more than two years. For example, the Hosta, a popular perennial plant for residential gardeners, comes back year after year in the same spot. Eventually, it will spread and require dividing and replanting; however, it continues to grow year after year. This would be in distinction from an annual plant or flower which does not live more than one year in a particular plant hardiness zone. It helped me to understand that an annual lives one year, but a perennial lives forever.

This is one reason why perennials are such a good choice and so popular with homeowners, you only have to buy them once, as opposed to annuals. And, over time they can be divided and replanted. One container plant can become many plants in a landscaped bed. Another reason perennials are a good choice is that most perennials are very low maintenance. As perennials grow together they actually shade out the sun from a bed and provide a type of natural weed control. I have had a bed of Purple Coneflowers for over 25 years in my backyard. Each year they come up put on a real show with both their flowers and foliage. It is very rare that I have a weed come up in this patch, and the only maintenance required is to cut them back when they go dormant in the late fall/early winter. This is usually all that is required of any established perennial bed, or ornamental grass (which is also a ‘perennial’). About every 5 years, I will thin the patch out and divide the existing plants when they become too dense. When new perennials are initially planted, or when perennials are divided and thinned, it is a good idea to broadcast a balanced fertilizer, like 20-20-20. But, this is all that is required to

grow healthy showy perennials, which are a big return on a small investment of time.

There are many-many varieties of perennials to choose from on the market today. I have been told that there are so many varieties at present, and so many new varieties being developed that even the sales reps for the growers cannot keep up with all of the options for planting today. For most people who are interested in planting perennials, a trip to the local garden center, or to spend some time looking online is usually the best way to make choices on which will be the right plant for the right spot in one’s own landscape.

Although, there are so many excellent plants available now, some people like me still appreciate and prefer the ‘old fashioned’ varieties. It is really hard to go wrong with some of these like the Black-Eyed Susan (rudbekia). Even if this name does not sound familiar to you, chances are you have seen this flower before with its large yellow flowers and large black ‘eye’ looking back at you. In addition to the above mentioned Purple Cone Flower (echinaca), another long-time favorite which deserves a strong recommendation is the “Live Forever” or Sedum. This succulent plant is very easy to grow and is virtually disease free. “Stoncrop” is a favorite with many people, I appreciate “Autumn Joy” Sedum very much for its unique purple color. Regardless, of which of the many varieties of perennials one might choose to place in his/her own landscape, from sun to shade, clay to loamy soil, there is a perennial for almost all of your garden needs. *MT*



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Fire Department

By Chief Hall

CLASS A UNIFORMS

The Madison Township Fire Department in conjunction with the Madison Fire Association recently purchased Class A uniforms for the department Chiefs, Captains and Lieutenants. The Class A uniforms are worn for special occasions such as fire department members funerals, special meetings, special gatherings such as the recent 911 ceremony honoring our fallen and past department members and other functions and details throughout the year. The Madison Fire Association agreed to split the cost of the Class A uniforms, the Madison Fire Association generating there money by way of Christmas Tree sales, gun raffles and other fund raising events. The New Horton Life Squad: This year the Madison Township Fire Department was able to purchase a new 2017 Horton life squad for the residents of Madison Township. The Madison Township



PHOTO CAPITON TO COME...

Fire Department members went to several events over the past couple of years looking at all types of life squads from various different companies, looking at different options and seeing what would work for the residents of Madison Township. The Horton squad was selected for its history of safety and durability, the Horton company leading the way in a safety harness system and air bag deployment for the life squad crew while working on patients in the rear of the life squad. The Horton Life Squad name is a leader in the life squad industry, also offering a Liquid Springs option



PHOTO CAPITON TO COME...

that results in a smoother and more stabilizing ride for the crew and patients. The Horton Squad is put on a 2017 Ford F550 chassis a 4X4 unit that is able to maneuver in most of the inclement weather here in Madison Township. With the call volume for EMS calls going up here in Madison Township we have established a policy of replacing the life squads every five to six years keeping a reliable EMS unit on the roadway for the citizens in Madison Township. The fall time is here and soon the cold weather will be on us. It's a good time to think about having your furnace checked for proper operation and also your fireplace checked for any collection of creosote or debris that could cause an unwanted fire in the middle of the night. With that said make sure smoke detectors are operating properly and you have reviewed safety plans with your loved ones involving escape routes and meeting locations after emergency situations. The second week of October is Fire Prevention Week and the Madison Township Fire Department will

“Fire and EMS units have sometimes been delayed because of limited access to driveways.”

be involved with Fire Prevention with kids at Madison Elementary School. The kids are able to see the fire trucks on this day and also be able to see a Fire Prevention puppet show, all of this to help teach kids about fire prevention. Over the past several months Fire and EMS members have made calls to various locations in the township for various different types of emergencies, at times when arriving at these emergencies the Fire and EMS units have sometimes been delayed because of limited access to driveways. These locations having over grown trees, tree limbs, concrete walls or pavers that are making it very difficult to quickly access to the resident, at times causing damage to Fire and EMS units. We will always respond to emergencies in a quick and rapid fashion but if you have any of these type of situations keep in mind this could slow the response of an emergency vehicle getting to your house, if possible check your driveway access and make sure a fire truck and life squad can quickly make it to your resident. **MT**

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