

Madison Township News

November 2008

Vol. 1, No 1.

Madison Township of Butler County, Ohio
www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

5610 West Alexandria Rd., Middletown, OH 45042
Phone 513-424-0821 Fax 513-424-4659

The Past, Present, and Future of Madison Township

Todd Farler, Madison Township Administrator

Welcome to the newest edition of Madison Township News. As we enter in to the end of 2008, there is plenty of past, present, and future news. Since the inception of Madison Township in 1810, being named so for President James Madison, the township has continued to grow and prosper at its own set pace. Although some may feel we've passed on many of the amenities of living in the city, most realize that maintaining our atmosphere, where it's a wonderful place to raise a family and develop friendships, has more rewards. We have become a community of generational families with strong ties to families, friends, and a sense of strong moral values. In recent years, we've seen a few major changes come to the township which include the introduction of public water, a new high school with a new Kindergarten thru sixth grade now being added, and most recently the dedication of our own Madison Township Community Park. A special "Thank You" to all the businesses and private individuals that donated to this dedication. It was a great family time for all those who attended and we'll be planning another soon for next year! We're also working to continually update our webpage, www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com where you can find different events that are planned for the township, passed meeting minutes, our local families with those serving in the military, read some of the

history of Madison Township, and meet the individuals who work for your township. We've continued to have numerous roads paved, completed various drainage issues, received a high rating on our township finances, and hired our first full time Administrator. Throughout this letter, you'll find different articles and information from inside Madison Township. We're looking to expand our next newsletter in the Spring with possible guest writers, "spot light sections", local advertisements, and perhaps more pictures to showcase some of the events and adventures that happen in the township! Please forward your suggestions or input to my attention via our website or simply by dropping in the Administration building. If you



have experience in creating or producing newsletters and would like to help with the next one, let me know and we'll get started immediately. I have truly enjoyed my first ten months as your Township Administrator and would like to thank the Township Trustees; Mr. Ward, Mr. Walter, and Mr. Daniel for their support in the decisions we've reached and the discussions we've had in our meetings. I look forward to continually helping to make Madison Township a wonderful place to live, work, play, and raise a family! Please call, drop by my office, or send me an e-mail at: ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com

-Todd Farler

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Board of Trustees

President – Mr. Bobby Ward
513-422-5717
Vice President – Mr. Dwight Walter
513-4234132
Trustee – Mr. Alan Daniel
513-422-3950
Fiscal Officer– Mrs. Amy Schenck
513-464-0730
Administrator– Mr. Todd Farler
513-424-0821
Website:
www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com

President's Message

On behalf of the Madison Twp Board of Trustees, I present to you our newest edition township news letter. Future editions will depend on public feedback & economics of the township. Our hope is to publish an annual issue. Information about your township is also available on our township web site
www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com
As you all know we are in a very difficult time with our national economy which also has a severe impact on our local economy. Although your three Trustees don't always agree with each other, this is only good government at work. Your Fiscal Officer, Administrator, Fire/Life Squad Chief and Road Crew Supervisor are also looking for ways for the people of Madison Twp. to get the most out of your tax dollars. In closing I would like thank the residents who show up and voice their concerns at our regular township meetings. These meetings are held on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Madison Twp. Administration Bldg. 5610 West Alexandria Rd. and are open to the public.

-Bobby Ward

Contact Numbers for the Township

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, ALWAYS CALL 911

Madison Township Admin. Bldg.	513-424-0821
Fire Station #1 (Elk Creek Rd)	513-988-9124
Fire Station #2 (Germantown Rd)	513-424-3384
Life Squad Bldg. (Mosiman Rd)	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
Butler County Zoning	513-424-5351
Butler County Health Dept.	513-863-1770
Butler County Rural Electric	800-867-4400
Southwest Regional Water	800-232-5330
Duke Energy	800-634-4300
Dayton Power and Light	937-224-6000
Middletown Public Library	513-424-1251

Vice President Dwight Walter

-Dwight Walter

I hope you will take time to visit the new Madison Township Community Park and check out the walking trail, soccer fields, fishing pond, and the new tennis courts which are currently being completed along with backstop fencing and nets. This has been a project the Township has worked on for years as funds were able to be provided. In the early 1990's when Gerald Cottongim was a trustee, he suggested extra funds be put back each year for the development of a township park. The township will forever be grateful for his insight in preserving green space and providing recreational facilities for our community.

With the stagnant economy, some houses are being left vacant in the township and our new administrator has been busy with the many steps it takes to maintain these vacant lots such as obtaining title searches to correctly identify the legal owner of the properties, send legal notification to those owners, and place possible tax liens against those properties. We are fortunate to have a competent, aggressive person in this position that will pursue this on behalf of the township. Our administrator, Todd Farler, has brought a higher level of service to our community that is necessary to our progress.

I would like to thank all of our township road employees, our volunteer firemen, and life squad personnel for their dedication. If you see them, extend your thanks for their service. Call the township building anytime between 8 AM and 4 PM if you have questions or concerns. This is one GREAT place to live and raise your families!

-Dwight Walter

Madison Township Road Department

-Road Superintendant Todd Daniel

The Road Dept. continues to employ 4 full times employees and 1 part time summer employee. Our usual duties include upkeep and maintenance of 100 lane miles of roads and ditches. We also perform the interior and exterior maintenance of the Administration building, our two fire stations, the Life Squad building, four cemeteries including burials, culvert replacement throughout the township, park maintenance, and snow and ice removal. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the above duties or below activities, please contact the Administration Building.

Road Paving

In 2008 we were able to pave 3.754 miles of roads at an approximate cost of \$250,000. This was down a bit from past years due to the soaring cost of asphalt, an oil based product. It is possible that if oil prices increase in the future as they have over the last year, we may look at alternate means of road repair and maintenance.

Driveway Culvert Replace Policy

All labor to remove and replace pipe will be provided by the township. The resident will be responsible for providing the pipe and paying for any gravel that needs to be hauled. Butler County has a 12" minimum on all ditch line pipe, and any new driveway pipes that are installed must be sized and permitted by them, prior to installation.



Mailbox Replace Policy

In the event that your mailbox is struck by a road mower or snowplow, please contact the Administration building to have it repaired or replaced. If the mailbox is damaged beyond repair, it will be replaced with a standard 4x4 treated wooden posts and a steel mailbox.

Winter is coming!

With winter just around the corner, here are a few things to think about.

- 1) Make sure before you leave your driveway that wipers are working and all snow and ice have been removed from your window to offer a clear, unobstructed view.
 - 2) When encountering a salt truck, please slow down and pass with caution. Salt trucks create a large amount of blowing snow when they're moving and this could impair your visibility.
 - 3) It's never a good idea to put anything in the middle of the road...including a pile of snow. Please do not allow someone clearing your driveway to push your snow into the road as this creates a driving hazard for everyone.
- Todd Daniel

Madison Township Fire and EMS

-Chief Kent Hall

The Madison Fire Department was established in 1955 with the first station in Miltonville, soon after in 1956 the Poastown station was opened. In the 1970's the Madison Life Squad was started by some private dedicated volunteers. In June of 2006 the Madison Township Trustee's assumed responsibility of the Life Squad which was then incorporated with the Fire Department in April of 2008.

The Madison Fire Department with fire and squad members runs with approximately 65 dedicated members that cover approximately 45 square miles of Madison Township. The Madison Township Trustees allocate monies for part time squad coverage on Monday thru Friday from 5 A.M. till 5 P.M., and with the Middletown Atrium Hospital moving further away the increased need for part time squad coverage was needed. The fire and squad divisions cover approximately 1000 calls for service per year in the township and surrounding area.

In the near future the Madison Fire Department see a need for additional part time coverage and also a need for additional compensation for its volunteers, the current volunteers being compensated 10.00 dollars a run which is taxed by the IRS. If you are a resident in Madison Township and see a piece of Fire or Squad apparatus you are seeing dedicated emergency volunteers at work in your township.

All residents should be reminded that if you have a fire hydrant close to your house your insurance rating should be a (6), if you do not then your insurance rating would be a (9) check with your local insurance representative to make sure you are getting the rate to deserve.

Remember that Fire Prevention Week is the first week of October; this is a good time to change batteries for smoke detectors and also cover fire evacuation routes for you and your family.

Be Safe!

Kent Hall
Fire Chief
Madison Township Fire

Jon Bolen
Dep.Chief Station 1
Fire Division

Rife Denlinger
Dep.Chief Station 2
Fire Division

Brian Sebald
Dep.Chief Station 3
Squad Division



Madison Township held its Community Park dedication on Saturday, September 27th, with families and friends all having a great time! We had clowns and magician for the kids and adults alike, along with having two inflatables for the kids to romp on! There was a fishing tournament for kids 10 years and under, hay wagon rides, carriage rides, corn hole, tennis on our new tennis courts and as afternoon turned to evening, we had a family movie for everyone to enjoy!! We raffled off rounds of golf from Weatherwax and Browns Run County Club, a fruit basket from Amatulli's, and a basket of hair care and tanning visits from The Salons of Madison. Also, where else could you



have gone and for only \$1, got a hotdog, can of pop, and a bag of chips! We would like to thank all the businesses and private individuals that gave donations of money or products to help kick off this park opening. Butler Rural Electric was our first corporate sponsor and a special "Thank You" goes out for their support!

As our park continues to grow and expand, you can look for more athletic facilities to become completed and available. A new baseball and softball field are in the works, a picnic shelter donated by The Lions Club, a two story log cabin donated by the Madison Historic Society, playground equipment for the kids, and perhaps a "Splash Pad" and a Frisbee Golf Course! We're also waiting to see if we'll be receiving a grant from ODNR to pave the walking path that circumferences the existing park.



We're working toward making the entire park to be ADA accessible, including future rest rooms and concession stand. Some of the larger capital improvements we're working towards are getting electric and water back into the park, allowing us to construct the future concession stand and restrooms. This winter as time allows, our Road Department will be starting to create new hiking paths and trails throughout the wooded area at the east end of the park (approximately 25-30 acres) which will allow our residents to view the beauty of our local forestry on uninterrupted trails with specific trail points along the path. If you have suggestions as to what you'd like to see in our parks, please forward them to our

Administration building and perhaps we can incorporate them for the entire township to utilize. This park will be a great asset to the people of Madison Township, by allowing us to bring these types of facilities and services to our resident.

Madison Township Historic Society

PRESERVING THE PAST- IN THE PRESENT -FOR THE FUTURE

The Historical Society of Madison Township Board will meet Thursday, December 11 at 7:00 PM at the Pleasant Ridge United Methodist Church located at 1052 Middletown Eaton Rd. The speaker will be Jim Blount, speaking on the prohibition and its effects on our township.

The Board accepted the donation of a two-story log cabin within the township and now has the responsibility of dismantling and restoring it to period. The Society has received permission from the Madison Township Trustees to erect the cabin in the new Madison Township Community Park on West Alexandria Road. This will be a large undertaking for the new Society which organized in April, 2006. The Society will be applying for grants for this project and private donations of funds and equipment needs will be gratefully appreciated. The dismantling portion of the project will begin in November of this year with plans to erect it in the park in 2009.

Although most Ohio townships were formed in the 1803 statehood, in 1810 Lemon Township was divided to form Madison Township. The goal of the Society is to have the cabin open in 2010 for the 200 year Madison Township bicentennial celebration.

A booklet comprising the last 100 years of Madison Township history is being written by the Society members for publication in time for the bicentennial. Families who have their roots in the township will be featured and anyone with a long-time family history in Madison is invited to submit their family story for inclusion.

The Society thanks Vic Thomas for framing old pictures that are now on display in the Madison Township building. Old pictures are being scanned in a computer database for sharing in an eventual historical library. If you have old pictures to loan for this database, please contact an officer. Officers are Donna Walter-President, Mark Whiteman-Vice President, John Gilmore-Treasurer, Connie Back-Secretary, Phyllis Richmond-Corresponding Secretary, and Directors Frank Richmond, Nancy McCann and Jeff Diver. Annual membership fees are \$10 per family, \$5 per individual and \$3 per students with organization/ and business memberships available.

The Society meets four times a year on the second Thursday of March, June, September and December and features speakers relating to historical interests. For more information, please contact Donna Walter at 423-4132.



Madison Township Logo/Slogan Contest

The Madison Township Board of Trustees will be sponsoring a township wide contest, open to everyone, to submit a logo to represent Madison Township. The logo can represent Madison Township's past, present, future, or a combination of all three. The contest is open to all designs, and is open to the general public and businesses. The logo can also include a slogan. Keep in mind that the logo should be easily recognizable when printed on such items as letter head or business cards. The final selection will be made at the discretion of the Board of Trustee's and will be their choice as to legally adopt such a logo. The winner will be recognized in our next news letter!

A special thank you to....

Mr. Bill McGuire for your past years of service and accomplishments as the Madison Township Administrator.

You Should Know.....

Noxious Weeds – Debris – Junk Cars

Hopefully you've notice that the Township took a more aggressive approach this year to the tall grass/noxious weed that started in the early Spring. We re-evaluated the way we address the properties, the vast majority being vacant, and began a systematic process in line with the Ohio Revised Code. It can take anywhere from three to five weeks from the time we're notified about a property, until we can legally proceed with cutting the grass/weeds, but from there, all the properties are placed on a regular schedule to be cut, as and when needed. We'll have a little better jump on it next year, and hopefully some of the houses will have new residents in them!



Junk car regulations are one of the most misunderstood codes in the ORC. Regardless of whether the vehicle is licensed, unlicensed, or considered a collectable, the state regulation falls under ORC 505.173 which defines a "junk motor vehicle" as a motor vehicle that meets all of the following criteria: Three model years old, or older; Apparently inoperable; Extensively damaged, including, but not limited to, any of the following: missing wheels, tires, engine, or transmission. If you believe there is a junk motor vehicle creating a nuisance, please contact our office at 513-424-0821.

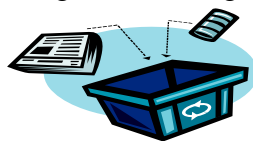
Is Madison Township Receiving your BMV License Tax?

As painful as the cost of gasoline has been in the past year, we all still drive, and in order to drive in Ohio, you must pay an annual license fee every time you renew or register a license. With this registering comes a license plate tax fee from the state, a portion of which comes back to the township as long as it properly designated. To ensure that your tax dollars are returning to Madison Township, please take a moment to verify with the BMV (Bureau of Motor Vehicles) that Madison Township is listed on your vehicle registration prior to renewal or new registration. If you renew your license plates by mail or via a third party, such as a leasing company, please verify that Madison Township is designated as the recipient of the tax dollars. If you do not specifically designate Madison Township as the area where you live, the money will go to the mailing address for the City of Middletown. If you have any questions about the license fee, please call the Administration building at 513-424-0821 or the Ohio BMV at 614-752-7500. Help keep Madison Tax dollars in Madison Township to benefit our community!



Recycling in Madison Township

Are you aware that we have recycling containers at three locations throughout our township? They're located at the North Fire Station and here at the Administration building. We're hoping to soon have one at the South Fire Station in Miltonville. Mindlin Recycling has been a great partner by providing the large RED containers which are for any type of paper products; and every time they empty the in turn has been ear marked for our \$3000 from Mindlin, which in turn brings your paper recyclables to one of the containers, you're not only helping the environment, you're helping to grow our community park! You can also bring your plastics and glass recyclables and deposit them in the green containers which are picked up and recycled by Rumpke. At various times throughout the year, Butler County Department of Environmental Services will offer specific times and locations for household hazardous waste or large items such as appliances or tires. As soon as the township is notified of these times, we'll post them on our website and announce them at our monthly meeting. If you have any questions about recycling, please call our office or check our website www.MadisonTownshipOnline.com for more information.



Advertise your local business in the next Newsletter!!

If your business or organization would be interested in advertising in our next Newsletter, please contact our Administrator, Todd Farler at 513-424-0821 or e-mail at ToddF@MadisonTownshipOnline.com This will be a great way to advertise in and to your local community! **Every resident in Madison Township will be receiving the newsletter directly to their home!** Ad costs are designated below and must be received prior to April 2009. Simply supply your advertisement in a printable format to our office via e-mail and we'll configure placement and forward for printing! All advertising monies will go towards offsetting the cost involved in the printing and mailing of this newsletter, so you're really supporting your business and our community at the same time! Advertising pricing will be as follows:

**GET A HALF PAGE AD
FOR ONLY \$150.00**

**GET A FULL PAGE AD
FOR ONLY \$200.00**

Business Card Size 2 x 3 1/2

\$40.00

Quarter Page Size 4 x 4

\$75.00

Quarter Page Ad 2 x 8

\$75.00

Life Squad Membership Notice

The 2009 Madison Township Life Squad membership forms are now available and included in this newsletter. By adding them to the newsletter, it helped us save mailing cost instead of sending them out separately in early December as had been done in the past. Annual Membership cost will remain the same as last year.

Family: \$ 55

Business: \$75 to \$225 (depending on number of employees)

Non-Profit: \$125

Donations are always welcomed and appreciated! The Township received almost **\$6000.00** in donations!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to the following residents who made donations beyond their memberships:

David and Linda Arnold, William and Battie Arthur, Neil and Connie Back, T.E. and Ann Baines, Melba Ballard, Harlan and Hallie Banks, Sevelia Belec, Tyrone and Janet Blake, Lee and Lynn Blanton, Tony Blanton, Wally and Susan Blevins, Mark and Tris Brashear, Charles and Carol Jean Brewer, James and Judy Bridges, Donald and Patty Brunswick, Tad and Mary Bunnell, Roger and Natlie Byrd, Roger and Darlene Carter, Clifford and Mary Lee Cast, Forrester and Alpha Caudill, Hobert and Janet Chase, William and Susan Childers, Philip and Mary Clark, James Cockerham, John and Florence Cockerham, Gary and Winifred Cooper, Edith Crosson, Michael and Linda Crow, Lonnie and Bertha Davis, Ronald and Mary Davis, John and Terri Devault, Don and Sharon Distler, Stephen and Melodie Dobbins, Larry and Joy Eckhardt, Cecil and Margret Edwards, Wilburn and Wanda Edwards, Charles and Judy Egleston, Paul and Donna Emerick, Jim and Judy Evans, Fraley and Sons Excavating, Fraley, Steve and Tanya Fraley, Michael and Gloria Freeman, Richard and Paula Gambrell, Eugene and Linda Geisler, Raleigh Gentry, John Gibbs, Ralph and Janet Gillman, Goodlett, Kerby and Denise, Joyce Greenfield, Anna Grigsby, Henry and Karen Gross, John and Pauline Hall, Evelyn Hammond, Larry and Carolyn Hammond, Larry and Sharron Haney, Hershell and Ruby Harris, William and Janet Harrison, Homer Hartman, Doris Heffron, Don and Pat Hodges, Norma Holcomb, George and Joan Hollon, Kenneth and Regina Hollon, Lowell and Doris Hopkins, Howard and Mary Sue Hounshell, James and Mary Hurst, William and Mary Jo Hyatt, Isaccs, Raymond and Lucette, Richard and Susan Isroff, Mark and Beverly Jacobs, Chester and Virginia Jenkins, John and Linda Jester, Joe and Mary Keene, Miriam Kelhoffer, Robert and Etta Kelly, Ronald and Carolyn Kilbarger, Thomas and Ethel Kinder, Robert and Rebecca Koontz, Craig and Cynthia Langdon, Ray and Patricia Lanham, Gerald and Carolyn Lawson, James and Mary Lawson, Lawrence and Linda Lawson, Merle and Karen Lawson, Viola Lightle, Stanley and Mary Long, Sam and Virginia Longmire, Wanda Lovley, Hildegarde Luff, Hubert and Vila Lutes, Charles and Nancy Maertz, Garlanda and Beatrice Marshall, Mark and Molly Mattingly, Samuel and Freda Mays, Michael and Lynne McCann, Richard and Ila McCloud, Gary and Ronda McGuire, Ervin and Mary McIntosh, James and Geraldine McIntosh, Dan and Betty Meeker, Benny and Eleanor Miller, Ronald and Billie Miller, William and Ruth Moore, Nicholas and Angela Murphy, Daniel Myers, Brent and Taryn Nance, Hal and Marjorie O'Neal, Walter and Elizebeth Pague, Phil and Judy Palmer, Hester Parker, Greg and Carolyn Patrick, Michael and Margery Perkins, Tim and Sharon Perkins, Harold Priest, Rick and Donna Priest, David and Marcia Profitt, Bobby and Cora Reed, Richard Rettich, Donald and Marion Roberson, Daniel and Cynthia Ross, Eva Russell, Pete Saylor, Gene and Wilberta Schaefer, Kathleen Schweiter, Peter and Gudrun Seifert, William and Lisa Sersion, Delbert and Lillie Sharrett, Mike and Mary Sheets, Charles and Mary Short, Donald and Joy Shotwell, Daniel and Tina Smith, Scott and Michele Smith, Gene and Katherine Snow, Joseph, and Tina Solomito, Ed Stacy, Robert and Barbara Stahley, Charles and Jeanette Stayton, Ronald Sturgis, Jerry and Sherry Sunderhaus, Richard and Mary Swain, Donald and Linda Swanger, David and Judy Taylor, Muri and Alfreda Terrill, Charles and Paula Turner, Daniel and Bonnie Vanderpool, Bonnie Veidt, Joanne Wagner, Edward and Kathleen Williams, Brian Wise, Robert and Hazel Wolf, Donald Woodruff, Jim and Ruth Ann Young.

More Pictures From Our Park Dedication...



AND ... In 2010 Madison Township will be celebrating its 200 year ANNIVERSARY! We're expecting to have a Bicentennial Celebration at the Township Community Park, commemorating the history and people of our wonderful township. We're also thinking about creating a Time Capsule to have dedicated, so start thinking about significant items involving the township that may be placed inside for future generations to remember us by!

**Madison Township
Of Butler County**

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5610 West Alexandria Rd.
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