

THE BLUE LETTER



333 James E. Bohanan Drive • Vandalia, OH 45377 • (937) 898-5891

April 25, 2025

Mayor Herbst & City Councilmembers:

Last Tuesday was an exciting day as we enjoyed our annual Youth In Government (YIG) Day with high school students from Vandalia-Butler School District who were paired with senior city leaders and Council members to learn about local government. We enjoyed having the students attend a city staff meeting and several of them participate in a simulated Council Study Session and Council Meeting. This annual event has been a great way for City, Township, and School District leaders to partner with high school students to share insight into how various local government entities work to provide quality services and education to our community. A special “thanks” to Gabrielle “Gabby” Holop who served as my counterpart as city manager for the day and learned about overseeing and managing city operations. I also want to thank Ben Graham and Mike Hammes for their assistance in coordinating the students with their city counterparts and preparing the materials for the simulated Council meeting. Thank you to Julie Trick and the Vandalia-Butler Optimist Club for organizing this event and coordinating the lunch at the high school banquet room for the students and local government officials who participated in YIG. Special thanks to the local credit unions who supported YIG Day by covering the lunch costs. This is always a special annual event that we hope inspires young people to consider opportunities to serve their community.

The tax office survived another successful tax season! Between March 31, 2025, and April 15, 2025, the Finance Department assisted 1,590 taxpayers at the counter, received 754 phone calls, 450 emails, and 3,075 electronic tax returns (January through April). Great job by our Finance Department employees for their diligence and commitment during tax season!

On Thursday, April 17th, the Division of Fire and Division of Police participated in a mock crash at the high school. The mock crash is held to bring awareness to teens about the dangers of impaired and distracted driving. The event is typically presented during the week of prom and involves the Vandalia Butler Schools, Vandalia and Butler Twp. Fire Departments, Vandalia and



Butler Twp. Police Departments, Care Flight, and Morton Whetstone Funeral Home. This year, all high school grades were able to watch and participate in the event. A special thanks to the Public Works Department for assisting with staging the “wrecked” vehicles for the mock crash.

On April 23rd, the Dayton International Airport held the 2025 Annual Emergency Plan Review Triennial Full-Scale Exercise involving a simulated plane crash. The Vandalia Division of Fire participated in this exercise by sending equipment and crews to participate in this event since they work closely with neighboring departments, including the airport. The Division of Police also participated by having a police officer involved in the exercise drill.

Public Safety Telecommunicators Week was April 13-19th and gave us the opportunity to recognize the great work that our dispatchers do 24/7. Our public safety specialists (PSS) fill a crucial role in answering all 911 and non-emergency calls in the Communications Center and dispatching police, fire, and EMS crews to calls for service as well as providing information to citizens who either visit or call the Comm Center with questions. Our PSS are a dedicated group of employees who we were able to thank and highlight individually on social media throughout the week. Thanks to all our PSS for their outstanding work!!

On Saturday, April 19, we hosted our Annual Vandalia Easter Eggstravaganza at the Sports Complex, with over 1,000 attendees. The event featured two egg hunts, one at 11:00 am and another at 12:30 pm, for children ages 12 and under. Families also enjoyed face painting, balloon animals, games, crafts, local vendors, food trucks, and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny!

The Vandalia Parks and Recreation Department was awarded a grant from the Dayton Foundation for \$3,650 to purchase supplies for the Mobile Sensory Tent. This tent area will be for those with sensory sensitivities and will be available at special events and recreation initiatives. Congratulations and thanks to our VRC staff for putting the work into applying for and receiving this grant to offer this special amenity.

The City of Vandalia Annual Arbor Day Celebration event was held today at Morton Middle School. A Crimson Sunset Maple tree was planted on the school grounds with the sixth-grade class attending the event and assisting with the tree planting. Each student received a White Flowering Dogwood seedling to take home for planting.

The Division of Fire is happy to have Jacob Walters return home to the Fire Dept. family and back in his role as a Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic. Jacob was sworn in at the Monday, April 21st council meeting with his family and will be assigned to C-shift. Congrats and welcome back Jacob!

Captain Walker continues to attend critical operations planning meetings for the upcoming NATO Parliamentary Assembly scheduled in Dayton, May 21-26, 2025. Dayton Police Department has requested mutual aid from all police agencies across Ohio, and VPD will provide manpower assistance with security posts.



During the past five weeks, VPD officers made 14 traffic stops on commercial motor vehicles for traffic violations. These stops resulted in two traffic citations and seven written warnings, and one verbal warning while working 12 additional enforcement hours. Officers issued four verbal warnings during regular patrol.

This week, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) released the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)'s list of funded projects for this current round of funding. The DIA Logistics project was selected to receive \$2,000,000 in federal funding towards right of way and utility relocation work. (See attached announcement.) We have already received \$1,600,000 for engineering. A final submission will be for 80% of the construction costs. This project is scheduled to begin later this year with right-of-acquisition and construction completed by 2028.

On Wednesday, April 23rd, we honored our Administrative Professionals who serve in the City Manager's Office and in the various city departments. We thank each of them for their dedicated service and their contributions to ensure operations and tasks are completed efficiently and professionally. Great job to our Administrative Professionals!

Congratulations to City Planner Ben Graham and his wife Morgan on the recent birth of their daughter on March 31st. They welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Melanie Marie Graham, and they are home and doing well.

Parks & Recreation Director Steve Clark has notified me of his intent to retire on July 7, 2025. Steve has 37 years of dedicated service to Vandalia and has provided exceptional service in his role as Parks & Recreation Director. Steve's final workday will be Friday, June 13th, which coincides with his first day of work on June 13, 1988. Congratulations Steve on a job well done and we wish you the best as you move into the phase of life.

Our Council Retreat is scheduled for Monday, July 7th from 4:00-7:00 pm in the Justice Center's Community Room. We will cover an array of relevant topics on city projects and initiatives and provide food during the meeting. As the date nears, I will provide Council and staff with an agenda of topics that we plan to cover.

I want to thank Council, senior staff, the Police Division employees, community members, and colleagues from various law enforcement agencies who gathered today at the Justice Center for my retirement celebration. It has been an honor to be a member of the Police Division for the past 10 ½ years and serve as police chief for the past seven years. My retirement from the Police Division marks the end of 33 years of service in policing, serving at Englewood Police Department, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, and Vandalia Division of Police. I have been blessed to work with many wonderful professionals who serve selflessly to protect their communities. I wish them the best and pray for their safety. I look forward to the next chapter as I move into the city manager role full-time on May 1st.

Please contact me directly with comments and questions.



Very Respectfully,

Kurt E. Althouse
Interim City Manager

CC: Board and Commission Members
All City Employees

Attachments:

1. Information Update - ACM Cron – April 25, 2025;
2. Information Update - Director Leiter – April 25, 2025;
3. Information Update - Chief Follick – April 25, 2025;
4. Information Update - HR Manager Hanf – April 25, 2025;
5. Information Update – Director Clark – April 25, 2025;
6. Information Update – Operations Captain Walker – April 25, 2025;
7. Information Update - Director Borton – April 25, 2025;
8. 2025 Employee Appreciation Flier
9. March 2025 Crime Stats Summary Report
10. TRAC Final Funding List
11. May 2025 Senior Center News Letter
12. 2025 Montgomery County Law Enforcement Ceremony
13. Montgomery County Light Ohio Blue Dayton 2025





To: Kurt Althouse, Interim City Manager
From: Rob Cron, Assistant City Manager
Date: April 24, 2025
Re: Information Update for April 12 - 25, 2025

- The highlight of this reporting period was Youth in Government Day. This is always a great day to spend time with the Vandalia Butler High School students and share some of the behind-the-scenes operations of local government. I had the pleasure of spending the morning with Alyssa Neth, who was Assistant City Manager for the day. Also, a big thank you to the Optimists Club for organizing the day and our local Credit Unions for sponsoring the lunch. Kudos to Ben Graham and Mike Hammes for putting together the agenda for the day and assisting with the mock council meetings.
- You and I met last week with an existing local business inquiring about their expansion and the possibility of the site at 10 W. National Road in the future.
- Ben Borton and I attended a joint meeting of the Montgomery County and Miami County Commissioners for the presentation and hearing for the DIA Logistics Roadway project on Tuesday April 15th. The main topic for the hearing was regarding the property acquisition required to build the project. The hearing is required to allow the public the opportunity to speak about the project. At the close of the hearing the commissioners from both counties approved moving forward with the acquisition process.
- Ben Borton and I also participated in the monthly progress meeting for the DIA Logistics Roadway project. Representatives from Montgomery County Engineer's Office, and the design team from Carpenter Marty discussed the progress on the design phase. Currently the team is finalizing the drainage design.
- ODOT just released the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC)'s list of funded projects for this current round of funding. The DIA Logistics project was selected to receive \$2,000,000 in federal funding towards right of way and utility relocation work. See attached announcement. We have already received \$1,600,000 for engineering. A final submission will be for 80% of the construction costs.
- You and I attended the monthly Tri Cities Wastewater Authority board meeting this Wednesday. Work progresses and the Equalization Tank project. The concrete bases have been poured for both tanks. The design team is working on the 60% drawing for the new treatment plant and TCA is now advertising for bids for the sewer realignment project that will reroute a portion of Huber Heights sewer to the plant to eliminate long standing capacity issues with one of the current lines.

- I attended the Surveyors Workshop held at Ohio Northern University as part of my continuing education requirements for my Profession Surveyor License this week.
- I attended the I70/75 Development Association monthly meeting at Sinclair Community College this week. Karen Hesser from Five River Metro Parks was the presenter this month, giving an update on their 16,000 acres of recreational and conservation property.
- I attended the first Dayton Area Managers Association meeting for 2025. At this meeting, we discussed the current format of the meetings and how they will be facilitated moving forward regarding logistics and expenses.
- The Board of Zoning Appeals met on April 9th to consider a variance at 221 North American Boulevard for the total accessory structure area. They will have a meeting on May 14th to consider minimum lot frontage on the property being developed as “The Landing” at 650 Pool Avenue.
- Planning Commission will meet on May 13th to consider a rezoning at 3320 Benchwood Road from Residential Single Family (RSF-1) to Highway Business (HB). 3320 is the last remaining residentially zoned property on Benchwood Road.
- Mike Hammes met with EJP Consulting Group. EJP is working on the upcoming Strategic Plan for Greater Dayton Premier Management. Topics included affordable housing, voucher programs and other similar issues.
- The next taping of Focus Vandalia was filmed this week. Topics for the May editions are Sweet Treats Festival, new Municipality Connect software in DES, the Amphitheatre Ribbon Cutting and the introduction of Brandon Sucher, as our new Police Chief.
- The Garage Sale Weekend registration is live on our website and residents are beginning to get their sales registered.
- Information has been posted to our website and social media about our annual Shred Day that will be held Friday, May 16th from 9:00 to noon at the Municipal Building parking lot. Staff from all departments will be volunteering to assist our residents with their documents to be shredded.
- Rich Hopkins is working with the Parks & Recreation staff in planning for our upcoming Corporate Challenge. This year's events will take place during the week of June 2-6.
- All our Employee Appreciation Events have been scheduled for this year. Rich Hopkins has prepared the attached flyer listing all the great events.
- This week, we celebrate Administrative Assistant's Day with a cookout for lunch with staff from City Manager's Office and DES. Thank you to Angela Swartz and Sherri Howard for all you do in the City Manager office.
- This week, we welcomed Zoning and Planning Coordinator, Ben Graham, back to work. Ben and his wife Morgan are the new proud parents of Melanie Marie Graham who was born on March 31. Ben was able to spend some quality time with their new addition. Congratulations Ben and Morgan.

Memo



To: Kurt Althouse, Interim City Manager

From: Bridgette Leiter, Director of Finance

Date: April 22, 2025

Re: Information Update – Period Ending April 25, 2025

1. Finance staff would like to congratulate Kurt Althouse on his retirement as Police Chief and wish him luck as he continues his professional journey as City Manager (full-time).
2. The tax office survived another successful tax season! Between March 31, 2025, and April 15, 2025, our office assisted 1,590 taxpayers at the counter, received 754 phone calls, 450 emails, and 3,075 electronic tax returns (January through April). Congratulations and great job!
3. Finance continues to provide data to the compilation team and auditors from Plattenburg and Associates for the 2024 Annual Report and audit.
4. I attended the council study session and meeting.
5. Kristen Carnes and I participated in a Teams meeting with the Implementation Manager with ClearGov to discuss the upcoming data file transfers and continue the setup process to prepare the Finance Team, and subsequently other departments Citywide, for the 2026 Budget season with the newly purchased digital budget software.
6. I attended a utilization meeting with representatives with McGohan Brabender and City staff to discuss and prepare for the upcoming 2026 healthcare renewal process.



DIVISION OF FIRE INFORMATION UPDATE

TO: KURT ALTHOUSE, INTERIM CITY MANAGER
FROM: CHAD FOLICK, FIRE CHIEF
DATE: 4/24/2025
SUBJECT: INFORMATION UPDATE – PERIOD ENDING APRIL 25, 2025

1. The Division of Fire sent multiple members over to FDIC (Fire Department Instructors Conference) this year in Indianapolis. We always have crews come back from this annual convention with great ideas, training, and knowledge from the classes, seminars, hands on opportunities and a trade show that is a part of this event.
2. A huge thank you this week to our Public Safety Specialists for National Safety Telecommunications Week. Our dispatchers are the unseen heroes behind every call and the Division of Fire appreciates everything you do for us and our community.
3. I was happy to have a student participant from Vandalia Butler High School with us on Tuesday, April 15th for Youth in Government Day. Our student spent the morning learning about Government and the Division of Fire with Fire Marshal Scott Jacobs, B-Shift Crews, and me.
4. Last October, we announced that the Division of Fire had partnered with Kettering Health and the American Red Cross to place a CPR Kiosk at the Rec Center. So far, we are still waiting on data from February and March, but October through January the Kiosk had 1,262 people utilize the device. We hope that having this kiosk will provide someone with the lifesaving skills and quality CPR needed in the event of an emergency.
5. On Thursday, April 17th, the Division of Fire participated in a mock crash at the high school. The mock crash is held to bring awareness to teens about drunk and distracted driving. The event is typically presented during the week of prom and involves the Vandalia Butler Schools, Vandalia and Butler Twp. Fire Departments, Vandalia and



DIVISION OF FIRE INFORMATION UPDATE

Butler Twp. Police Departments, Care Flight, and Morton Whetstone Funeral Home.

This year all 4 high school grades were able to watch and participate in the event.

6. Thanks to representatives from Sister Cities, we were able to have two German exchange students, and their families visit Fire Station One on Thursday, April 17th.
7. The Division of Fire was able to provide an EMS strike team to the Rec Center on Saturday, April 19th for a successful (even with a rain delay) annual Easter Egg Hunt.
8. The Division of Fire is happy to have Jacob Walters return home to the Fire Dept. family and back in his role as a Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic. Jacob was sworn in at the Monday, April 21st council meeting with his family and will be assigned to C-shift.
Congrats and welcome back Jacob!
9. Crews this reporting period have been training on rope rescue techniques. Crews are utilizing the water tower located at the Parks Garage and are getting in some time with new equipment purchased under a rescue equipment replacement capital project. This training is also preparing multiple members who will be attending a weeklong ropes rescue course in May.
10. On April 23rd, the Dayton Airport had the 2025 Annual Emergency Plan Review Triennial Full-Scale Exercise. The Vandalia Division of Fire sent equipment and crews to participate in this event since we work closely with our neighboring departments, including the airport.

Memo



To: Kurt E. Althouse, Interim City Manager

From: Leann Hanf, Human Resources Manager

Date: April 24, 2025

Re: Information Update – Period Ending April 25, 2025

1. **Ohio Ethic's Commission: What's the scoop on hiring family members?** The Ohio Ethics Law prohibits public officials and employees from hiring their family members. Prohibited activities include directly hiring a family member, indirectly influencing the hiring process, supervising a family member after hiring, or even participating in annual evaluations or participation in discussions of promotions or raises.

What might be new information, however, is the Ethics Commission's revised definition of "family." At its February 2025 meeting, Formal Advisory Opinion 2025-01 was approved and includes domestic partnerships where someone is living with a public official or employee as "family" for purposes of the Ohio Ethics Law.

To make this determination, the Commission reviewed how other Ohio agencies and courts have considered the issue and concluded this opinion is consistent with many state and local agencies that have included domestic partnerships in their family-related internal policies. As a result of this advisory opinion, for purposes of the Ohio Ethics Law, a "family member" now includes the following:

- Spouse
- Domestic Partner
- Children/Stepchildren (whether dependent or not and regardless of where they live)
- Siblings (regardless of where they live)
- Parents/Stepparents (regardless of where they live)
- Grandparents (regardless of where they live)
- Grandchildren (regardless of where they live)

"Family member" also includes any other person related by blood or by marriage (e.g. cousins, aunts, uncles, in-laws, nieces, nephews) if that person resides in the same household as the public official or public employee. So, keep yourself safe and stay far away from any public contract activity that impacts a member of your family.

Although the Ethics Commission just added domestic partners to the definition of family members, it has long been prohibited to hire or influence the public hiring of our other relatives.

This is an especially timely issue right now as seasonal hiring is upon us! Summer programs and seasonal jobs provide amazing opportunities for our family members to work in the public sector. However, public officials and employees are wise to review restrictions in the Ethics Law against hiring their family

members.

Public officials and employees are prohibited from directly hiring a family member into a public job as well as recommending or otherwise using public connections to obtain a job for a family member. The official or employee is required by law to completely remove themselves from participating in any way in the hiring process if one of their family members is competing for a public job.

Just a few examples of restricted activities include:

- A state employee contacts the agency HR department to recommend a sibling for a summer job at a state park
- A city council member asks the city to hire her child as a city pool lifeguard
- A school board member votes on stipends awarded to his/her spouse and other district employees for summer camps and summer school
- A township employee writes a letter of recommendation for a parent who is seeking seasonal landscaping work for the township

All public employees and officials are required to recuse in these and similar situations. Public officials voting on lists of names for seasonal hiring are responsible for knowing whether a relative's name is included in that list and abstaining accordingly. Authorizing or influencing even seasonal hires for family members is a potential violation of the public contract laws and potentially a fourth-degree felony.

It's also important to note that hiring restrictions involving minor children are even more restrictive. While it is understandable that many high school and college students seek summer jobs, the Ohio Ethics Law generally prohibits public officials and employees' minor children from obtaining a job with the same agency, municipality or office.

The only way in which a public employee or official's minor child can work for the same agency is if the public servant can demonstrate four things:

- The hiring process was fair and open;
- Broad opportunity to apply was provided for qualified and interested applicants;
- All qualified and interested applicants who are not related to agency officials or employees have already been hired; AND
- Vacancies still exist.

If these stipulations cannot be met, a minor child cannot accept a job for the public entity his/her parent serves.

Need more information? Check out the [Public Jobs and Family Members chapter of our Public Contracts fact sheet](#).

2. **Health Tip: Strength for Health.** Resistance training is a key component of a healthier lifestyle. It increases bone density, strengthens muscle, and may help reduce risk of osteoporosis.

Physical activity recommendations:

- At least 150 minutes per week
- Add moderate to high-intensity resistance training

- Spend less time sitting
- Additional benefits by being active at least 5 hours per week
- Increase over time

Program design.

When developing a program, be sure to consult an appropriate medical professional to determine the correct starting point based on your health status. Consider the following when designing for specific strength goals:

- Repetition: One repetition, or “rep”, is one complete movement of a particular exercise. It refers to the number of times you continuously repeat each exercise in a set.
- Sets: One set is a group of consecutive repetitions of a particular exercise without resting.
- Intensity: Defined as a level of muscular activity that is quantified in terms of work performed per unit of time.
- Variety: Referred to as switching around your routine, such as introducing new exercises over time.
- Rest interval: The time taken to recuperate between sets of exercise. The rest period will vary depending on the intensity of the exercise being performed.

Strength Training Tips.

- Warm up and cool down
- Add hand/ankle weights, or try circuit training
- 10 to 12 repetitions = 1 set
- Complete 1 to 2 sets of each exercise
- Exhale on exertion, inhale on recovery
- Avoid working a sore or injured muscle
- Rest for 1 to 2 days between workouts

FITT Principle:

F - Frequency: number of times per week you are planning to exercise.

I - Intensity: how difficult the exercise is or will be

T - Time, or duration, refers to how many minutes or repetitions of the exercise period.

T - Type refers to what kind of exercises (aerobic, muscle strengthening, balance, flexibility) are performed during



To: Kurt E. Althouse, Interim City Manager
From: Steve Clark, Director of Parks & Recreation
Date: 4/24/2025
Re: Information Update – Period ending April 24, 2025

FACILITY MAINTENANCE DIVISION

- The City of Vandalia Annual Arbor Day Celebration event will be held this Friday, April 25 at Morton Middle School beginning at 10:00 a.m. A Crimson Sunset Maple tree will be planted on the school grounds with the 6th grade class attending the event and assisting with the tree planting. Each student will receive a White Flowering Dogwood seedling to take home for planting.
- Installation of the new playground unit at Robinette Park continues with an estimated completion of late next week (pictures at end of update). Once completed with equipment installation, the turf company will mobilize to begin installing the playground turf safety surface. We are planning for a ribbon cutting ceremony with a date to be determined since we have a better idea of completion of the project.
- Walkway leveling was completed at the VRC, Sports Complex, Senior Center, Justice Center, and Municipal Building. Uneven areas were removed to provide a safer walkway.
- Staff poured five concrete trash can bases that will be installed at the Art Park. Staff also installed a catch basin and drainage tile at the park to eliminate a water ponding issue along the east pathway area.
- Issues with the underground electrical wiring at the sports complex occurred after the heavy rain event. Electrical Inspector Robert Martin will be testing some of the equipment in the park electrical room with the aid of a contractor. The issue(s) have not been rectified, but the ground has dried out enough that the problems are not occurring.
- Twenty of the twenty-two garden plots have been reserved by residents for the upcoming garden season. The gardens are in Jeffers Park.
- Commemorative tree planting at the sports complex, Seger Park, Art Park and Robinette Park has been completed by staff. A total of 11 trees were planted and included Wright Brothers Sugar Maple, Rogers Lustre Serviceberry, Shumard Oak, Early Glow Ohio Buckeye and Green Mountain Sugar Maple.

RECREATION CENTER

- Underwater Egg Hunt: On Saturday, April 12 we hosted our Underwater Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 3-12 years old. Eggs were hidden at the bottom of the VRC pool and participants were able to turn in their eggs for candy and prizes. Four lucky golden egg winners also received special Easter baskets! We had 59 registered participants for this program.
- Homeschool Takeover: On Friday, April 18, we hosted a Homeschool Takeover at the VRC. Homeschool groups and families were invited to come out and enjoy everything the VRC has to offer; swimming, climbing wall, gym activities, and Luther's Jungle. We had 40 families/groups attend, with a total of 190 participants.
- OPRA Mentorship Program: Aaron Messenger has been selected to be a mentor through the OPRA mentorship program for a recreation coordinator that is working for the City of Worthington. Their first meeting will be in the upcoming weeks.
- Dayton Foundation Grant – Mobile Sensory Tent: The Vandalia Parks and Recreation Department was awarded a grant from the Dayton Foundation for \$3,650 to purchase supplies for the Mobile Sensory Tent. This tent area will be for those with sensory sensitivities and will be available at special events and recreation initiatives.
- Athletic Field Rental on WebTrac: Alicia, Aaron and Maecie met to discuss having athletic field rentals on WebTrac. We think this would be feasible, and Maecie will start working on putting information together so it can be uploaded to RecTrac/WebTrac.

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

- As of April 10, the Senior Center has been open for 70 days this year. In that time, 83 new members have joined. This does not count the numerous people who have called, stopped by, or taken the "nickel" tour but didn't join...yet.
- Toni and Alicia participated in a zoom meeting concerning the new grant process for our Vantran program.

RECREATION / ATHLETICS DIVISION / SPECIAL EVENTS

- We have a total of 435 kids playing in our Youth Baseball/Softball this season. This is up 30 kids from last season. Opening Day is Saturday, April 26th. There ceremony will start at 9:00 am.
- Registration for both Monday and Friday summer teams closed on Sunday, April 13th. We ended up with 16 Monday Men's Teams and 6 Friday Coed Teams. We are planning to play the Monday Men's games at the Sports Complex because we had such a large increase in the number of teams this year.
- Easter Eggstravaganza: On Saturday, April 19, we hosted our Annual Vandalia Easter Eggstravaganza at the Sports Complex, with over 1,000 attendees. The event featured two egg hunts at 11:00 am and 12:30 pm for children ages 12 and under. Families also enjoyed face painting, balloon animals, games, crafts, local vendors, food trucks, and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny!
- Thus far, we have five businesses registered for the 37th Annual Corporate Challenge. The deadline to enter is tomorrow.

CASSEL HILLS GOLF COURSE

- 365 golfers that make up 18 leagues a week have started league play. Leagues play Monday through Thursday throughout the spring and summer months.
- Marty and Tim are in the process of charging up the irrigation system. Capital Electric is working to solve electrical issues to well pumps and the pumphouse. Public Works is assisting us to replace check valve in #5 well house. Once these issues get resolved we can start to fill the system and begin watering the golf course.

Robinette Park Playground Installation



Information Update



To: Kurt E. Althouse
City Manager

From: Ben Walker
Operations Captain

Date: April 24, 2025

Subject: Information Update Ending April 25, 2025

1. During the past five weeks, VPD officers made 14 traffic stops on commercial motor vehicles for traffic violations. These stops resulted in two traffic citations and seven written warnings, and one verbal warning while working 12 additional enforcement hours. Four verbal warnings were issued during regular patrol.
2. VPD participated in Youth in Government Day on April 15 with VBHS junior Kailee Swisher accompanying Captain Sucher throughout the morning to get insight into how the police department functions and the services provided to the community. She participated having an interest in law enforcement and also comes from a law enforcement family.
3. On April 16, Captain Sucher met with city representatives at Cassel Hills Golf Course for our continued facility threat assessments.
4. On April 17, Officer Sommer and Captain Sucher attended the mock crash at Vandalia Butler High School. The event demonstrated the dangers of driving while impaired before prom. Special thanks to Vandalia Fire, Butler Township Police and Fire, and Premier Health for their participation.
5. On April 17, Captain Sucher presented to the Rotary Club, which focused on VPD's 2025 reorganization and update.
6. Detectives charged a 40-year-old Springfield man with Petty theft x3. The suspect stole cigarettes, food, and drinks from several Vandalia businesses. The male suspect was arrested by the Shelby County Sheriff's Office on an unrelated charge and incarcerated at the Shelby County Jail.
7. The posting for the open sergeant position closed on April 14. Six patrol officers applied for the position and have study materials for the upcoming exam. The process will include the examination, an administrative review completed by current sergeants on all the candidates, an assessment center, and interviews. The open sergeant position will be created after the next captain is selected.

8. Captain Walker continues to attend critical operations planning meetings for the upcoming NATO Parliamentary Assembly scheduled in Dayton, May 21-26, 2025. Dayton has requested mutual aid from all agencies around Ohio, and VPD will provide manpower assistance with security posts.
9. VPD completed driver training over the past three weeks. Training was held north of the airport at the former Emery site and was in conjunction with multiple area agencies.
10. Captains Walker and Sucher, and Sergeant Lawson met with a representative from VINE/Versaterm on April 21. VINE and Versaterm have collaborated to build an automated victim notification system that would provide automatic updates to victims of crime throughout the entire criminal justice process. This system would provide notifications from the time the call is entered into our computer-aided dispatch system through prosecution and incarceration/release. The system is not available yet and is in the process of approval for funding at the state level.
11. Captains Walker and Sucher met with VFD personnel on April 22 to discuss and compare our procedures for missing persons.
12. Crime Prevention Officer Rich Sommer participated in a disaster drill at the Dayton International Airport. The drill involved a simulated plane crash and provided public safety agencies with the opportunity to work through our response and look for areas to improve.
13. We were honored to recognize our administrative professionals on Wednesday, April 23. Nancy Mandelik and Deborah Wright accompanied us to the annual lunch hosted by the Montgomery County Chiefs of Police Association at Sinclair Community College.
14. VPD has been in the process of expanding our employee wellness program. The program has evolved, with the input of a committee comprised of all levels within the Division, into a comprehensive program that includes physical, mental, financial, and spiritual health components. In 2025, we implemented an incentive-based physical fitness program. We held our first physical fitness test on April 24, where employees could earn incentives based on their performance. All sworn personnel were required to participate in the test, while civilian employees were optional. Special thanks to Butler High School for allowing us to use Memorial Stadium and the SAC for the test.
15. On April 24, Captains Walker and Sucher joined you in attending a security and parking meeting at Wright Bros. Aero for the 2025 Dayton Airshow. The Airshow will take place this year on June 21-22.
16. We hosted a retirement open house for Chief Althouse in the Community Room at the Justice Center on April 25.

17. On Saturday, we will host an assessment center conducted by the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police for the police captain posting. Three OACP representatives who are police executives will conduct the assessment. We have three sergeants who are in the process for this position.
18. Vandalia PD will participate in this year's Light Ohio Blue campaign from May 2-15. May is Officer Memorial Month, when we remember those officers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives in the line of duty. VPD Honor Guard members will participate in the annual countywide Officer Memorial Ceremony on May 2 at 11:00 a. m. downtown at Riverscape and the state's Officer Memorial Ceremony at the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy in London, Ohio, on May 8.
19. On April 24, detectives, with assistance from Ohio Liquor Control agents, completed alcohol compliance checks on businesses in the City that have a license to sell alcoholic beverages. The results of this operation will be available in the next information update.



Public Service Information Update

To: Kurt E. Althouse, Interim City Manager
From: Ben Borton, Director of Public Service
Date: April 24, 2025
Subject: **Information Update for April 12 – 25, 2025**

Development & Engineering Services (DES)

Dog Leg Water and Sanitary Extension Phase 2 project: Commissioning, including startup and final testing of the lift station, is anticipated for mid-May, following the installation of the alternate switch in the meter pedestal.

Vandalia Bikeway Connector project: Brumbaugh Construction has been working on Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) wall #1 located on the west side of the railroad tracks near Taylorsville Dam, as well as constructing both bridge abutments for the new bikeway bridge. Meanwhile, Security Fence, the traffic signal subcontractor, has been boring new traffic signal conduits at the intersections of S Brown School Rd/Cassel Creek Dr/Scholz Dr and National Rd/Brown School Rd.

2025 Curb/Sidewalk project: Coate Construction has completed concrete work on Stoney Springs Rd and Cornish Dr. Coate has moved operations to Bright Ave.

Kenneth Avenue Watermain Replacement & Resurfacing project: Sturm Construction has installed the necessary insertion valves for the project and begun installing new water main along Kenneth Ave, starting from Larry Ave. Unfortunately, an unmarked gas service line was struck on 4/21, but CenterPoint Energy promptly made the repair.

Tionda, Mossview, Ranchview Watermain Replacement & Resurfacing project: M&T Excavating has delivered materials in preparation to start the project later this week or early next week.

Upcoming Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs):

Anticipated Start	Project	Contractor
Summer/Autumn	2025 Street Resurfacing	Barrett Paving Materials*
Summer	2025 Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining	Insight Pipe Contracting*
Autumn	Damian, Soter, Romanus, Desales (N) Watermain & Resurfacing	<i>out for bid May/June</i>

*At Council for award on 5/5

The following sites have been reviewed by staff:

- Released for new building permit: Webster Truck Storage at 6480 Webster St for truck repair and parking
- Ready to be released: A1 CDL at 2700 W National Rd for interior alterations for a truck driving school

Staff met with a possible developer looking at building a small 14 residential lot plat off of S Dixie Dr.

On April 14th, Chief Building Official (CBO) Mastrino and I conducted inspections of any structures within the floodplain that were affected by the early April flooding.

On April 15th, Vandalia-Butler High School juniors joined us for the senior staff meeting as part of Youth in Government Day. I had the honor of showing Cross Jordan aspects of my daily responsibilities, current City construction projects, and our Public Works crews in action.

Also on April 15th, Assistant City Manager Cron and I attended the Joint County (Montgomery & Miami) Commissioner Board hearing meeting on the Dayton International Airport Northeast Logistics Access (Ring Road) project, which allowed the public to voice their concerns about the proposed right-of-way (ROW) acquisition for permanent and temporary easements to construct the project.

On April 16th, CBO Mastrino and I participated in the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) with other City staff for the Golf Course, Golf Maintenance, and Pool.

On April 17th, I attended the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting.

To celebrate Administrative Professionals' Day on April 23rd, DES and CMO staff came together for a cookout to show our appreciation for the incredible work our admin team does every day. A heartfelt thank you to **Christine Budich, Beverly Snider, Angela Swartz, and Sherri Howard** – your dedication, positivity, and support make a huge difference, and we're so grateful to have you on our team!

On April 24th, Public Works (PW) Superintendent Hayslett and I attended the 50% design review meeting for the NAWA Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Concentrate Disposal Improvements for the plant's new outfall to the Great Miami River. I also attended the biyearly Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) meeting with MVRPC and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) regarding our grant-awarded projects in the early or design phase; these projects are Johnson Station Rd Bridge Replacement and Poe Ave/Wyse Rd/Miller Ln Resurfacing.

On April 25th, PW Superintendent Hayslett, CBO Mastrino, and I plan to participate in the THIRA with other City staff for the water towers and sanitary lift stations. We also plan to hold our monthly DES staff meeting afterwards.

I would also like to congratulate you on your approaching retirement from the position of Police Chief and officially into your new role as City Manager on May 1st!

Public Works (PW)

New Public Works Facility (810 Northwoods Blvd): Elevated Ground Solutions is cleaning up site and spreading mulch before demobilizing.

Streets:

Crews continued right-of-way (ROW) trimming brush along streets and sidewalks.

Crews replaced the seasonal banners along National Road, switching from the Spring-themed designs to the Butler Aviators banners.

Crews began installing hardware on light poles along Dixie Dr in preparation for the new 2025-2026 Veteran banners.

Crews removed the salt v-boxes and snowplows off the single-axle dump trucks.

Water:

Crews continued hydro-excavating and repairing curb boxes that are broken or shifted over time hindering our access to the water service line curb stop valves.

Crews continued installing new water meters inside residences/businesses and outside in meter pits, where some have needed new angle valves which are located on the City side of the meter.

Crews continued turning (closing/opening) water main valves to confirm operational status throughout the City. This is an EPA requirement to perform turning on 20% of all valves each year.

Sanitary Sewer:

Crews responded to a reported sewer stoppage at 860 Sussex Pl. Upon arrival, the crew utilized the vacuum truck to break through the sanitary blockage. A root saw was then employed to thoroughly clean and clear the sewer line. The line is now flowing properly.

Crews placed asphalt at 775 Spartan Ave removed for a previous sanitary sewer issue.

Crews continued inspecting sanitary sewer main using the SL-RAT tool via sound waves.

Storm Sewer:

Crews continued catch basin (CB) restoration work identified during this year's inspections. These repairs are part of the preparation efforts for streets scheduled to be resurfaced this year.

At the CB on East Alkaline Springs Rd near the Art Park, crews formed and poured concrete for a new sidewalk, front wall, and curb.

Crews' hydro-excavated to investigate and address sinkholes forming around CBs at 540 Dunnigan Dr and 1053 Robinette Ave.

Other Services:

On April 12th, crews staffed the monthly large item debris drop-off event at the PW garage. This free service is available to residents on the second Saturday of each month from March through October, between 8am and 2pm.

On April 17th, crews assisted with the mock car crash event at the high school. The front-end loader was used to position vehicles in the parking lot for the demonstration, and the street sweeper was utilized to clean the area afterward.

Crews began layout and excavation work for the Spring placement of concrete foundations at Poplar Hill cemetery.

Crews performed 116 utility locates this period for Ohio 811.

Vehicle Maintenance:

The mechanics serviced the street sweeper replacing the wetting system water pumps for dust control and installed a new starter on the vacuum truck for the auxiliary motor.

The mechanics repaired the wiring on one of the Arrow Boards and tilt trailers.

The mechanics serviced PW pickup truck #13 and replaced tires.

A special thank you to the Fire Division for allowing Fire Marshal Jacobs to train our crews in CPR and First-Aid on April 18th! Scott did an excellent job, and we greatly appreciate his expertise and time.

A conditional offer has been accepted for the open PW Technician position. The candidate is currently undergoing the physical examination and background check. We anticipate setting a start date in the near future.

Employee Appreciation is no laughing matter!

We've got a big year of appreciation planned!
We hope you're able to join us at this year's special events.



May 28, 2025
Ice Cream Social
Sports Complex
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.



July 24, 2025
Pizza in the Park
Helke Park
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



August 21, 2025
Picnic in the Park
Sports Complex
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



September 17
Taco Bar
Senior Center
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



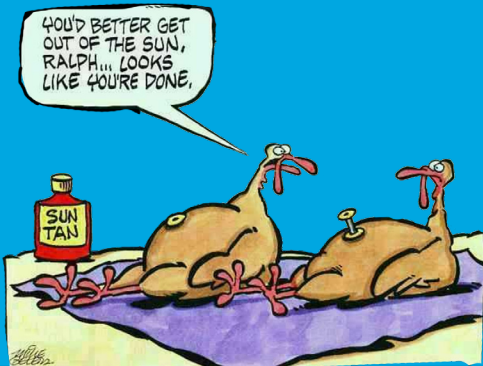
October 15, 2025
Donuts and Coffee
Justice Center
7:00 - 9:00 a.m.



November 13, 2025
Appreciation Breakfast
Cassel Hills Clubhouse
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.



December 15, 2025
Council Employee
Appreciation Event
Your work location



small city. big opportunity.

Memorandum



To: City Council Members
From: Kurt E. Althouse, Police Chief
Date: April 17, 2025
Subject: March 2025 Crime Statistical Report Summary

Total calls for service to the Communications Center increased 10% to 1,096 calls in March 2025 compared to 997 calls in March 2024. There were 950 citizen-initiated calls for service (up 8.3%), and there were 146 officer-initiated calls (up 21.7%) in March 2025.

VPD investigated no homicides or robberies and investigated one rape in March 2025. There were nine assaults, and six domestic violence offenses reported in March 2025, compared to three assaults and five domestic violence offenses in March 2024. Assault cases increased by six (300%) in March 2025, compared to last March. Domestic violence cases increased by one (20%) in March 2025, compared to last March. Year-to-date, assault offenses are up 45.5% and domestic violence offenses are down 37.5%.

There were four burglaries reported in March 2025 compared to two burglaries reported in March 2024. There were seven felony thefts and eight misdemeanor thefts reported in March 2025, compared to ten felony thefts and eight misdemeanor thefts reported in March 2024. In 2025 year-to-date (YTD), burglaries/breaking & entering incidents decreased by 33.3% for a total of four offenses, felony thefts decreased by 27.3% for a total of 16 offenses, auto thefts are down 28.6% for a total of five offenses, and misdemeanor thefts decreased 32% for a total of 17 offenses when compared to 2024.

There was one criminal damaging/vandalism complaints in March 2025, down from eight incidents last March. Criminal damaging and vandalism offenses are down 61.5% YTD (eight incidents) compared to last year for a total of only five incidents this year. VPD officers focused on being visible in residential and business areas of the city to display a strong police presence and prevent crime. Officers made three felony drug arrests and three misdemeanor drug arrests in March 2025, compared to one felony drug arrest and no misdemeanor drug arrests in March 2024.

VPD made one more arrest in March 2025 compared to March 2024 with ten felony arrests and 18 misdemeanor arrests compared to seven felony arrests and 24 misdemeanor arrests last March. VPD officers charged five juveniles with an

offense in March 2025, compared to one juvenile in March 2024. There is a 26% decrease in juvenile arrests in 2025. These charges have primarily included sex offenses, domestic violence, drug and/or alcohol violations, and thefts.

During March, VPD officers made 291 traffic stops while patrolling Vandalia's roadways, a 14.4% decrease. These stops resulted in 50 citations, 199 written warnings, 37 verbal warnings, and five stops with other dispositions. Speed citations and other citations are down 14.5% in 2025 compared to 2024 YTD. OVI arrests were lower with four arrests in March 2025, compared to seven arrests in March 2024. Parking citations were lower in March 2025 with four violations compared with six parking violations in March 2024. These parking citations have primarily been violations of commercial vehicles parked in restricted areas on highway exit ramps.

VPD officers investigated 22 traffic crashes in March 2025, compared to 22 traffic crashes investigated in March 2024. Overall, traffic crashes are up 5.3% (3) in 2025 compared to 2024. Officers will continue to patrol Vandalia's roadways and work traffic enforcement to keep our roadways safe and reduce traffic crashes.

Officers responded to more alarm drops than a year ago with an increase from 43 business and residential alarms in March 2024 to 55 alarms in March 2025. Overall, alarm drops for 2025 increased by nearly 18% compared to 2024.

Overall, 2025 has seen a decrease in robbery, burglary, felony & misdemeanor thefts, auto theft, and domestic violence. There has been an increase in assaults and felony & misdemeanor drug arrests. There has been a decrease in total arrests and a moderate increase in traffic crashes and alarm drops. VPD officers will remain focused on patrol activities, crime prevention, and traffic enforcement while addressing community concerns related to these areas to keep our city a great place to live, work, and play.

City of Vandalia Division of Police
Monthly Crime Statistical Report
March 2025

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D	2024 Y-T-D	% Change	% Clear
How Calls Received:																
Total Calls for Service	976	932	1096										3004	2855	5.2%	N/A
Citizen Initiated = 950	85.96%	86.80%	86.68%										2598	2500	3.9%	N/A
Officer Initiated = 146	14.04%	13.20%	13.32%										406	355	14.4%	N/A
9-1-1 Call = 312	27.15%	27.47%	28.47%										833	931	-10.5%	N/A
Homicide	0	0	0										0	0	0.0%	100.00%
Rape	0	2	1										3	3	0.0%	0.00%
Robbery	0	0	0										0	1	-100.0%	100.00%
Assault	4	3	9										16	11	45.5%	75.00%
Burglary/B&E Total	0	0	4										4	6	-33.3%	50.00%
Residence	0	0	1										1	4	-75.0%	100.00%
Non-residence	0	0	3										3	2	50.0%	33.33%
Theft - Felony	4	5	7										16	22	-27.3%	37.50%
Theft - Misd	6	3	8										17	25	-32.0%	58.82%
Motor Veh Theft	3	0	2										5	7	-28.6%	80.00%
Arson	0	0	0										0	0	0.0%	100.00%
Crim Dam & Vandal	2	2	1										5	13	-61.5%	40.00%
Drug Offenses (Fel)	2	2	3										7	3	133.3%	28.57%
Drug Offenses (Misd)	3	3	3										9	5	80.0%	77.78%
Domestic Violence	2	2	6										10	16	-37.5%	100.00%
Totals	26	22	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	92	112	-17.9%	61.96%

City of Vandalia Division of Police
Monthly Crime Statistical Report
March 2025

CATEGORY	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Y-T-D	2024 Y-T-D	% CHG
Criminal Arrests:															
Felony	4	3	10										17	22	-22.73%
Misdemeanor	24	18	18										60	65	-7.69%
Juvenile	5	4	5										14	19	-26.32%
Total	33	25	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	106	-14.15%
Traffic Stops:															
Stops with Citations	31	61	50										142	160	-11.25%
Stops with Written Warnings	245	240	199										684	711	-3.80%
Stops with Verbal Warnings	39	32	37										108	110	-1.82%
Stops with Other Dispositions	2	12	5										19	22	-13.64%
Total Traffic Stops	317	345	291	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	953	1003	-4.99%
Traffic Arrests/Citations:															
OVI	5	4	4										13	13	0.00%
Speed	20	35	23										78	75	4.00%
All Other	51	75	73										199	249	-20.08%
Parking	1	3	4										8	18	-55.56%
TOTAL	77	117	104	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	298	355	-16.06%
Traffic Accidents Investigated:															
Fatal	0	0	0										0	1	-100.00%
Injury	3	9	7										19	15	26.67%
Property Damage	19	7	15										41	41	0.00%
TOTAL	22	16	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	57	5.26%
Alarms:															
Business	58	44	46										148	123	20.33%
Residential	2	6	9										17	17	0.00%
TOTAL	60	50	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	165	140	17.86%



TRAC PROJECT LIST

New Funding - Tier I - Construction

County	Project Name	Project Description	SFY	Funding
Cuyahoga	US 422 at Harper Road (City of Solon)	Converts the existing interchange to a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI). A new multi-use path and sidewalks to be installed. New traffic signals will be constructed at the ramp terminal intersections.	2025	\$7,200,000
Cuyahoga	I-90 CCG3A	Reconstruction of I-90 from East 9th Street to Carnegie Avenue. The East 22nd Street and Carnegie Avenue bridges over I-90 will be replaced.	2026	\$41,000,000
Fairfield/Franklin	US 33 Widening (Segment 1)	Project will add a third lane in each direction between I-270 and Gender Road.	2027	\$82,800,000
Hamilton	County Road 14 at I-74 (City of Harrison)	Widening the Dry Fork Road (CR 14) bridge to install left turn lanes onto the eastbound and westbound entrance ramps to I-74. The project also includes widening the east and westbound exit ramps, eastbound entrance ramp, and Dry Fork Road south of the interchange.	2028	\$7,100,000
Hamilton	I-275 SmartLane	Complete the Smartlane on eastbound I-275 from US 42 to SR 28 and westbound I-275 from SR 28 to Loveland-Madeira.	2027	\$79,000,000
Knox	SR 13 Relocation (City of Mt. Vernon)	Relocating State Route 13 to the southwest along the Kokosing River to reduce the amount of traffic traveling through Public Square and improve pedestrian mobility.	2026	\$5,600,000
Mahoning	US 224 Corridor	Roadway and safety enhancements, improved access management	2026	\$6,500,000
Summit	I-77/SR 8	An additional lane in each direction and braiding ramps just north of the I-76/I-77 central interchange to improve safety and provide better traffic flow.	2027	\$66,000,000
Total				\$295,200,000



TRAC PROJECT LIST

New Funding - Tier II – Development

County	Project Name	Project Description	SFY	Funding
Fairfield/Licking	I-70 at SR 256	Interchange and roadway improvements along with a new bridge over I-70	2026	\$8,000,000 Right-of-Way
Lake	SR 615 at I-90 (City of Mentor)	Constructing an additional lane along the SR 615 bridge over I-90 and expanding the exit ramps from I-90 to SR 615.	25/26	\$3,000,000 Prelim. Engineering and Design
Lucas	I-475 at SR 2	Convert existing interchange to a Diverging Diamond Interchange. A 10-foot-wide multi-use path will be added. All roadway segments will be resurfaced, and pavement markings will be upgraded using wet reflective paint.	25/26	\$4,100,000 Prelim. Engineering and Design
Montgomery	DIA Northeast Logistics (Montgomery Co.)	Improving surface transportation routes along the eastern and northern perimeter of the Dayton International Airport (DIA) and providing a link between on-going logistics development around the airport and the I-75/Northwoods Boulevard interchange. It will also include the construction of almost three miles of continuous shared use path.	25/26	\$2,000,000 Right-of-Way
Pickaway	US 23 at SR 762	Replaces the existing intersection with a full interchange.	2026	\$5,000,000 Right-of-Way
Warren	SR 48 Widening (Warren Co/TID)	Add a through lane in each direction between Ridgeview Lane and Mason Morrow Millgrove Road	2027	\$2,000,000 Prelim. Engineering and Design
Total				\$24,100,000
Grand Total				\$319,300,000

Vandalia Senior Center

May, 2025 Volume 13 Issue 5

Vandalia^{ohio}
small city. big opportunity.

Matter of Balance Classes on ALL Wednesdays in May and June from 9:15 to 11:15 a.m.

How is your balance? Could it be better? Charles Briggerman with the Injury Prevention Center at Miami Valley Hospital would like to help you with your balance. There will be two Matter of Balance class programs this year. Each program will last for 8 weeks. One will be in May and June. The second session will be from the end of September to the middle of November still on Wednesdays at the same time. You will receive a packet of handouts and practice exercises for balance. Charles will invite special guest speakers to join him for some of the classes. Limit: 40 each time



Functional Fitness Class on Monday, May 12, from 11:00 to 11:45 a.m.

Come join Lily Knopp, Exercise Physiologist, from Trinity In Home Care for a class focused on sustaining your independence through resistance training, mobility, and coordination. We will target muscles and movements used for basic everyday tasks to age gracefully. Use it or lose it! Please sign up to attend this class. Limit: 25



Ice Cream Social on Friday, May 23, at 2:00 p.m.

The Senior Activity Club will be dipping ice cream on May 23 for you to enjoy. You can choose which toppings and syrups to put on your ice cream. The Senior Activity Club will have a 50/50 raffle. There will be a second raffle with prizes. Come enjoy the fun while you eat a tasty treat. This is a free event sponsored by the Senior Activity Club.

Deadline: May 16 Minimum: 25 Limit: 50



Donate your Newspapers for 4 Paws for Ability

Ed Searls and other volunteers from 4 Paws were here on March 14. They asked for you to donate your newspapers for the puppy house at 4 Paws in Xenia. Put them in the box in the main hallway under the coats between the used greeting cards and the Vandalia Food Pantry barrel.



Lunch & Learn

Momentum Health Lunch & Learn on Tues., May 6, at Noon

Cory Routson from Momentum Health will have his chef prepare a meal for you. Darlene Rak says that Watson is ready to perform for you. Darlene and Watson originally were trained for search and rescue work. Darlene will talk about the training that was required of both of them. Now Watson and his friend, Stormy, just compete in scent work competitions. Limit: 75



Stonespring Lunch & Learn on Thursday, May 8 at Noon

Sarah Mather will order food from Chick-Fil-A. Angie Hoschouer Bergius will share a new program called "Dayton Historic Neighborhoods: The Oregon District". Dayton's first neighborhood was laid out by Daniel Cooper in 1815 and its eclectic architecture began in 1829 with the sale of 27 lots. You will learn about the neighborhood's cultural significance, its varying architecture as well as the people who lived there. After the 1913 flood, many moved to higher ground. During WWII, many houses became rooming homes. By the 1960s, the city planned to demolish the area. Today it is a thriving community. Limit: 75

Randall Residence of West Milton Lunch & Learn on Friday, May 9, at Noon

Becky Devor from Randall Residence of West Milton will bring your lunch from their kitchen. Montgomery County Sheriff Rob Streck will present "General Safety Awareness". This presentation will make you aware of some dangers and how to avoid certain kinds of situations that present a danger to your safety. It will give you some options if you ever find yourself caught up in one of these threatening situations. Limit: 75



Hearth & Home Lunch & Learn on Monday, May 12, at Noon

Rose Siddle from Hearth & Home will bring your lunch from their kitchen. The King's English band is back from the winter in Florida and are ready to sing some tunes for you. There will be a bowl for tips after the show to cover their expenses. Limit: 100

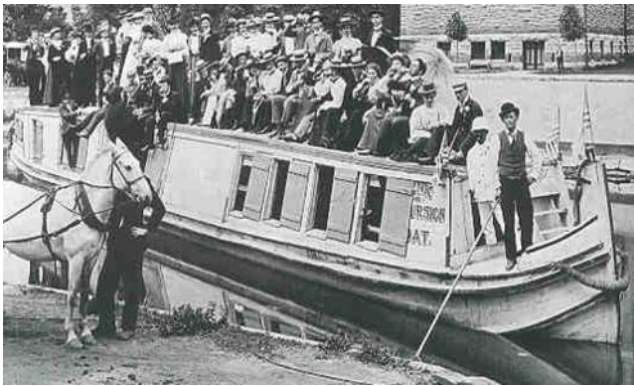
Lunch & Learn

Springmeade Lunch & Learn on Tuesday, May 13, at Noon

Robin Shafer will order your pizza. Cheri Brinkman, both a professor and an author, will present her new program, "Stars Over Cincinnati". This talk is all about the Mid-Century stars of Cincinnati Radio and who later became big in television. There will be stories about WLW Radio and WLWT Television. You will hear about Ruth Lyons, Doris Day, Bob Braun, Andy Williams, and many more. Limit: 75



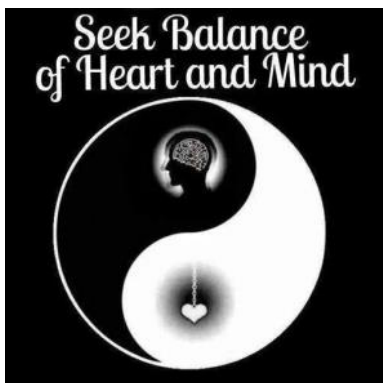
Englewood Health & Rehab Lunch & Learn on Monday, May 19, at Noon



Robin Eck from Englewood Health & Rehab will provide your lunch. Dave Miller from the City of Moraine will present "The History Behind the Moraine Historical Markers". You will learn about Moraine's 16 Historical Markers through vintage photos and stories. Relive the rich history of Moraine from the Wright Brothers, Miami-Erie Canal, Johnny Appleseed, and Dayton's first Municipal Airport, Moraine Field. Limit: 75

Laurels Lunch & Learn on Tuesday, May 20, at Noon

Jaidyn Tout from the Laurels of Huber Heights will bring your lunch. Bart Kincaid is the IT Director for the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. When he did a presentation in February, the audience asked so many questions that Bart stayed an extra half hour. For this talk, he will focus on handling all of those passwords. He will also talk about your digital footprint. Do you know how to get your information off of the internet? Sign up to find out. Limit: 75



Seniors Helping Seniors Lunch & Learn on Thurs., May 22, at Noon

Andrew Spatt from Seniors Helping Seniors will bring your lunch. He will present "Balancing Heart and Mind: Emotional Mastery for Caregivers". We will look at the ways one can master their emotions when caregiving gets tough. You will gain insights and strategies to keep your wits about you while taking care of your love one. Limit: 75

Lunch & Learns

Troy Rehabilitation Lunch & Learn on Friday, May 23, at Noon

Taylor Ries from Troy Rehabilitation will provide your lunch. Dan Edwards is from Montgomery County Clerk of Courts. He wants to make sure that you know about the twelve different services that the Clerk of Courts office has available. Limit: 50



MIKE FOLEY

Montgomery County
Clerk of Courts

Moving Justice Forward ▶▶▶



Brookhaven Lunch & Learn on Tuesday, May 27, at Noon

Pam Cupp from Brookhaven will have their chef, Brad, bring your food. Dr. Randy Overbeck is a retired educator and an author of many books. He will present "Things Still Go Bump in the Night". Have you ever wondered if ghosts are real? Do most people really believe in ghosts? Dr. Overbeck will answer these questions and more about the spirit world. Based on the research he completed for his series, *The Haunted Shores Mysteries*, he will share the role

ghosts play in our culture and religion. Dr. Overbeck will discuss why many influential people believe in ghosts and he will even unveil some authenticated photos and videos of documented ghosts. You won't believe your eyes...or maybe you will! Limit: 75

Ohio's Hospice Lunch & Learn on Thursday, May 29, at Noon

Jamie Brown from Ohio's Hospice will bring your lunch. Jamie will explain what palliative care is and what a palliative care patient might look like. She will tell you how to approach this kind of care if your doctor recommends it. Jamie will also explain what the difference is between palliative care and hospice care. She will provide tools to guide you through their symphony of care model. Limit: 75



Complete Solutions Lunch & Learn on Friday, May 30, at Noon

Scott and Michael Leonardi from Complete Solutions will order your box lunch. Scott will talk about RMD (Required Minimum Distributions). What can you do and not do to reduce the taxes that you owe on the distributions? One of the choices that he will explain is giving the "Gift of a Lifetime". You can make sure that your grandchildren can make their dreams come true with your financial gift. You could also choose another family member, someone that you are not related to, or even an organization to receive your gift. You can make all of this possible by a gift of a lifetime. Limit: 100

Art



FREE Flower Arranging Class on Wednesday, May 7, at 1:00 p.m.

Jessica Ward from Cypress Pointe is coming back with her arms full of flowers. She will have vases for you to create an arrangement to celebrate Mother's Day. These could be flowers for you or flowers to give away. (The flowers in the picture are an example but may not be the flowers that Jessica orders.) Limit: 15

FREE Painting Class on Tues., May 13, at 1:45 p.m.

Antoinette Adams from Siena Woods will bring all the supplies for you to create one of these three pictures on your canvas by sketching from the photo before painting the picture. Limit: 12



FREE Flower Making Class on Wednesday, May 14, at 1:00 p.m.

Candy Jones will show you how to make large, beautiful flowers from dyed coffee filters. You will make lots of them to donate to a nursing home then you can make one for yourself. This project was last done in 2022. If you have bud vases, bring them with you to donate. Limit: 12

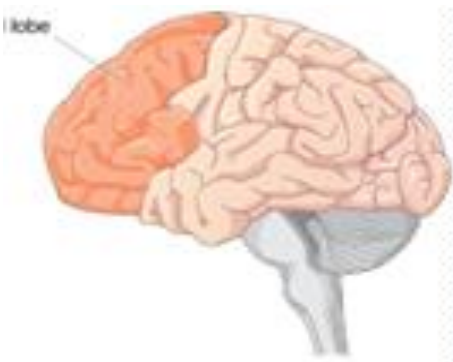


Ceramic Class on Fri., May 16, at 1:30 p.m.

Mindy Shockey, a member and a vendor, has some darling fairies for you to choose from. They are 3" to 5" tall. Their wings are about 4" across. Cost: \$5 each Limit: 15



An Essential Oils Class on Tuesday, May 20, at 1:00 p.m.



Christine Jordan with Red Lotus Essential Oils will help you make an essential oils blend for memory and cognitive function. Cost: \$6 Minimum: 5 Limit: 15

*****Turn to page 6 for more craft classes.*****

Movies

Movie on the First Friday, May 2, at 1:00 p.m. with Snacks

The movie, *Lion*, is the true story about 5 year old Saroo who gets lost on a train which takes him across India. Saroo must learn to survive alone, before being adopted by an Australian couple (Nicole Kidman). 25 years later, armed with a handful of memories, his determination, and Google Earth, he sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home. Be sure to watch the real photos at the end. PG-13 Adventure / Drama 1 hr. 58 min. (Kleenex)



Movie on the Third Friday, May 16, at 1:00 p.m.

Snacks by Cory Routson from Momentus Health

In honor of Memorial Day, the true story, *The Six Triple Eight* will be shown. The Six Triple Eight was the first and only Women's Army Corps unit of color to serve overseas in World War II. Over 855 women handled a 3 year mail backlog that had morale down. Despite racism, sexism, and grueling conditions, they sorted over 17,000,000 pieces of mail ahead of time. These unsung heroes delivered hope and shattered barriers. Charity Adams Earley led this Army Corps. She was from Dayton.



She retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. Charity is buried at Woodland Cemetery. Be sure to watch the end where you will see actual newsreel footage, meet some of the women that were interviewed, and hear Michelle Obama honor these women. PG-13 Drama 2 hrs. 7 min. (Kleenex) (No scenes of battle.)



FREE River Rock Painting Class on Wed., May 21, at 1:00 p.m.

Emily Hammond from Springfield Masonic Community will bring all the supplies for this river rock painting. You will follow simple step-by-step instructions to complete this painting.

Limit: 20

Needlepoint Plastic Class on Tuesday, May 27, at 1:45 p.m.

Sis Litvin will teach you all the basic needlepoint stitches while you are needlepointing the plastic canvas. You will create this approximately 3 1/4" x 3 1/2" coaster not including the fringe. Cost: \$2 Limit: 12



MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
			1 Duplicate Bridge 10:30 Tech Talk 11:00 Rummikub 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Bingo 1:00 Scattergories 1:30	2 Mah Jong 9:00 Colored Pencils 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Poker 1:00 Movie 1:00
5 Exercise 10:00 Hand & Foot 12:30	6 Super Sewers 9:00 Bridge 9:45 Golden Qi 10:00 BP & Sugar Check 11-12 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Hand & Foot 1:40 Book Club 1:40 Bingo 1:45	7 Matter of Balance 9:15 Hula Hooping 9:30 Drumming 11:15 Bridge 12:00 Up & Down the River 12:00 Euchre 1:00 Flowers 1:00	8 Duplicate Bridge 10:30 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Rummikub 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Scattergories 1:30	9 Mah Jong 9:00 Colored Pencils 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Poker 1:00 Bingo 1:45
12 Exercise 10:00 Functional Fitness Class 11:00 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Hand & Foot 12:30 Memory Café 1:45	13 Travel 9:00-12:00 Super Sewers 9:00 Bridge 9:45 Golden Qi 10:00 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Hand & Foot 1:40 Painting 1:45 Let's Eat Out 5:00	14 Matter of Balance 9:15 Hula Hooping 9:30 Exercise 11:15 Bridge 12:00 Up & Down the River 12:00 Euchre 1:00 Paper Flowers 1:00	15 Duplicate Bridge 10:30 Tech Talk 11:00 Rummikub 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Scattergories 1:30	16 Mah Jong 9:00 Colored Pencils 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Poker 1:00 Movie 1:00 Ceramics 1:30
19 Exercise 10:00 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Hand & Foot 12:30	20 Travel 9:00-12:00 Super Sewers 9:00 Bridge 9:45 Golden Qi 10:00 BP & Sugar Check 11-12 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Hand & Foot 1:40 Essential Oils 1:45	21 Matter of Balance 9:15 Hula Hooping 9:30 Drumming 11:15 Bridge 12:00 Up & Down the River 12:00 Euchre 1:00 River Rock 1:00	22 Duplicate Bridge 10:30 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Rummikub 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Scattergories 1:30	23 Mah Jong 9:00 Colored Pencils 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Poker 1:00 Ice Cream Social 2:00
26 CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY 	27 Travel 9:00-12:00 Super Sewers 9:00 Bridge 9:45 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Hand & Foot 1:40 Needlepoint 1:45	28 Matter of Balance 9:15 Hula Hooping 9:30 Exercise 11:15 Bridge 12:00 Up & Down the River 12:00 Euchre 1:00 Birthdays 1:00 Bingo 1:30	29 Duplicate Bridge 10:30 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Rummikub 12:00 Pinochle 1:00 Scattergories 1:30	30 Mah Jong 9:00 Colored Pencils 9:30 Exercise 10:00 Lunch & Learn 12:00 Poker 1:00

Exercise & Information

NEW BOOKS at the Vandalia Library

The Usual Family Mayhem by Helen Kay Dimon
Homemaker by Ruthie Knox and Annie Mare
A Duke Never Tells by Suzanne Enoch
Early Thirties by Josh Duboff
That Kind of Guy by Stephanie Archer

NEW MOVIES at the Vandalia Library

Sound of Hope: The Story of Possum Trot
Juror #2
Red One
The Order
Den of Thieves 2: Pantera

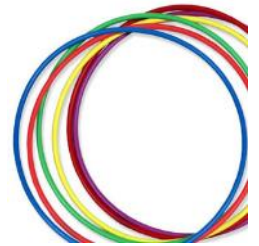


FREE Golden Qi Class on Tuesdays at 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.

Vevia Enix will teach Golden Qi which is a seated form of Tai Chi. This exercise improves balance, reduces joint pain, increases calmness, improves reasoning abilities, helps your memory, and improves the quality of your life. This class can be taken by anyone.

FREE Hula Hoop Class on Wednesdays at 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Come and see how hula hooping can improve your health, your spine, your balance, and cardiovascular system. It can lower blood pressure, reduce stress, and lower cholesterol levels. These hoops are what the pros use in the gyms and rehab centers.



FREE Exercise Class on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays

This is a chair exercise class that is often led by either Bill Kistner, Kathy Reedy, or Roddy Keish. The group might use the weights and exercise bands that are here at the center. Be prepared for a few jokes thrown out in between the exercises.

Mondays 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.

Wednesdays 11:15 to 12:00 a.m. after hula hoops

Fridays 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.

NEW: FREE Drumming on 1st, 3rd, & 5th Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

This class will use drumsticks on either chairs or trash cans. The group will follow a class on YouTube to exercise by drumming and adding other movements. The class will be either in the art room or the dining room depending on which room is free.



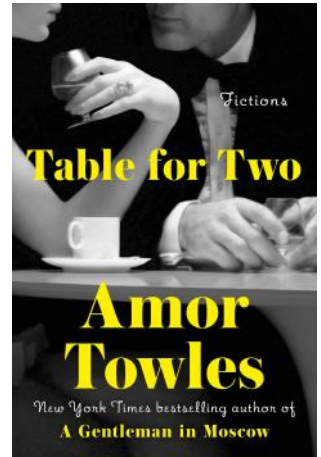
Tech Talk Is Back on the First and Third Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to Noon

Tom Underwood from the Vandalia Public Library will be in the card room/library to answer your questions about your phone, tablet, and other devices. He will be here on May 1 and May 15.

Information

Vandalia Senior Center Book Club Meets on the First Tuesday Each Month at 1:40 p.m.

The book club will meet on Tuesday, May 6, to discuss *Table for Two* by Amor Towles. The book is divided into two parts. There are 6 short stories about New York City and a novella about Los Angeles. In many of the stories two people are talking across a kitchen table.



Let's Eat Out on the Second Tuesday of the Month

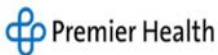


Sign up to eat out at Texas Roadhouse on Tuesday, May 13, at 5:00 p.m. It is located at 5611 Merily Way. Directions: From the Senior Center, turn right onto S. Dixie then right on

National/Rt. 40. Go over 75 and turn right onto Brown School Rd. Follow Rt. 40 as it turns left and goes past Taylorsville Park. Just over the bridge, turn right onto Bridgewater. When it dead ends, turn left onto Taylorsville. At the light, turn left onto Old Troy Pike. At the next light, turn right onto Merily Way. The restaurant is way in the back on the left sitting next to 70.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Dayton & Montgomery County



The Nurses Want to Check Your Numbers on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

Nurses with Montgomery County Public Health will be here on May 6 to check your blood pressure and sugar numbers. Nurses from Premier Health will be here at the on May 20. Both times are 11:00 a.m. to noon.

Memory Café on Monday, May 12, at 1:45 p.m.

Brittany Mikolajewski from the Vandalia Public Library has another fun activity to promote socialization and to help you reminisce about your memories. There is a different activity each time. Sign up to enjoy this fun event. A snack will be provided.



Collections for Brethren Disaster Ministries Continues Until May 13

You can donate 1 gallon resealable plastic bag, wash cloth, fingernail or toenail clipper (packaging removed), toothbrush (in original packing), bath-size bar of soap (in original packaging), travel-size deodorant (3.4 oz. or less, non-aerosol), travel-size lotion (3.4 oz. or less, fragrance-free, new only), travel-size shampoo (3.4 oz. or less, new only), travel-size toothpaste (3.4 oz. or less, expiration date of 1 year), and sturdy wide-tooth comb (6" minimum, packaging removed). Put these items in the box by the white board.



Information

Bridge Hosts

Tuesday bridge at 9:45 a.m. is hosted by Linda Wright. 937-898-6025
Wednesday bridge at 12:15 p.m. is hosted by Judy Laughter. 937-677-3267
Thursday bridge at 12:00 p.m. is hosted by John Whitley. 937-241-8456



Bingo



1. Tambi Spirk from Brookdale will bring lunch and call bingo on Thursday, May 1, at 1:00 p.m. Limit: 48
2. Taylor Ries from Troy Rehab will call bingo on Tuesday, May 6, at 1:45 p.m. Limit: 48
3. Mark Maudlin from Maudlin Senior Care Solutions will call bingo on Friday, May 9, at 1:45 p.m. Limit: 48
4. Courtney Peck from Randall Residence of Tipp City will call bingo on Wednesday, May 28, at 1:30 p.m. Limit: 48

Celebrate May Birthdays on Wednesday, May 28, at 1:00 p.m.

Becky Devor from Randall Residence of West Milton will provide the birthday cakes from their kitchen. Please sign up if you have a birthday. We will take a group photo then everyone will sing. Everyone gets a piece of cake but the birthday people get theirs first!



Answers to Page 12

#1, 3, 8, 15, and 18 are false. All of the rest of the statements are true.

Donations

*****Please give ALL donations to Toni.** Some items can be used by the center.

Leave in the Office: Need **bud vases** for the May 14 flower project.

Especially need: *Diet Coke, *Coke, and *other drinks, *birthday napkins, and seasonal napkins, non-refrigerated individual creamers, art supplies, greenery, new greeting cards, and items for the free tables.

Boxes in the hallway under the coat rack and by the white board:

newspapers, eyeglasses, pop tabs, used greeting cards, stamps including cancelled stamps (leave a border), cell phones, food for the Vandalia Food Pantry barrel and food for Food 4 Kids box

Leave on the Fireplace in the card room/ library: books and puzzles



Memorial Day

What do you know about Memorial Day? Mark T for true and F for false.

Check your answers on page 10.

1. Memorial Day began after World War I. ____
2. Waterloo, New York, is considered the "Birthplace of Memorial Day". ____
3. Memorial Day was originally called Remembrance Day. ____
4. Memorial Day is said to have originated as a Southern holiday celebrating African American Freedom. ____
5. Memorial Day became an official Federal holiday in 1971 with the Uniform Monday Holiday Act putting it on the last Monday in May. ____
6. Decoration Day was designated as May 30 by General Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1868. ____
7. Originally the holiday was called Decoration Day since it was a day to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers. ____
8. President Roosevelt changed the name to Memorial Day. ____
9. The first time there was a city-wide celebration was on May 5, 1866, in New York with citizens and former soldiers holding a parade and decorating graves. ____
10. Memorial Day started after the Civil War. ____
11. Memorial Day traditions include parades, visiting cemeteries and memorials, attending church services, and placing flowers and flags on graves. ____
12. President Johnson named Waterloo, NY, as the "Birthplace of Memorial Day". ____
13. Flags are lowered at half-staff on Memorial Day. ____
14. In 2000, The National Moment of Remembrance Act, designated 3:00 p.m. as the time to observe a moment of silence. ____
15. Ten other cities claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. ____
16. AAA estimates there will be about 44 million travelers on that weekend. ____
17. It is one of the most popular days for grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. ____
18. It is a day to remember all soldiers who have ever served in the US Armed Forces. ____
19. Charleston, South Carolina; Columbus, Georgia; and Boalsburg, Pennsylvania; all claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day. ____
20. For many, Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer season. ____



Travel

We appreciate all the work that Bob and Kathy Reed do year round for the travel program. They are both volunteers and are not compensated for their time and efforts.

For the Diamond Tours trips, write a \$100 deposit check to Diamond Tours. Also fill out the slip of paper at the bottom of the page or get the form at the Senior Center or on the website. Drop them in box #4 in the hallway by the office or mail it to the Senior Center.

April 28 to May 3: Virginia Beach, Colonial Williamsburg, & Historic Norfolk \$889 pp
\$1129 single ***Full**

June 9 to 13: Niagara Falls & Toronto \$865 pp \$1035 single Passport needed. ***Full**

October 5 to 11: Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, & Plymouth \$989 pp \$1218 ***Full**
***Taking a waiting list for these three trips.**

For the Prime Tours trips, write a \$100 deposit check to Prime Tours. Also fill out the paper that comes with the flyer. You can pick it up at the center or go online. You can also register and pay by credit card online at GoPrimeTours.com.

May 6: Mystery day trip \$169; You need to pay in full for this trip.

July 15 to 17: Frankenmuth, Michigan with other stops \$689 pp \$809 for single

September 15 to 18: Pennsylvania Dutch Country & more \$1198 pp \$1339 single

December 8 to 11: Smokie Mountain Christmas including visiting the Biltmore Estate
\$1499 pp \$1689 single You can also do a hotel upgrade. See flyer.

Flyers are in the holder by the card room door. Information is on the travel bulletin board and on the senior center web page at <https://vandaliaohio.org/503/Travel>. You can mail your check to the Vandalia Senior Center or drop it in box #4 in the hallway by the kitchen or give it to Bob Reed in person. You also need to fill out the form for that company.

Bob Reed's Office Hours: Tuesdays only 9 a.m. to Noon

Or call Bob at 937-313-9692 and leave a voicemail.

Please only call Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Name: _____ Name of Roommate: _____

Cell phone: _____ Email: _____

Trip Destination: _____

Emergency contact—Name: _____ Phone number: _____

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3. Planning can help you receive care in a place of your choice — *even in your home*.

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We love Vandalia! We understand community is everything. Since 1976 we have tried to support our seniors with top notch service and sales

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- ✓ 172-Point Inspection Vehicle History Report



LINCOLN



Vandalia
Recreation
Center

Vandalia Sweet Treats Fest

Saturday, May 10 | 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Indulge your sweet tooth in a symphony of flavors at our Sweet Treats Fest! Satisfy your cravings with a decadent array of treats that will transport your taste buds to a sugary wonderland. From heavenly cakes to delightful pastries, this event is a sugar-coated celebration where every bite is a blissful escape into a world of confectionery delight. There will be non-food vendors, live music, and other activities for you to enjoy!

Free Entry

Location: Vandalia Sports Complex

Music is from 4:00pm-8:00pm

**Questions? Contact Sara Moyer at:
smoyer@vandaliaohio.org**

**Music By:
Adelee & Gentry**



Parks & Recreation

Hula Workshop w/Olohana's Polynesian Dance —Friday, May 16– 6:00pm-7:30pm

Experience Polynesia! Olohana's Polynesian Dance presents a Summer Hula Workshop for the whole family! The workshop will include learning basic steps of hula dance and a full dance routine. We will have a dance for everyone! Stop by Olohana's Polynesian Dance merch table where you'll find authentic Hawaiian pa'u skirts, sarongs, lava rock jewelry, stickers, and more! Each participant will be entered into a drawing to win free merchandise or free hula lessons! Wear your Aloha attire! We can't wait to share the Aloha Spirit with you!

Ages: All ages welcome

Fee: Free

Location: Vandalia Art Park

Firefly Jar w/ Miss Elissa— Monday, May 19– 6:00pm-8:00pm

The fireflies are lighting up the evening skies! Come create a glowing "Firefly Jar" painting while enjoying being outdoors at Helke Park. No experience necessary! Your instructor, Elissa, will guide you step-by-step through painting a beautiful firefly scene on a 16"x20" canvas. Your choice of an inspiring word painted on the mason jar - "Dream!" "Believe!" "Sparkle!" - the sky's the limit. All painting supplies and instruction are included. Just bring yourself (plus a friend or two, and a snack!) and leave with a beautiful work of art that's sure to light up your life!

Ages: 18 years old and older

Fee: \$35 per person

Location: Helke Park— Shelter #1— in case of inclement weather—
Vandalia Rec Center

Registration Deadline: You must be registered for this program by Friday May 16th. Walk-ins will not be accepted. Registration for this programs is online at vandaliareccenter.com.

Buggin' Out at the Park w/Dr. Insecta – Saturday, May 31 – 10:30am-11:30am

Come on out for a special visit from Dr. Insecta as he presents his exciting program, "The Incredible, Unforgettable Bug Lab Experience!" This engaging and educational show is perfect for children ages 6 - 106! Participants will not only meet some of the world's most fascinating insect stars, but will also discover incredible facts that will have them amazed, inspired, and buzzing with curiosity about the wacky world of insects!

Ages: All Ages Welcome

Fee: \$15 Resident/ Member; \$20 Non-Resident

Location: Vandalia Art Park



VANDALIA SENIOR CENTER

21 Tionda Drive South
Vandalia, Ohio 45377

Open; Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Coordinator: Toni Williams

twilliams@vandaliaohio.org
Phone: 937-898-1232
Fax: 937-665-0796
[https://vandaliaohio.org/341/
Senior-Center](https://vandaliaohio.org/341/Senior-Center)

Vandalia Senior Club

2025 Committee:

President	Cathy Nortman 985-201-6747
Vice President	Iris Siebert 937-454-1583
Treasure	Kay Lowe 937-409-8300
Secretary	Dottie Ganter 937-898-7286

DATED MATERIAL: DO NOT DELAY

--MEMBERSHIP--

Age 55 or older

Younger Spouses are welcome!

The 2025 fees for members are:

Vandalia Residents \$15 single - \$25 dual

Non Resident \$20 single - \$35 dual

A resident is defined as someone who pays
City of Vandalia property taxes.

Membership for anyone over 90 is free but
you must notify the office to continue to get the newsletter.
Your annual membership fees help offset some of
the costs of programming and support for the Senior Center.

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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
18th Annual
LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER
MEMORIAL CEREMONY**

**FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025
11:00A.M.**

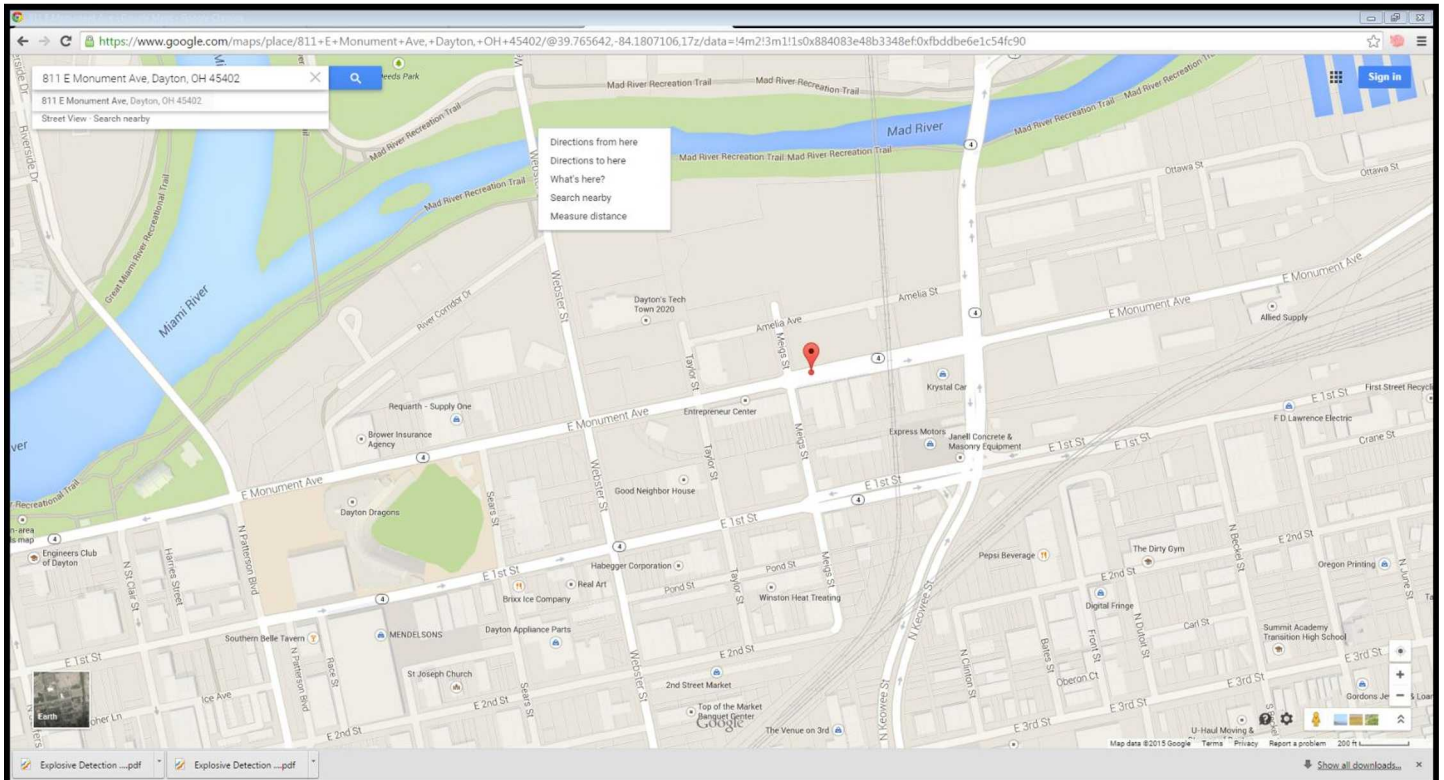
Law enforcement officers, elected officials, public dignitaries, family survivors, and the public are invited to join together on Friday, May 2, 2025, to honor the 49 Montgomery County law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty over the past 145 years. The memorial ceremony will begin at 11:00 A.M. preceded by a procession of officers, retirees, and cruisers arriving at the ceremony site at Riverscape at 10:45 A.M.

The keynote speaker will be Ohio State Highway Patrol Lieutenant Colonel Charles J. Linek III. Lieutenant Colonel Linek began his Patrol career in February 1994. Lieutenant Colonel Linek oversees the Office of Planning, Research and Development, Office of Finance and Logistics, and the Office of Personnel with the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Lieutenant Colonel Linek also served in the Ohio Air National Guard from 1986 to 1992.

The family survivor speaker is Debbie Durr, the widow of Patrolman Jahn E. Schmidt of the Butler Township Police Department who was killed in the line of duty in 1976 on Miller Lane. A special music selection will be performed by American Idol finalist Alexis Gomez.

(ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS & DIRECTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE)

Free parking is available at 811 East Monument Street (east of Meigs Street and Tech Town) for all law enforcement personnel, command staff personnel, elected officials, and government leaders. Shuttle service will be available to and from the parking lot to the procession staging area and the ceremony location. Additional parking is available at parking meters downtown. Family survivors will be provided special parking passes. To ensure safety of the vehicles, volunteers will be monitoring the designated parking lot during the ceremony.



For officers and retirees walking in the procession, you will need to assemble in the parking lot of Temple Israel, 130 Riverside Drive, by 1000 hours. The procession will begin promptly at 1030 hours.

Due to the limited space at Riverscape and Temple Israel, each police agency is to have **ONLY ONE** marked cruiser in the procession and to stage in the Temple Israel parking lot. **THERE IS NO EXTRA PARKING AVAILABLE FOR CRUISERS OR PERSONAL VEHICLES AT TEMPLE ISRAEL.**

A complimentary luncheon for law enforcement officers, retirees, scholarship recipients, guest speakers and family survivors will follow the ceremony at the Antioch Shrine, 120 East First Street, compliments of Kettering Health. Shuttle service will be provided to and from the Antioch Shrine to the parking area.



May 2nd-15th, 2025

Lighting Montgomery County Night Sky Blue.



Light Ohio Blue is a statewide campaign to honor law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty.

Light Ohio Blue also strives to show support to the currently serving law enforcement personnel who protect our communities throughout our great state.

The 18th Annual Montgomery County Law Enforcement Officers Memorial ceremony is on Friday, May 2, 2025, at 11:00 am at RiverScape MetroPark to honor 49 fallen officers. The committee is asking for your support by changing your outside lights to blue, starting at sunset on Friday, May 2nd and ending at sunrise on Thursday, May 15th. <https://lightohioblue.org/community-engagement/>

The Montgomery County Association of Police Chiefs and Montgomery County Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Committee has partnered with Light Ohio Blue to support law enforcement personnel who protect our communities by lighting up the skyline by switching outside lighting on buildings, bridges, special structures, and residents to a blue light. The blue light shows support to the men and women currently serving, who have served, and for those who made the ultimate sacrifice protecting our communities. <https://lightohioblue.org/>

