

CIVIC★FOCUS

CITY OF MIAMISBURG

Miami Valley Fire District Levy will address growing demand for services

11-mill levy allows MVFD to operate independently from City and Township

Miamisburg and Miami Township residents will vote this fall on a continuous 11-mill levy that, if approved, will enable the Miami Valley Fire District (MVFD) to operate from its own funding independent of the City and Township.

The District, established in 2012 when the Miamisburg and Miami Township fire departments were consolidated, has eliminated redundancies and required a reduced level of employees, equipment and supplies to maintain the same level of service as the separate City and Township fire departments.

Over the last decade, 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 emergency medical services. The proposed levy will not only replace existing funding sources, but also generate additional revenue for an organization that has seen flat revenues for the past 10 years.

Increasing demand

Revenues have remained flat even as the number of fire and emergency medical runs have climbed — from 7,114 calls for service in 2013 to 9,965 in 2021. MVFD is the second-busiest department in Montgomery County, averaging 27

calls for service per day.

Capital improvements

The proposed levy will enable MVFD to embark on a \$15 million, 10-year Capital Improvement Plan. This would double the current investment into replacing equipment and apparatus and also begin a planned project to replace stations that are over 40 years old.

"These stations were built for a volunteer and part-time workforce and no longer serve the needs of our population or the firefighters that occupy the fire stations 24 hours-a-day, 365 days a year," Chief Brandon Barnett said.

Easing the burden

To support its operation, the District actively seeks other sources of revenue and partnerships, such as:

- **Grants** – The Fire District has applied for \$1.5 million in grant funding and received \$134,268.
- **Insurance Billing** – In 2021, 10 percent of the District's total revenue came from billing insurance providers for emergency medical transport.
- **Regional Dispatch Center** – By partnering with the Montgomery County Regional Dispatch Center, the District is able to save the cost of operating its own dispatching operation.

Continued on page 5 >



Property owners will pay \$32.08 per month for every \$100,000 of property value, equivalent to \$385 annually. When estimating your cost, base it on your property's current valuation.

Don't Forget to Vote!

Election Day is Nov. 8. There are three ways to vote in this election:

- ☒ Four weeks of early in-person voting.
- ☒ Easy and secure absentee voting by mail. You can track your ballot request at VoteOhio.gov/track.
- ☒ Safe and convenient in-person voting on Election Day.

Local information about polling locations, early voting locations, sample ballots and more can be found at the Montgomery County Board of Elections website at montgomery.boe.ohio.gov.

Fall 2022

In this issue:



5 – PD requests citizen help



6 – Leaf collection



7 – Water meter changeout





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
Vacant
 At-Large TBA
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

Table of contents

CITY NEWS

Directory	2
Around Town.	3
Mound Business Notes	4
Library Notes	4
Public Safety Report	5
Leaf Collection.	6
Ninth Street Bridge	6
Water Meter Changeout	7
Court Technology Grant	7
City Staff	8

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

Managing Editor: Gary Giles

Design: Julie Zolman

Printing: Think Patented

Greg Thompson resigns Council seat



2011 and was serving his third term at the time of his departure.

City Council member Greg Thompson, an at-large representative, resigned his seat effective Aug. 31 due to a relocation out of the community.

Thompson was first elected in

"I want to thank Greg for his service to this community," Mayor Michelle Collins said. "He represented our residents with professionalism, and we wish him and his family the very best."

In accordance with the City charter, Council launched a process to appoint a replacement and solicited resumes from interested individuals. Council has 30 days to make this appointment. In the event they fail to name a replacement, that responsibility falls to Mayor Collins. The appointed citizen will serve the remainder of Thompson's term, which expires on Dec. 31, 2023. ★



AROUND TOWN



First City Beautiful Awards announced



The City Beautification Commission (CBC) has selected its first set of recipients for 2022 City Beautiful Awards, which recognize residents and businesses for the quality appearance of their property.

Listed here are the June and July honorees. Awards presented for August will be published in the next issue of *Civic Focus*. The Commission wants to express its appreciation to all the people who submitted nominations this year and encourage even more nominations in 2023. (**Please note:** Properties are eligible for the award once every three years.)

JUNE

The Coulton Home	646 Pecos Drive
The Hortman Home	502 S. Linden Avenue
The Baker Home	975 Bakersfield Court
The Honeyman/Callahan Home	627 Mears Drive
The Ely Home	1229B Eleventh Street
The Gilbert Home	961 Blanche Drive
The Caldwell Home	726 E. McGuire Street
The Riffle Home	910 E. Pearl Street
The Reyes Home	1973 Lord Fitzwalter Drive
The Slusher Home	1208 Lord Fitzwalter Drive
The Salem Home	1566 Sherwood Forest Drive
The Knee Home	1734 Lindsey Avenue
The Waterhouse Home	8867 MSBG-Springboro Road
The McKinney Home	1757 Hambletonian Court
The Nirmala Home	36 Fairwood Court
The Wellinghoff Home	31 Fairwood Court

Renovation Award

The Hamilton Home
The Bell Home

Business

English Manor
Napoli's Pizza

743 Sycamore Street
28 S. Fifth Street

505 Linden Avenue
715 Heincke Road

JULY

The Hemmingsen Home
The Berkhimer Home
The Baker Home
The Novak Home
The Haacke Home
The Soter Home
The Gillaspay Home
The Uhlman Home
The Baker Home
The Gessells Home
The Roberts Home
The Bell Home
The Froelich Home
The Paterchak Home
The Willey Home
The Seals Home

1055 Umbreit Court
1209 Warwick Drive
558 Dee Avenue
1231 Mound Road
116 Cole Avenue
702 Cottage Avenue
742 McGuire Circle
1355 Eagle Mountain Drive
1201 Lord Fitzwalter Drive
365 St. Andrews Trail
467 Sycamore Woods Drive
456 Sycamore Ridge Court
2400 Rosina Drive
904 Cranbrook Drive
2120 Clemens Court
1201 Bonniebrook Drive

Renovation Award

The Allaire Home
The Vincent Home

4143 Benner Road
743 Sycamore Street

Business

MeGen Vending
Dan's Hairstyling

2585 Belvo Road
37 Lawrence Avenue

Miamisburg Historical Society

Ken Ballinger, President (831-1841)



time tour of Second Street presented in August.

Meanwhile, the MHS Veterans Committee has been working with the City to place large banners in Veterans Memorial Park on Central Avenue. Watch for updates on this project at historicalmiamisburg.org and on the organization's Facebook page.

The Miamisburg Historical Society (MHS) has been actively creating new programs and partnerships. For example, a cooperative project with Dayton Metro Library has made the Millionaires Row walking tours a big success and also resulted in a first-

Looking ahead to fall, the Society will be participating in the Ohio History Connection's "Open Doors" program. On Sept. 17, the Miamisburg History Center on Fifth Street will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Among other timely items:

- Heritage Village remains open Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. through Oct. 2. Visitors can see local artisans demonstrate their craft skills by making items used by our forefathers. The Village is located at the corner of Old Main and Lock streets.
- The 2022 membership drive continues. New members joining before Veterans Day will be entered into a drawing for gift certificates to local restaurants and businesses. There will be a special drawing on Nov. 12 for the beautiful quilt currently on display at the History Center.

Questions on any of these topics may be emailed to MHsociety@historicalmiamisburg.org. ★

Mound Business Park Notes

- Mound recently announced the additions of two new business tenants on site. TDA Technology is a startup company focused on thermal diffusion systems that include thermal diffusion powders and sealers. Daytronic will be relocating in October from Kohnle Drive in Miamisburg. Daytronic is a recognized leader in sensor-based signal conditioning and serves the needs of today's fast-changing digital world using proven capabilities of analog measurement technology.

- Mound Development Corp., which oversees operation of the Business Park, hosted Mayor Michelle Collins' quarterly business luncheon in June. The event was held at the Mound Cold War Discover Center on Mound Road, and tours of the facility were offered to attendees afterward.

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

Splash pad delayed

One of the City's capital projects this summer was impacted by the highly publicized supply chain issues affecting the nation.

The Parks and Recreation Department determined in late June that the new splash pad under construction at Sycamore Trails Aquatic Center would not be completed during swim season. The reason was a second delay in the delivery of specific components needed for the mechanical system. The splash pad was originally scheduled to be completed by the beginning of summer.

The community can look forward to enjoying this exciting new feature in 2023! ★

Miamisburg Library Notes

The Miamisburg branch of Dayton Metro Library is pleased to provide the following sample of program information for fall:

Children

Reading Buddies

(age preschool thru grade 3)
Saturdays, 11 a.m.

Does your child need some extra guidance in reading? In this program, trained volunteers spend time with any child who needs more reading practice. These Reading Buddies can read aloud to a child, listen to a child read or both.

Crazy 8s Math Club

Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.

Join us for a whole new way to experience math! This hands-on, fun and engaging program will have youngsters building catapults, playing full body bingo, using bouncy dice and enjoying math in ways they never imagined. Advance registration required.

LEGO Club

Fourth Tuesdays of the month, 4:30 p.m.

Join the Club and build a new LEGO creation each month. The library will provide the LEGOs, but they'll remain at the branch after the session is complete.

Teens

Teen Advisory Board – NEW!

Second Tuesdays of the month, 4 p.m.

Teens get a taste of teamwork, community and leadership by providing input into the operation of their local library branch.

Mixed Age

Interactive Movie

Oct. 11 & 25, 6 p.m.

Join us this spooky season for a family-friendly movie with special interactive script. Props and popcorn will be provided.

Ghost Walking Tour

Oct. 22 & 29, 3 p.m.

Walk with us to Veterans Memorial Park, which was a cemetery many years ago. You'll hear the tales of eerie happenings in and around that park and adjacent Carnegie Building.

Weird Dayton

Nov. 5, 2 p.m.

Local History Librarian Rachael Bussert will share three strange stories from Dayton's history.

Adults

Genealogy 1-on-1

Oct. 12 & Nov. 15

Reserve a 45-minute session with Shawna Woodard, genealogy librarian, to research your family line.

Kettering Health Speaker Series

A representative from Kettering Health will be providing information on a series of health-related topics. Call the branch for a schedule.

Word Basics

Sept. 20, 2:30 p.m.
Oct. 19, 4 p.m.

Email Basics

Oct. 26, 2:30 p.m.

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



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.

Dates to Remember

September 22-23

Miamisburg High School Homecoming

October 31

Beggars Night

November 8

Election Day

November 24-25

City offices closed for Thanksgiving





PUBLIC SAFETY



Residents invited to assist Police Department

Doorbell and other outdoor security cameras have become popular among homeowners in recent years, and they've provided valuable assistance at times to law enforcement efforts.

Recognizing the role these cameras can play in solving crime, the Ohio Attorney General's office is sponsoring and financing a pilot program called the TALEN Project. The state's partner in this initiative is a company called Fūsus, which employs a digital platform called Real-Time Crime Center in the Cloud. This system features technological integration that the company's website explains as follows:

The Fūsus Real-Time Crime Center in the Cloud (RTC3) extracts and unifies live video, data and sensor feeds from virtually any source, enhancing the situational awareness and investigative capabilities of law enforcement agencies. Whether it's an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, a traffic

camera, a private cell phone video, a building security camera, an Automated License Plate Reader, or a bomb disposal robot, Fūsus can extract the live video feed and send it to your emergency operations center and officers in the field.

Fūsus enables Law Enforcement and Public Safety agencies to operate more efficiently, with improved operational intelligence, and with a proactive emphasis on officer, citizen and community safety.

Citizen help needed

The Miamisburg Police Department is participating in the TALEN Project and has introduced its own Miamisburg Community Connect Program to collaborate with residents.

Interested individuals with outdoor security cameras can register themselves in the

program, sharing the location of their cameras with police. Registering a camera does not give anyone access to it. This simply gives investigators a roadmap to where cameras are located and the ability to request recordings by way of a digital drop box link sent directly to the owner. The Police Department will only have access to a resident's video with their permission and only in the event of a criminal incident or emergency at or near their location.

To register, visit miamisburgpd.fususregistry.com/. To review a short video about what Fūsus is and how it works, scan the following QR Code:



< "Fire Levy" continued from page 1

Per capita costs

Based on the District's 2022 budgets and 2020 populations, the following is a comparison of fire/EMS costs among peers in the region:

Agency	Annual per resident cost (2022 budget)
Beavercreek/Beavercreek Twp	\$364
Centerville/Washington Twp	\$259
Springboro/Clearcreek Twp	\$276
Miami Valley Fire District	\$197
Miami Valley Fire District (if levy approved)	\$240

Cost to property owners

The levy would generate about \$12.4 million in the first year. Property owners would pay \$385 per year for every \$100,000 of their property's value, which is \$32.08 per month. This represents a net increase of \$25 monthly for the owner of a \$100,000 property in Miamisburg and an increase of \$13 monthly for the owner of a \$100,000 property in Miami Township. Collection of the levy funds would begin with property tax bills in 2023.

Current levies

Current funding for the District is provided primarily from two Miami Township fire levies and one fire levy and general fund contribution from the City of Miamisburg. If the upcoming ballot measure is approved by voters, those three levies and the City's contribution will be eliminated.

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



Fire Prevention Week

The 2022 theme for October's Fire Prevention Week is "Fire Won't Wait; Plan Your Escape." Members of the Fire District will be visiting local schools during the month to promote the importance of families forming a fire escape plan for their homes.

Fall household chores

Please stay safe while doing fall chores around the house. For example, cleaning gutters can be dangerous. Always use the proper sized ladder and have another person "foot" the ladder anytime it is in use. It also is a good idea to:

- Remove garden hoses from outdoor spigots before the first freeze.
- Have your furnace inspected by a licensed company before winter.
- Use fire pits with caution.

Questions may be directed to District headquarters at 560-2152. ★



STREET BEAT



Curbside leaf collection begins October 31

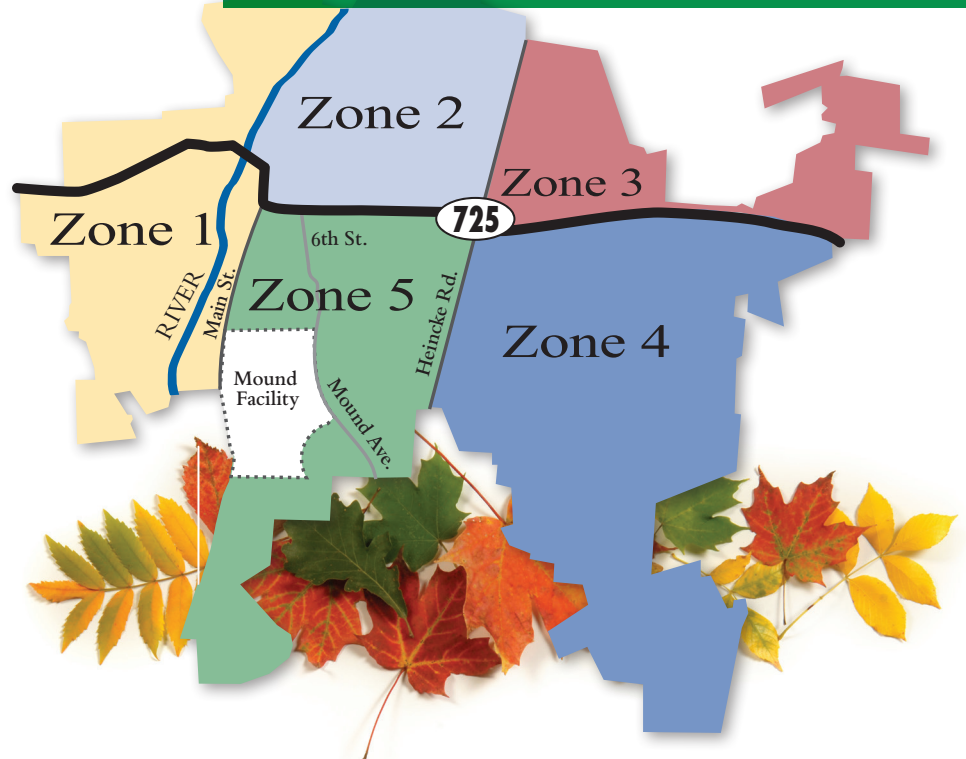
The Public Works Department will begin leaf collection on Monday, Oct. 31 and continue through Dec. 22. Residents having leaves after this date are encouraged to use composting or mulching as disposal methods. Although it is less environmentally friendly, leaves also may be bagged at that time and placed out with regular refuse for weekly collection.

Crews will once again use the zone collection system in which the City is divided into five collection zones. All leaf crews begin in Zone 1 and remain there until every street is passed once. Crews then move numerically through the remaining zones and work extended hours as needed during heavy collection periods.

A map of the zones is provided at right. Residents who wish to check which zone crews are working can call the City's Public Works Hotline 24-hours-a-day at 847-6454. To assist crews, please follow these guidelines:

- Make sure leaves to be collected are not under, between or around parked cars.
- Rake leaves as they fall, so they are ready for pickup when crews arrive.
- Keep grass clippings, tree branches and brush separated from leaves. Materials other than leaves clog the vacuum units and will not be collected. ★

Leaf Collection Zones



Ninth Street bridge project complete

Rehabilitation of the bridge on Ninth Street was completed in August ahead of schedule and on budget. This \$750,000 project near Beachler Field included funding support from the Ohio Department of Transportation and required that Ninth be closed during construction. Work included replacement of the bridge top box beams, asphalt roadway and sidewalks. ★



Holiday Service Schedule

Thursday, Nov. 24 : City offices closed and no refuse collection on Thanksgiving Day.

Friday, Nov. 25: City offices closed. Rumpke will collect refuse for Thursday routes.

Saturday, Nov. 26: Rumpke collection of Friday routes. ★

Upgraded water meters being installed

In an ongoing effort to improve customer service and maximize water system efficiency for the community, the City of Miamisburg has begun the process of replacing its estimated 8,500 residential and commercial water meters.

The City is partnering with Ferguson Waterworks on this project. The new meters are part of Ferguson's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system by Master Meter that adds technology to the entire metering process and provides benefits to both water customers and the City.

- Water customers for the first time will be able to monitor their usage in real time through a smartphone app or a website portal. Individuals can also sign-up for notification alerts regarding high usage.
- The City will move to a meter reading process that is done completely by

remote, eliminating the need for staff to visit every service address to make manual readings. This provides more flexibility for crews to conduct maintenance activities or respond to urgent situations.

The new meters will also provide more accurate readings than the existing models, according to Public Works Director Valerie Griffin.

"We are excited to partner with a forward-thinking utility like Miamisburg," said Jeff Garrett, Ferguson AMI specialist. "This type of automated system brings customer service to the forefront, benefitting residents serviced by the utility."

The installation contractor is sending letters and distributing hanging door signs to notify customers when their meter will be exchanged. This enables the resident or business owner to plan for a 15-to-20

minute water service interruption. Of course, meters located in a residence require customers to be present for installation.

Ferguson Waterworks is the largest wholesale distributor of residential and commercial plumbing supplies and pipe, valves and fittings in the nation. The company is also a major distributor of HVAC equipment, fire protection systems, waterworks and industrial products and services.

Questions about the water meter changeout may be directed to the Public Works Department at 847-6635. ★



Court tech grant

The Supreme Court of Ohio announced this summer that it had awarded a \$115,250 technology grant to the Miamisburg Municipal Court.

This funding will enable the Miamisburg Municipal Court to implement a number of upgrades, including: 1) enhanced imaging and electronic signature features; 2) text notifications to improve court appearance rates; 3) an electronic filing system to provide easier public access to justice; 4) a kiosk to help clients comply with terms of probation; and 5) a case flow system that will enable the public to easily follow their case through the judicial process.

Clerk of Court Amanda Zennie said late Judge Robert W. Rettich III supported this grant application and advocated for improving court technology to serve the public more efficiently and effectively.

"Courts can embrace technological advancements like every other institution that provides a service," Zennie said. "The time our legal professionals save through technology is time that can be dedicated to the people in our jurisdiction." ★

Update: Home rehab program

As a result of a \$125,000 investment by Montgomery County and the City of Miamisburg in the Owner-Occupied Home Rehabilitation Program, 11 low-to-moderate income households in the community received funding this year for repair or replacement of essential home systems.

The funding was made available through Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for amounts up to \$10,000. Selected projects for things like HVAC, plumbing and windows began this summer and will be completed by the end of 2022.

The City submitted an application for new CDBG money to continue the program next year. Watch future issues of *Civic Focus* to learn about new opportunities that may be available. ★



Finance Award

The City of Miamisburg has again earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. This award is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada and is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. Miamisburg has been presented this award annually for nearly 30 consecutive years.

Income tax reminder

Taxpayers who are filing on extension are reminded that they can submit their forms online. Just create an account at cityofmiamisburg.com/income-tax/, select "Individual E-File," enter your information and upload required documentation. Online

filers will need their account number. If you do not know your account number, call the Income Tax office at 847-6462. ★

ECRWSS
Residential Customer



CITY STAFF



Welcome!

New Faces



Dylan Branham
Police Department



Alison Jenks-Pifer
Parks & Recreation Dept.



Matt Kash
Police Department



Alison Landrum
Police Department



Darren Miller
Parks & Recreation Dept.



Julie Schwab
Finance Department

Native son honored

Following a dedication ceremony in Riverfront Park, a road sign was unveiled this summer renaming a section of State Rte. 725 in Miamisburg. The section between S. Union Road and Soldiers Home Road now honors late Sgt. Gary Lee McKiddy, who died heroically in 1970 while serving in the Vietnam War. The name change was approved by the Ohio legislature. ★



Join the fun this year at the Miamisburg Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning. For details, visit orrc.org.