

**Madison Township Celebrates Bicentennial 1810 - 2010**

March of 2010 will mark Madison Township's 200th anniversary. Township Officials are planning a celebration in 2010. The event will be held in March or during the summer.

The Township has established a planning committee that will start meeting soon to plan the event. If you are interested volunteering or have photos or historical information about the Township, please contact Larry Flowers at 614-836-5308 or administrator@madisontownship.org .



**Madison Township**

The Village of Groveport and the Village of Canal Winchester are in Madison Township.

Listed Below Are People Whom You May Need to Call for Information or Service

**Administration Office**

Phone: 614-836-5308

Address: 4575 Madison Lane • Groveport, OH 43125

Website: [www.madisontownship.org](http://www.madisontownship.org)

Hours:

M-Thurs - 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**BOARD of TRUSTEES**

Susan Brobst ..... 614-836-5308

Edward B. Dildine ..... 614-836-5308

Victor Paini ..... 614-836-5308

**FISCAL OFFICER**

Barb Adams..... 614-836-5308

**ADMINISTRATOR**

Larry Flowers..... 614-836-5308

**FIRE CHIEF**

Clifford Mason..... 614-837-7883

**POLICE CHIEF**

Greg Ryan ..... 614-836-5355

**ROAD SUPERINTENDENT**

Terry Spangler..... 614-836-4467

Franklin County Zoning..... 614-462-3094

Franklin County Board of Health ..... 614-462-3160

Franklin County Engineer..... 614-836-8300

Waste Management.....614-833-9111

EMERGENCY - 911

**Madison Township Trustees Meetings 2010**

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each Month at 6:00 p.m.

Community Center

4575 Madison Lane •Groveport, OH 43125

January 20th	February 17th
March 17th	April 21st
May 19th	June 16th
July 21st	August 18th
September 17th	October 20th
November 17th	December 15th

ORC 505.07(A) Allows Public Funds to be used for newsletters.



DECEMBER  
2009  
NEWS

**NEW TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT**

**EDWARD B. DILDINE**

Elected in 2009, Ed Dildine will take office on January 1, 2010. In December, 2009 Ed retired from the Madison Township Fire Dept. after serving 35 years as a Firefighter/EMT. Ed also served as the Firefighters Union President for eight years.



Ed states, "With my nearly 35 years as a firefighter for Madison Township, being elected Trustee, I will be able to continue working with and for the residents and employees of Madison Township. I think I will bring a new perspective to the Board."

**VICTOR PAINI**

Elected in 2009, Victor Paini (pie-knee) will take office in January 2010. Victor just completed four years serving on Village Counsel in Canal Winchester. Victor is active with numerous service clubs and charities including American Red Cross Board Member, Central Ohio Lions Eye Bank Board Member, and Board Member for Miracles and Magic.



Victor's greatest accomplishments are "My fundraising efforts for "A Kid Again" as my committee has raised over \$300,000 in the past three years to benefit children with life threatening illnesses."

Victor works for Chase Bank as the Vice President in the Corporate Internet Group. His goals for Madison Township includes open and accountable government, improved use of information technology and increased regional cooperation and leadership.

Victory states "I'm very excited to begin working with the residents of Madison Township. I consider it a privilege to serve and look forward to serving you over the next four years.

**TRUSTEE SUSAN BROBST**

Susan Brobst returns to the Board of Trustees and will be joined by Victor Paini and Ed Dildine. Susan has served as Vice Chair for the Board for the last six years. She will continue to be a hands on Board member and work hard and meet our residents needs. Susan's valuable networking skills helps the Township be a vital part of the Southeast Community.



Brobsts' commitment to the community is evident with her longtime involvement in her local church, as an advisor of Groveport Buttoneers 4-H club and her work with the Canal Winchester Food Pantry, along with the many school activities her children participate in and her support of husband

David through the Groveport Madison Lions Club activities. "Despite recent tough times, I'm proud the Township remains a great place to work and raise a family", Brobst states.

**FISCAL OFFICER**

**BARBARA ADAMS**

Barb Adams continues to serve as the Township's Fiscal Officer. The Fiscal Officer handles all payroll, benefits, accounts receivable and accounts payable for the Township's \$11 million operation.



Barb has repeatedly received great audits from the Ohio auditors Office. She very carefully watches Township spending and encourages the Departments to research for grants monies and explores cost saving programs. Barb sees herself as a strong steward of taxpayers dollars.

**DEPARTING TRUSTEES**

**DENNIS L. WHITE**

Elected in 1985, Denny was sworn in January, 1986. He served six - four year terms and served as Chairman and Vice Chairman several terms. Denny was a part of great expansions of services to the Township residents. Denny played a valuable role in development of Brobst Park and supported consolidation of the Police and Fire Department Dispatching Services to Franklin County and the Columbus Fire Department. The consolidation saved the Township taxpayers thousands of dollars. Denny also worked to improve relationships with other area local governments, including Franklin County and State officials. Denny sees his greatest accomplishment as getting our local governments to work together.



Denny states, "I've enjoyed my years with the Township and proud of the service we provide."

Denny, thank you for your service and good luck in your future endeavors.

**JIM HUMMEL**

Trustee Jim Hummel leaves the Board of Trustees after serving eight years, the last four years as Chairman. Jim was instrumental in recent improvements at Brobst Park and sees his greatest accomplishment as researching ways to provide great service and save the taxpayers money.



Jim never opened a Township meeting without leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim was a hands on Trustee and worked every day to help Township residents with their issues.

Jim's dedication to the Township will be missed and we wish him the best.

## A report to the residents from the Fire Department

I hope this finds you well as you prepare for the holiday season. May you enjoy the season safely and not have to worry about fire hazards. As you decorate inside and out, prepare your favorite holiday meals, invite family and friends to your home, may you do so with the following safety tips provided by the Virginia Department of Fire Programs:

### Prevent Christmas Tree Fires

*Selecting the proper tree:* Make certain you select a fresh green tree with needles that are hard to pull back from the branches; the needle should not break easily when pulled away from the tree. The tree trunk should be sticky to the touch. When selecting a tree, bounce the tree on the ground, if many needles fall off the tree, it may mean the tree is less than fresh and may present a fire hazard.

*Caring for your tree:* Do not place your tree close to a fireplace or heater vents. The heat will aid in drying out the tree and causing it to be more easily ignited by flame, heat or sparks. Be extra careful when smoking or using candles in a room with a cut tree. Keep the tree watered at all times.

*Disposing of the tree:* NEVER put the tree or branches in a fireplace when you remove the tree. Have the tree hauled away by a professional or take it to an authorized recycling center that accepts old trees.

*Holiday Lighting:* Maintain your holiday lights by inspecting them before you hang them by looking for bare or frayed wire. Broken or cracked sockets, excessive kinking or wear should be an indicator to not use the lights. Use only UL approved lighting; making sure your connections are covered with electrical tape especially if used outdoors. Do not use more than three strands when stringing lights together unless they are designed for such use. Connect the strings into an extension cord before plugging into an electrical outlet. Check the cords often to make sure they are not warm to touch. If so, unplug the cord from the outlet and allow it to cool before plugging it back in. Remember to check often.

*Decorations:* Use only nonflammable decorations. Never place wrapping paper in the fireplace. Keep all decorations away from any heat source.

### Menorah and Kinara Safety

- Make sure that you use a sturdy, fire-safe menorah or kinara.
- Place the menorah/kinara on a steady table and make sure all combustibles are at least three feet from the candles' flame.
- Avoid placing the menorah/kinara in small, closed areas, such as closets or between bookshelves.
- Keep the candles away from anything flammable.
- Avoid putting your menorah/kinara in windows or near

doorways. If they catch fire, your exit could be blocked. Check the candles often to make sure they haven't burned down too low.

- Never leave lit candles unattended.

The Madison Township Fire Department is here to assist you with your questions about holiday safety. Please feel free to contact our non-emergency number during normal business hours if we can help in any way. 614.837.7883

## Road Department

### Snow Removal:

- 2 - 12 hour shifts, 2 men per shift, 1 alternate
- Salt hills, curves and intersections (salt is \$62.00 per ton)
- Rural roads get salt and sandgrits mixture
- Pre-treat with salt brine before storm (cost \$0.12 per gallon)
- 3 dump trucks equipped with plows and salt spreaders
- 1 dump truck with brine system
- 4 pickup trucks with plows
- Main streets get plowed or salted first then side streets
- Vehicles need to stay clear of plow trucks as they need additional room to move around, slow down and leave extra room between you and the snowplows.

### Ice & Snow . . . Take It Slow...Winter Driving Tips

**Black Ice** - Roads that seem dry may actually be slippery — and dangerous. Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady areas — all are hot spots for black ice.

**Safety Around Snowplows** - Give snowplows room to work. The plows are wide and can cross the centerline or shoulder. Don't tailgate and try not to pass. If you must pass, take extreme caution and beware of the snow cloud. Snow plows travel below the posted speed limit — be patient.

A snow plow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they don't always see you. Keep your distance and watch for sudden stops or turns.

**Speed and Distance** - The faster you're going, the longer it will take to stop. Brake early, brake slowly, break correctly and never slam on the brakes. When driving on ice and snow, do not use cruise control and avoid abrupt steering maneuvers. Be aware of what's going on well ahead of you.

### Leaves and Water Pollution

Leaves dumped on stream banks kill vegetation whose roots hold soil on slopes and protect it from eroding. The same concerns hold true for grass clippings and other yard waste. Small steps to protect our waterways from these pollutants include:

- Use lawn bags to dispose of leaves and debris.
- Compost leaves in the backyard. Information on composting can be found at <http://ohioline.osu.edu/fact/0001>.
- Drop leaves off at local composting facilities.
- Sweep up and recycle leaves that are on sidewalks, driveways and in alleys.
- Do not dump leaves or debris onto stream banks or in floodways.
- For lighter leaf accumulations, mow over the leaves with a mulching mower.

These simple solutions to protect waterways can make a difference in water quality for the benefit of people, rivers, plants and wildlife.

## Chief Ryan Urges Holiday Shoppers to Stay Safe

The holidays, a time for cheer, hope and joy are here, but unfortunately, it can be a time when crime becomes more prevalent. Chief Ryan cautions shoppers that crooks love the holidays as much as everyone else, but chiefly because it is an opportunity for crime.

Chief Ryan offers holiday safety tips to help make your holiday season a safe and happy one. Please take some time to read them and share them with your family and friends.

### IF YOU ARE SHOPPING

- Stay alert and be aware of what is going on around you.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Do not overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet inside a coat or front pants pocket.
- Never leave your purse in a shopping cart or on a counter while you pay for your purchases. When using public restrooms, use extreme caution by avoiding putting your purse on hooks or door handles.
- Never carry large amounts of money. Whenever possible, use credit cards or checks instead of cash. Make sure that only one credit slip is printed with your charge card and be sure to tear up any carbons.
- Park in a well-lighted space. Be sure to lock the car, close the windows plus hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- When returning to your auto or home, have your keys in your hand and be ready to open the door.
- Before entering your vehicle, carefully check the front and rear seats and floor for anyone that may be hiding there. Lock your doors immediately after entering the vehicle.
- Try to shop with friends or relatives. There is safety in numbers.

### IF YOU ARE SHOPPING WITH CHILDREN

- When in a public facility always supervise your children and ALWAYS accompany young children to the restroom.
- Teach younger children to look for people who can be sources of help within the store or mall, such as a uniformed security officer, or salesperson with a name tag.
- If older children become separated from you, have them meet you in a pre-designated spot, such as the checkout counter or mall's information booth.
- Teach children to NEVER leave the store/mall or go to the parking lot to look for you or your car.
- Parents should not leave children alone in public facilities such as video arcades, movie theaters, or playgrounds as a convenient "babysitter" while they are holiday shopping. Store personnel are not trained to supervise and care for your children and it is not a function of their employment.
- If you are going holiday shopping and feel that you will be distracted, make other arrangements for the care of your children.
- It is easy for you and your children to get distracted with all the sights, sounds and crowds of holiday shopping, so make certain they are staying with you at all times.

The Madison Township Police Department wishes everyone a safe and joyous holiday season!

## Police Department Receives \$26,929 in Traffic Safety Grants

Ohio Department of Public Safety's (ODPS) Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO) awarded \$26,929 in federal traffic safety funding to Madison Township Police Department for federal fiscal year 2010. The funds are passed through OTSO from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to support the efforts of safety partners statewide and focuses on traffic safety priority areas such as restraint use, impaired driving, motorcycle safety and youthful drivers.

Crash data shows that 706 crashes caused 234 injuries and 6 fatalities in Madison Township over a three year period from 2006 to 2008. Madison Township is working diligently to reverse this trend over the next 10 months. To reduce these numbers, Madison Township will be conducting high visibility enforcement, working over-time hours and holding educational and awareness events with the grant funds.

"Based on crash data, we have identified U.S. Route 33 and rural county roads in Madison Township, as areas being funded for traffic enforcement for speed, impaired drivers, and restraint use in Madison Township and are pleased to work with our partners at the state level to address this safety issue," said Chief Ryan. "These funds are critical to ensuring that we are doing everything possible to keep our community safe. I urge drivers to obey traffic laws, drive defensively and to always fasten safety belts."

## History of Madison Township

Townships are one of the oldest forms of government. Ohio's townships were created in 1787, even before Ohio became a state. Currently, there over 1,300 townships ranging in size from small rural townships with only a few hundred residents to large urban townships with populations in the hundreds of thousands. Typically, townships provide services to residents of unincorporated portions of the state. These services generally include road maintenance and police and fire protection. Three trustees elected to staggered four-year terms govern all townships. Fiscal officers are elected to four-year terms to serve as the township's chief financial official.

Madison Township has an unincorporated population of approximately 12,450 person in 7,900 households. When you include the Village of Groveport and Canal Winchester that is in Madison Township the population is 22,000. Madison Township has 94 full and part-time employees in four departments: Road, Police, Fire and Administration. The heads of each of these departments have provided overviews of their areas in other portions of this newsletter. We encourage you to contact these officials if you have any questions or would like additional information. Our mission is to serve you — our constituents.

*Thank you and Have a Safe  
and Happy Holiday Season!*