

CIVIC FOCUS

CITY OF MIAMISBURG

Fire District putting levy on Nov. ballot



Voters in Miamisburg and Miami Township will have the opportunity in November to vote on a continuous 11-mill levy that, if approved by voters, will allow the Miami Valley Fire District (MVFD) to become financially self-reliant and provide a revenue increase. The District's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to place this issue on the ballot.

Established in 2012, the District provides fire and emergency medical services to residents and businesses in Miamisburg and Miami Township and functions as the second most-active department in Montgomery County, behind only the City of Dayton (based on annual number of calls for service). Over the last decade, that consolidation of services made for a more efficient

and cost-effective operation. Based on expense projections, it would have cost the two jurisdictions approximately \$11 million (City of Miamisburg) and \$13 million (Miami Township) more to provide separate fire and EMS services.

Today, MVFD continues to work from its original revenue budget, despite increasing expenses due to rising costs for personnel, equipment, utilities and maintenance. Fire and emergency medical runs (known as calls for service), have also continued to climb over the years to nearly 10,000 in 2021. That call volume has grown by 27 percent since the District formed. Current funding is provided primarily from two Miami Township fire levies and a fire levy and general fund contribution from the City of Miamisburg. If the

ballot measure is approved by voters in November, those three levies and the City's contribution will be eliminated.

"Our Board is very pleased that the Miami Valley Fire District has achieved what it was intended to do when it was established," Board President John Stalder said. "This community continues to be served by dedicated, highly trained first responders, and we've been very cost-effective."

Stalder also said the Board worked closely with staff to consider various options for the District's financial future before reaching this ballot decision. He noted that the fire/EMS industry is

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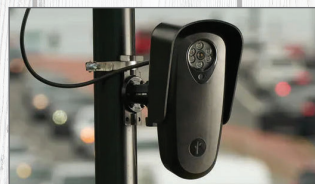


Summer 2022

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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, Vice Mayor
 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
 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

Mayor 847-6458
 elected@cityofmiamisburg.com
City Manager 847-6456
 manager@cityofmiamisburg.com
Engineering 847-6531
 engineer@cityofmiamisburg.com
Finance 866-3303
 finance@cityofmiamisburg.com
Human Resources 847-6465
 hr@cityofmiamisburg.com
Income Tax 847-6462
 incometax@cityofmiamisburg.com
Mound Development Corp. . . . 865-4462
Municipal Court 866-2203
 court@cityofmiamisburg.com
Parks & Recreation 866-8999
 parksandrec@cityofmiamisburg.com
Planning/Development/Inspections 847-6532
 develop@cityofmiamisburg.com
Prosecutor 847-6478
 prosecutor@cityofmiamisburg.com
Public Works (water/streets) . . 847-6635
 publicworks@cityofmiamisburg.com
Water Billing 847-6460
 waterbilling@cityofmiamisburg.com
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
 Gary Giles Public Information Officer
 Valerie Griffin Public Works Director
 Jennifer Johns Finance Director
 Leslie Kohli Human Resources Director
 Andrew Rodney City Planner
 John Sedlak Police Chief
 Bob Stanley City Engineer
 Ben Trick Community Development Coord.

Brandon Barnett 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.
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Miamisburg Court undergoing transition



Late Judge Robert Rettich III

Robert Rettich III, presiding judge of the Miamisburg Municipal Court for the past 10 years, passed away in February. A short time later, retired Judge Thomas Hanna was appointed by the

Ohio Supreme Court to serve as administrative judge until a permanent appointment is made by Gov. Mike DeWine. Since Judge Rettich was a Republican, the Montgomery County Republican Party Judicial Screening

Committee sent the names of three candidates to the governor for consideration to fill the seat.

In accordance with state law, the governor’s appointee will serve until Judge Rettich’s current six-year term expires on Dec. 31, 2023. The next election for the judge’s seat will be November 2023.

The Miamisburg Municipal Court hears cases from Miamisburg, Miami Township, West Carrollton, Germantown and German Township, and small sections of Springboro and Carlisle. ★





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.com. Put "City Beautiful Award" in the subject line.
- Phone-in a nomination to the Parks and Recreation Department at 866-8999.

Miamisburg Historical Society

Ken Ballinger, President (831-1841)

The Miamisburg Historical Society has been awarded a \$5,316 competitive matching grant from the Ohio History Fund Grant program administered by the Ohio History Connection.

At a ceremony held in the Ohio Statehouse on March 1, \$207,100 in grants were awarded to 18 different applicants across the State of Ohio. The local grant funds will be used for upgrades to the Miamisburg History Center. To read more about this local award, visit historicalmiamisburg.org and click on "News."

Among other timely items:

- Heritage Village, located at the corner of Old Main and Lock streets, will open for the season on June 5

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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*):

Children's Performing Arts of MSBG

info@cpamburg.com

Not long after CPAM's production of Little Shop of Horrors takes place on June 10-12, the organization will turn its attention to its planned fall performance. Auditions for Disney's The Lion King will be held June 27-28. More information can be found at cpamburg.com.

CPAM will also be offering a new camp experience this summer:

Princesses, Heroes and Villains Theater Camp July 11-15 and 18-22

In partnership with the Miamisburg Parks and Recreation Department, this two-week camp is for students ages 9-14. This is a great introduction for young people new to acting, but also can assist those who want to improve their audition, acting, singing and dancing skills. Transportation and extended care are available through Parks and Recreation.

CPAM is a non-profit children's theater that promotes, to all area youth, an appreciation of the performing arts through education, practice and performances. ★

Mound welcome new property manager



April Hauser

The leadership team for Mound Development Corp. (MDC) has a new addition. Local resident April Hauser is now serving as the organization's property manager at Mound Business

Park. She succeeded Lorrie Huber, who retired early this year.

Hauser has spent the past 20 years in the property management/real estate industry. She came to Mound from Mark Fornes Realty, where she was asset service manager. At Mound, Hauser has responsibilities with tenant relations,

marketing and other day-to-day activities and works closely with MDC's executive committee and Board of Trustees.

For more information about the site, including business opportunities, visit mound.com or look for Mound Business Park on Facebook.

Discovery Center

Mound has a fascinating history as a former high-security facility producing components for nuclear weapons and NASA space missions. Learn more by visiting the Cold War Discovery Center right across from the famous Native American burial mound. It is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and admission is free. The Discovery Center also hosts a free lecture series on the fourth Wednesday of every month. Topics vary, so call 247-0402 for details. ★

< "Historical Society" continued from page 3

when it hosts an old fashioned ice cream social at 2 p.m. Downtown's 3 Dips will provide the ice cream.

- Also in June, a membership drive will begin. The campaign will include gifts, door prizes and member incentives every month through December. If you are a current member, speak with your friends and neighbors. This is a great time to join!
- The Miamisburg History Center can accommodate visits by groups and organizations beyond normal operating hours. Requests may be directed to MHsociety@historicalmiamisburg.org. ★

Miamisburg Library Notes

Dayton Metro Library's annual Summer Reading Challenge is underway! To register or learn more, visit the local branch or look for information at daytonmetrolibrary.org. The Miamisburg branch is pleased to provide the following sample of program information for summer:

Children

Story Time

Wed, 10 a.m.; Thurs, 11 a.m.

This traditional program continues for children age 3-5 years. Join us for stories, songs and other activities designed to develop language, literacy and social skills.

Baby/Toddler Story Time

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

This version is tailored to children up to 36 months of age. It features stories, songs, rhymes and more. Parent or caregiver must accompany.

Ocean Storytelling

July 21, 2 p.m.

As part of the Summer Reading Challenge theme, author Lindsay Bonilla will share her latest picture book that highlights

unique creatures from the ocean and beyond. This will be a presentation that engages the young attendees.

Teens

Full-Body Gaming

Thursdays, 4 p.m.

Step into the playing area and enjoy games like Awesome Soccer, Falling Lava Floor or Den of Dragons. It all happens through an interactive motion detection projector. No need for controllers. Other activities are also available during this weekly Teen Time period.

Mixed Age

Pull String Art

July 26, 6 p.m.

Learn about a unique art technique to create a beautiful painting by simply pulling a string.

Adults

Star City Book Chat

June 27, 6:30 p.m.

July 18, 6:30 p.m.

This is a monthly gathering that is relaxing and casual. Upcoming selections include:



June – "Not a Happy Family"

by Shari Lapena

July – "Me Before You" by JoJo Moyes

Excel Basics

June 30, 1 p.m.

Email Basics

July 9, 10:30 a.m.

Computer classes that provide instruction on a variety of programs are available.

Census Records Searching

July 20, 4 p.m.

Census records are one of the best ways to find details about your family. We'll learn in this session how to use the Ancestry Library Edition database. Please register in advance.

Dayton Metro Library continues to offer free, shelf stable meals at all branch locations. Also, "Take and Make" craft kits remain available at no charge.

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. Be sure to also follow Dayton Metro on social media. ★



PUBLIC SAFETY



Police Dept. increasing camera use



FLOCK camera

The Miami Valley Fire District will be stepping up its use of camera technology this year for two separate and distinct purposes.

As part of its ongoing commitment to transparency and accountability to the community,

all officers will begin wearing body cameras. Also, in an effort to enhance law enforcement efforts, several license plate-reading cameras will be installed in high-traffic areas. The following is a summary of these new initiatives:

Body cams

The Department was awarded a grant

from the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services totaling \$52,154 to help fund the purchase of new body cams, which have become more and more common across the nation. The City will pay the balance of the final cost, unless additional grants are secured to help offset that cost. These cameras will supplement the current cruiser-mounted recording systems in use in Miami Valley. The leadership team is currently evaluating various brands on the market. The goal is that every on-duty uniformed officer will be equipped with a body cam.

License plate readers

Multiple jurisdictions in the region have begun using these cameras, which are commonly referred to as Flock cameras after the product's brand name.

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Property Protection

Citizens can help Miami Valley police reduce thefts from open or unsecured garages, sheds and vehicles that are more common during warm weather months. Please remember to keep garages closed and sheds and vehicles locked when unattended. Valuables located in vehicles should also be kept out of sight in the trunk. As one way to assist, local officers will attempt to notify a resident if their garage door is found open during overnight hours. If you notice something suspicious in your neighborhood, call the Regional Dispatch Center at 225-HELP or 9-1-1. ★



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.

Bicycle Safety



- Adults and children should always wear approved helmets.
- Be aware and explain to children that a bicycle is a vehicle and must obey all traffic signs and laws.

- Street riding should depend on traffic, maturity, adequate knowledge and ability to follow the rules of the road.
- Bike or walk all routes with your children to identify the safest ways to travel.
- Consult experts who can help choose a bike children can control but will not outgrow quickly.

The Miami Valley Fire District considers it an honor to serve the citizens of Miami Valley 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. ★





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 offers 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.

2022 U.S. Health & Human Services Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Household	Annual Income	Persons in Household	Annual Income
1	\$13,590	5	32,470
2	18,310	6	37,190
3	23,030	7	41,910
4	27,750	8	46,630

For each additional person, add \$4,720.

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 July 15 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: City offices closed and no refuse collection on Independence Day. Schedule for the entire week will be pushed back one day.

Sept. 5: City offices closed and no refuse collection on Labor Day. Schedule for the entire week will be pushed back one day. ★

Preparing for Riverview Avenue improvements

As part of the of the Miamisburg C.A.R.E.S. neighborhood enhancement initiative, a major roadway project has begun to rebuild a primary corridor west of the Great Miami River.

Engineering design is currently underway and will be completed this fall for planned roadway improvements along S. Riverview Avenue between Lower Miamisburg Road and W. Linden Avenue. This will be a \$1.75 million City-funded project with no cost to the affected residents.

Scheduled work will reconstruct the

standard two-lane section of roadway to allow for pedestrian connectivity, provide necessary storm drainage and culvert upgrades to address local resident concerns, and create an aesthetically pleasing corridor with a smoother resurfaced roadway. This new phase follows the 2016 replacement of underground water and sewer utility mains and services in the area.

As the design process unfolds, additional information will be provided to residents updating project status and progress. Prior to construction, detailed plans of work along the corridor and

adjacent to each property will be made available. For permanent improvements to be maintained by the City, standard highway easements will be developed and used. Construction limits for grading, driveway and sidewalk tie-ins, along with miscellaneous property frontage restoration, are intended to be accomplished with individual property owner work agreements. Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2023.

For more information, please contact the City's Engineering Department

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City resumes home rehab program

After a two-year hiatus, local residents can again apply for funding to assist with urgent home repairs or handicap-accessibility improvements.

These Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are available through Montgomery County and are intended to improve local housing stock, reduce property neglect and help residents address deteriorating conditions in order to remain in their homes. Called the Owner-Occupied Home Rehabilitation Program, it targets low- and moderate-income owner-occupied households in need of repair or replacement of key home systems, such as roofs, HVAC, plumbing, electric, doors, windows, driveways, porches, chimneys, siding,

brickwork and handicap accessibility.

To qualify for this program, individuals must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- Own the home and use it as their primary residence.
- Be current on property taxes or current on an approved tax payment plan.
- Have an eligible project to submit.
- Meet income qualifications (80 percent or less of area's median household income).

"We are fortunate to be awarded CDBG funds from Montgomery County to reinstate this program," Miamisburg City Planner Andrew Rodney said. "We hope to assist many Miamisburg families who

otherwise may not have the financial resources to repair or replace vital home systems. Providing this assistance helps those less fortunate, while keeping our neighborhoods well-maintained and competitive in the real estate market."

Local funding opportunities were approved by Miamisburg City Council, and the City is partnering with County Corp on the program. For further information or participate in a pre-screening interview, contact Rodney during regular business hours at 847-6536, andrew.rodney@cityofmiamisburg.com or 20 E. Central Avenue. Eligible projects will be forwarded to County Corp for further processing. Due to high demand, new applicants may be put on a wait list. ★

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 Miamisburg Police Department and 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 ★

< "Levy" continued from page 1

continually evolving and anticipates that future funding priorities will be to replace aging fire and EMS equipment, update or replace fire stations and hire and retain quality firefighters and paramedics.

This 11-mill levy will cost the owner of a \$150,000 home within the District \$48 monthly. This represents a net increase of \$38 monthly for the owner of a \$150,000 home in Miamisburg and an increase of \$20 monthly for the owner of a \$150,000 home in Miami Township.

Retired Miamisburg Mayor Dick Church, Jr. and former Miami Township Trustee Doug Barry will serve as levy campaign co-chairs.

This article is for information only and is not intended to support or oppose the proposed levy. ★

< "Riverview" continued from page 6

at 847-6531 or engineer@cityofmiamisburg.com.

Ninth Street bridge

Construction was scheduled to begin on Ninth Street as soon as the Miamisburg school year ended. Rehabilitation of the bridge near Beachler Field is a \$750,000 project and will require that Ninth be closed in both directions. Work will include replacement of the bridge top box beams, asphalt and sidewalks. It is scheduled to be completed late this year. ★

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. ★

ECRWSS
Residential Customer



CITY STAFF



< "Cameras" continued from page 5

Miamisburg's new cameras will be installed and linked to these existing systems this month. Flock cameras are not necessarily traditional traffic cameras because they do not constantly record or allow for remote live monitoring of the covered area. Rather, they alert on-duty law enforcement officers when stolen

vehicles or those associated with wanted, missing or endangered people are detected.

"The Miamisburg Police Department, and law enforcement in general, have turned to technology tools to help us complete our work, increase our productivity and efficiency, and enhance public transparency," Police

Chief John Sedlak said. "These two new tools advance those objectives. The use of body cams, in particular, will be another step to ensure that the positive relationship we have with the community continues to strengthen." ★

New Faces



Abby Branham
Development Department



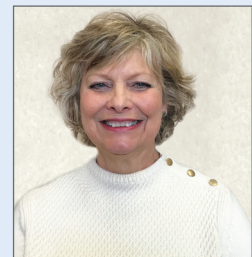
Dawn Hummewell
Human Resources Dept.



Nathan Reese
Public Works Department

Miamisburg

Retirement



Leslie Karacia
Development Department