

CIVIC FOCUS

CITY OF MIAMISBURG

New DORA intended to boost downtown

The City of Miamisburg is joining ranks with several other communities in the region to establish a specific outdoor area in which possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages will be permitted in public spaces.

These districts are being created under Ohio law and are known as Designated Outdoor Refreshment Areas (DORA). Miamisburg's DORA, approved by the Ohio Board of Liquor Control and City Council, will be located in the downtown district (see map below). It is expected to take effect in June.

"A DORA is really an economic development tool, and we believe it has the potential in Miamisburg to bring increased activity and vitality to our downtown district," City Manager Keith Johnson said. "The past year has

provided some unique challenges for many businesses, and it's clear that more and more local governments are looking at this as a way to assist."

The application to create a local DORA was submitted to City Council by the Miamisburg Merchants Association, and a public meeting was held March 30 prior to City Council approval. Approximately 50 citizens attended the meeting to learn details and share opinions about the concept. A recording of that meeting can be seen on local government access TV and online at mvcc.net.

Johnson emphasizes that the City is committed to implementing the DORA in a safe and responsible way, in conjunction with downtown stakeholders. He also said there have



been no significant public safety issues reported by other communities in the region that have DORAs in place.

The following are the guidelines under which Miamisburg's version will operate:

- The DORA will be in effect Thursdays (4 to 9 p.m.), Fridays (4 to 11 p.m.), Saturdays (noon to 11 p.m.) and Sundays (4 to 9 p.m.). The City has the flexibility to adjust these periods at any time.

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Summer 2021

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AT A GLANCE



Mayor and City Council

Michelle Collins, Mayor 313-6793
 Ryan Colvin
 At-Large 272-6547
Mike McCabe
 4th Ward 866-4077
Jeff Nestor
 At-Large 344-1092
Tom Nicholas
 3rd Ward 859-0297
John Stalder
 1st Ward 866-7172
Sarah Clark Thacker
 2nd Ward 478-9101
Greg Thompson, Vice Mayor
 At-Large 865-0550
Kim Combs
 Clerk of Council 847-6456

City Administration offices and Council Chambers are located in the Robert H. Mears, Sr., Miamisburg Civic Center at 10 North First Street.

City Council meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of each month beginning at 6 p.m. Meetings can be seen live on Spectrum Cable, channel 5.

Contact Information

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 finance@cityofmiamisburg.org
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Mound Development Corp. . . . 865-4462
Municipal Court 866-2203
 court@cityofmiamisburg.org
Parks & Recreation 866-8999
 parksandrec@cityofmiamisburg.org
Planning/Development/Inspections 847-6532
 develop@cityofmiamisburg.org
Prosecutor 847-6478
 prosecutor@cityofmiamisburg.org
Public Works (water/streets) . . 847-6635
 publicworks@cityofmiamisburg.org
Water Billing 847-6460
 waterbilling@cityofmiamisburg.org
Main Switchboard 866-3303
TDD Only 847-6499

All phone numbers (937).

City Administration

Keith Johnson City Manager
 Emily Christian Assistant City Manager
 Anthony Covington Asst. to the City Manager

Phil Callahan Law Director
 Ryan Davis Parks & Recreation Director
 Chris Fine Development Director
 Katie Frank Community Development Dir.
 Gary Giles Public Information Officer
 Valerie Griffin Public Works Director
 Ryan Homs City Planner
 Jennifer Johns Finance Director
 Leslie Kohli Human Resources Director
 John Sedlak Police Chief
 Bob Stanley City Engineer

Matt Queen Chief, Miami Valley Fire District

Public Safety

EMERGENCY 9-1-1
Non-Emergency Service. 225-HELP
 225-(4357)
Non-Emergency TDD. 228-HELP
 228-(4357)
Police – General Info 847-6600
Fire – General Info. 560-2152

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Civic Focus is published quarterly by the City of Miamisburg to provide valuable public information to residents.

*Managing Editor: Gary Giles
 Design: Julie Zolman
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Recreation Notes

- Sycamore Trails Aquatic Center reopened on Memorial Day weekend, and daily operating hours are noon to 6:30 p.m. For details on season passes, facility rentals and COVID-related changes this year, visit PlayMiamisburg.com or call 866-8999.
- Before opening the Aquatic Center, the City completed the two improvement projects announced in the winter issue of this publication. The coping stone gutters around the perimeter of the pool were replaced by a stainless steel system, and the entire surface (floor and walls) was coated by a new material called ECOFinish.
- The project to install two pre-fab restrooms at PipeStone Golf Course began recently near hole numbers 5 and 15. The new restrooms are expected to be completed soon.
- Mound Golf Course received a surprise gift in the spring. A set of hickory golf clubs once owned by the grandson of course designer Nipper Campbell was donated by local resident Thomas Dreischarf. Dreischarf was a long-time friend of the late Doug Campbell and had been in possession of the clubs for several years. ★



AROUND TOWN



Nominations open for City Beautiful Awards



This is the time of year when Miamisburg neighborhoods really come to life, and the City Beautification Commission (CBC) is ready to again recognize those homeowners who help make Miamisburg attractive.

Are you particularly proud of your landscaping efforts? Has one of your neighbors made a noticeable upgrade in the physical appearance of their property? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then maybe you should make a nomination for a City Beautiful Award.

Presented in June, July and August, these awards are for residential and commercial properties with great curb appeal within Miamisburg city limits. Winners will be presented a City Beautiful sign to display in their front yard.

There are several ways to make a nomination of a residential or commercial property (self-nominations are also welcome):

- Complete the entry form at right and hand-deliver or mail to the City's Parks and Recreation Department.
- E-mail the nominated address to parksandrec@cityofmiamisburg.org. Put "City Beautiful Award" in the subject line.
- Phone-in a nomination to the Parks and Recreation Department at 866-8999.

Miamisburg Historical Society

Judy Wuerstl, President (866-1784)

The Miamisburg Historical Society launched a virtual speaker series this year available to the public via Zoom. The inaugural speaker in March was local author Tim Gaffney, who presented on his book "Dayton Beer: A History of Brewing in the Miami Valley." Gaffney reviewed his latest discoveries, including names, maps and drama from 19th century brewing in Miamisburg. His five-part video series on this subject can be viewed online at historicalsociety.org. In May local resident Doug Sorrell was scheduled to be the second presenter in the speaker series, reviewing the history of the Plaza Theatre downtown. Coming up on June 22, author Andrew Walsh will discuss his book, "Lost Dayton." Additional information is available on the MHS website, and questions may be directed to programs@historicalmiamisburg.org. ★

Renovation Merit Award

The CBC also will present this award each month to recognize those homes or businesses with an improved appearance of their structure due to major renovations such as new siding, porch, etc. Just note the name of this award when submitting a nomination. ★

City Beautiful Award Nomination Form

Name _____

Address _____

Your reasons for nominating this property (*see criteria at left*):

Nominator's name and phone number (*in the event judges have questions*):

Baum Opera House Assn.

Josh Fox, President

Bronwyn Peck, Executive Director (859-8120)

The Baum Opera House Association continues to partner with the Miamisburg History Center and Plaza Theatre on a membership drive. The goal is to generate financial support for these three community treasures during a period of economic challenge brought on by COVID-19.

For a donation of \$100, an individual can become a member of all three organizations—which are 501(c)3 non-profits—and enjoy benefits from each one. Additional information and a receipt will be sent to each donor upon payment. Checks should be mailed to Baum at 15 S. First Street in Miamisburg.

Support for the Opera House can also be provided through rental of the facility. Several packages are available for weddings and other smaller gatherings or meetings. Unfortunately, no public special events are being scheduled at this time. If any public events are added to the calendar, information will be posted on the Baum Facebook page.

For more information, email thebaumoperahouse@gmail.com. ★

Mound Business Park: A community partner



One of the priorities for Mound Business Park (MBP) officials is for the site to be of use and service to the community. Over the years, MBP has opened its doors to countless local organizations, providing a unique space for various uses such as training.

Starting in 2019 Mound began a partnership with the Miami Valley Fire District, which serves Miamisburg and Miami Township. Today, this partnership continues with plans to expand in 2021.

For example, last year the Fire District used Mound property—parking lots and roads—for driver training, enabling firefighter/paramedics to simulate real-life road conditions in a

private, controlled environment.

“With the space that the Mound graciously provided, we were able to set up driving courses with cones to practice our skills,” said Miami Valley Fire District Battalion Chief Jim Baber.

This year Baber is piloting a project that will expand the District’s presence at Mound. Several large storage containers already located at the site (pictured at left) will be transformed into a two-story building with windows for simulation training. Eventually, Baber plans to invite other local and regional fire and police departments to also make use of the space.

“This space will give us 365-day access to training, plus it will reduce costs by keeping our personnel right here in town for continuing education,” he said. “The Mound has been great to give us this area to use, and we really appreciate it.”

For more information on Mound Business Park, visit mound.com. For information about available land, please contact Brooke Fornes of Mark Fornes Realty at 434-2000 or brooke@fornes.com. ★

Miamisburg Library Notes



Dayton Metro Library welcomed a new executive director this spring when Jeffrey Trzeciak was appointed by the Board of Trustees to succeed the retiring Tim Kambitch.

Trzeciak is a native Daytonian who began his library career with Dayton Metro when he was a college student. He returned to the area from New Jersey, where he was director of the Jersey City Free Public Library. For more information, click on the News tab at daytonmetrolibrary.org.

Also this spring, Dayton Metro reinstated Monday hours. All branches are now open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

As *Civic Focus* went to press, Dayton Metro Library was continuing to offer its programs online only. For details and updates, please contact the Miamisburg branch. The following is a sample of programming information for summer:

Children

Story Times @ Home

Join us each week for 15- to 20-minute Story Times online. A Children’s Services librarian will read a story and lead songs,

rhymes and activities. Another will lead online interaction. Scheduled times include:

Preschool (age 3-5 years) – Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

Family – Wednesdays, 4 p.m.

Baby/Toddler (age up to 3 years with a caregiver) – Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Dial-a-Story

Does your child need a break from screen time? Each month, three new, recorded stories are available for young children to listen to by phone at any time. Call 250-7500.

Summer Reading Challenge

The theme for this year’s summer reading program is Tails and Tales, and there are new activities that count toward program goals. There is still time to get started. For details, stop by the Miamisburg branch or visit daytonmetrolibrary.org/summer.

Take It and Make It Kits

Patrons can pick-up these new free kits and do fun activities at home. There are versions for different age groups, and new kits are created each month. They include

instructions and supplies, or a list of supplies people are likely to have on hand. June’s theme is “Owls” presented by the Glen Helen Raptor Center.

Adults

Tea & Mystery @ Home

Third Thursday of the month, 7 to 8 p.m.

Dig into a compelling mystery novel each month, then join us online to talk about it! Upcoming selections include:

June – “He Started It” by Samantha Downing

July – “The Widows” by Jess Montgomery

Aug. – “Long Bright River” by Liz Moore

The Miamisburg branch library is located at 545 E. Linden Avenue. For more information about these and other programs, contact the branch at 463-BOOK. ★





PUBLIC SAFETY



Fire District advises on health & safety



The Miami Valley Fire District would like to provide important safety guidelines for the summer season. The following can help citizens maintain personal health and safety while outdoors:

Sun Safety

- Be alert for the symptoms of heat illness: fainting, dizziness, headache, nausea, rapid pulse, skin and body temperature of 104 degrees or more.
- If suffering from heat illness, rest in a cool place and sip cool, non-alcoholic beverages.
- To avoid losing salt and water when sitting in the sun or sunbathing, replenish with fluids often and avoid beverages

with alcohol or caffeine. Keep the skin moist and cool.

- Wear loose-fitting clothing, a hat and waterproof sunscreen when working outdoors in the sun.
- If you take prescription drugs, check with your doctor before sunbathing.

Water Safety

- Small children should wear life jackets during recreational boating or at dockside.
- Make sure the pool or lake is deep enough before diving into the water.
- Avoid swimming beyond your ability or in rough water.
- Do not consume alcoholic beverages when swimming or boating.

- Never swim alone or leave small children unattended near the water.
- Be cautious of strong currents when swimming in the ocean.
- Fence all home pools.
- Learn CPR.

The Miami Valley Fire District considers it an honor to serve the citizens of Miamisburg and Miami Township. If you have questions on these subjects or need information on any safety-related issue, please contact the Fire District at 560-2152.

Fire District chief retiring

Chief Matthew Queen will retire effective June 25 after leading the District since it was formed in 2012. Watch for more information in the next issue of *Civic Focus*. ★

Stay safe while biking this summer

Bicycling is a great way to enjoy the outdoors during the summer, while also getting good exercise. Of course, Miamisburg is a bike-friendly community featuring the regional trail that travels along the Great Miami River adjacent to downtown.

The Miamisburg Police Department encourages bicyclists to always follow safe practices and offers the following tips:

- Bicycles on the road have the same rights and responsibilities as motorized vehicles. Bicyclists should drive in the same direction as traffic, obey street signs and road markings and utilize hand signals.
- Wear a helmet that properly fits your head.
- Ride a bike that fits your stature and has working brakes. Check that your tires are properly



inflated. If riding in dim light, wear clothing that makes you more visible to others (reflective/light in color).

- Avoid using a cell phone for any reason or listening to music while riding to prevent distractions from the road. Remain alert and watch for road hazards or unexpected driver movements.
- Be careful of pedestrians on the sidewalk and wary of the sidewalk ending or crossing the street at the sidewalk. Cars may not expect to see bicyclists on sidewalks.
- When crossing a street, cross only at intersections. Never dash out from between parked cars to cross a street or enter a roadway.

Anyone with questions about bicycling or bicycle safety can stop by the Police Department in the Miamisburg Civic Center to speak with a member of the bike team. Information is also available on the Department Facebook page.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Admin., National Safety Council

Promotion

Will Ring was promoted recently from sergeant to the rank of lieutenant with the Miamisburg Police Department.



A 20-year employee in the Department, he was publicly sworn-in at the March 16 meeting of City Council. ★

Did you know?

The Police Department's bike unit consists of six specially equipped Haro bicycles, one sergeant and five officers who are trained and certified through the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA). Bicycle patrol allows for greater officer mobility and visibility, which can foster positive relationships with the community.



STREET BEAT



Yard waste and other collection reminders

Residents are encouraged to use environmentally-friendly practices to minimize the volume of yard waste sent to landfills. Composting, mulching with leaves and the use of mulching lawn mowers can all help reduce yard waste significantly.

Yard waste includes materials such as grass clippings, thatch, leaves, flower and vegetable trimmings and brush. If you must dispose of these materials, please review the following guidelines:

- Yard waste is collected along with regular refuse and must be properly contained and bundled.
- Bundled brush should not measure more than four feet long and two feet wide.
- Bagged yard waste should not exceed 60 pounds in weight.
- Grass clippings and leaves should never be placed in the road, storm sewers or waterways.

Bulk collection

Bulk items continue to be collected by Rumpke along with regular trash. Pick-up should be scheduled one week in advance by calling the City's Public Works Department at 847-6635. Mattresses and upholstered items are required to be wrapped and sealed in plastic. Residents may use their own sheet plastic and tape or garbage bags for this purpose or purchase bulk bags at the Civic Center or Municipal Service Center.

Battery recycling

The City is now offering household battery recycling for residents. Batteries contain corrosive materials and heavy metals that can contaminate the soil and water supply. Recycling these materials helps divert them from landfills. Look for the battery recycling receptacles located in the Civic Center, Community Center and Service Center lobbies.

Financial assistance

Residents may apply for a reduction in the City's \$12 monthly fee for waste collection and disposal. Eligibility for financial assistance is based on published U.S. poverty levels and the applicant's federal adjusted gross income for the most recent tax year. Applications can be obtained in the Administrative offices in the Miamisburg Civic Center.

2021 U.S. Health & Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Household	Annual Income	Persons in Household	Annual Income
1	\$12,800	5	\$31,040
2	17,420	6	35,580
3	21,960	7	40,120
4	26,500	8	44,660

For each additional person, add \$4,480.

Container reminders

For best results, residents should put their containers out along the curb the night before their collection day. Also, please remember that the green containers provided by Rumpke are exclusively for recycling materials and should NOT be used for household trash, or they will be confiscated by Rumpke.

River Cleanup Day

The Clean Sweep of the Great Miami River will be held on Friday, July 16 from 9 a.m. to noon. Citizens are invited to participate in this annual volunteer event to help maintain the health of our local river corridor. Volunteers should report to Rice Field. Please wear work clothes and sturdy shoes. Trash bags and gloves will be provided. ★

Holiday Service Schedule

July 4: Rumpke's collection of refuse and recycling will not be affected by Independence Day this year.

Sept. 7: City offices closed and no refuse collection on Labor Day. Schedule for the entire week will be pushed back one day. ★

Preparing for State Rte. 725/I-75 improvements



The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has completed a modification study and preliminary engineering for a

planned improvement project at the intersection of State Rte. 725 and I-75 in Miamisburg.

This 2023 project will include interchange modifications, pedestrian and safety improvements and traffic signal upgrades along a section of the SR725 corridor, including the Byers Road signal. As a key project stakeholder, City staff

and the City's traffic consultants have engaged with ODOT in discussions over coordination timings and flow of traffic through this area.

ODOT will provide approximately \$3.7 million in funding from its Safety Program for this project. As the feasibility study nears completion and a preferred design alternative is identified, ODOT has entered into the public participation phase of the process. Information on the proposed project and an opportunity to comment can be found online at transportation.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odot/projects/projects/108619.

Ninth Street bridge

Preparation continues for the planned rehabilitation of the bridge near Beachler Field. Engineering design is nearly complete, and the project is on track for a start in early 2022. Work will include replacement of the bridge top box beams, asphalt and sidewalks. The project is being funded in part by a \$546,000 grant from the ODOT Municipal Bridge Program.

For more information on these projects, please call the Engineering Department at 847-6531. ★

Planning a block party or garage sale?

Block parties and garage sales are popular summertime events. If you have either of these in your plans, please adhere to the following guidelines:

Block parties

A request form should be submitted to the City Manager's Office at least two weeks in advance of the event. If approved, the Miami Valley Fire District will be notified, and the Public Works Department will deliver barricades to the ends of the affected street on the Friday before the party. Organizers can place the barricades in an appropriate location to deter traffic and keep attendees and motorists safe. Streets may not be blocked off for parties at individual residences. To obtain a request form, call 847-6456 or download from the

City Manager's Office page on the City's website.

Garage sales

- Hours of operation are limited to 8 a.m. to sundown for no more than three consecutive days.
- Non-illuminated advertising signs may be posted only on the property where the sale is located, or in the yard of neighbors (with their permission). Public bulletin boards at busy retail outlets like Kroger also give good exposure.
- No more than three sales are permitted per residence in any calendar year.
- Sale of food or beverages is prohibited.

For information, call the Development Department at 847-6532.



Street banners

There are three high-traffic locations used to hang over-the-road promotional banners. These locations at Heincke Road, Central Avenue and Main Street are available for community use. A copy of the banner policy and an application can also be obtained online from the City Manager's page on the City website.

New utility payment options coming

To provide residents with additional payment options and more convenience, the City is implementing a new electronic billing and payment solution that is expected to be fully implemented this fall.

Online account access and payments have been available for several years, but the new service will also enable utility customers to pay with electronic check or a credit/debit card or even pay by phone or text message. The pay-by-phone option will be available 24/7 and is a quick

alternative for residents who may not be interested in going online.

Features of the online payment portal include an "At a Glance" dashboard, the ability to schedule one-time or automatic payments, secure storage of payment information and registration for receiving email and/or text billing reminders. Paperless billing will continue to be available. Creating an account is recommended to access all the features, but this is not required to only view and

pay bills online.

An activation date for this improved service will be communicated on upcoming utility bills and the City's website and social media pages.

Income tax

Quarterly estimated income tax payments for the remainder of 2021 are due June 15, September 15 and January 15. All forms are available at ci.miamisburg.oh.us. ★

< "DORA" continued from page 1

- The only alcoholic beverages carried or consumed outdoors MUST be purchased from participating businesses in special DORA-marked cups. Only one beverage is permitted per cup per use.
- When a cup leaves a participating establishment, it cannot come back into that business or taken into another participating bar or restaurant.
- The DORA boundaries will be marked by signage, and all cups must be used and disposed of within those boundaries.

Participating establishments will display window stickers and be governed by existing liquor license requirements as they pertain to overserving, serving to minors, etc. Other downtown businesses can choose to have stickers that specify whether or not alcohol is permitted in their business.

The city manager has the authority to adjust any of the regulations of the DORA, except that the boundaries cannot be expanded arbitrarily. A working committee that includes merchants will be evaluating results and making recommendations moving forward.

Be a good neighbor!

- By codified ordinance, dog walkers in Miamisburg are required to clean-up behind their pets "in a sanitary manner" while walking in public areas or on the private property of others. There are pet waste stations throughout the community to assist with this chore.
- Miamisburg residents who own boats, recreational vehicles or commercial vehicles are reminded to follow the codes governing on-street and off-street parking. Questions may be directed to Code Enforcement at 847-6532. ★

Did you know?

There are approximately 60 DORAs in Ohio.

ECRWSS
Residential Customer



CITY STAFF



New Faces



Derek Ary
Parks & Recreation
Department



Kyle Cullen
Parks & Recreation
Department



Calvin Frazier
Parks & Recreation
Department



Rachel Goforth
Parks & Recreation
Department



Adam Howard
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Parks & Recreation
Department



Wes Reece
Parks & Recreation
Department



Alaynah Stone
Parks & Recreation
Department



Jacob Zink
Parks & Recreation
Department

Inserted into the center of this issue, the City of Miamisburg is pleased to provide its Water Quality Report for 2020. The data contained in this report indicates that the City's water meets or exceeds all current environmental regulations for safe drinking water. Questions may be directed to the Public Works Department at 847-6635. ★