

Morrow e-News

The Official News Source of the Village of Morrow

December 21, 2015

Village of Morrow News

Orders being taken for Third Round of Pavers for the Morrow Veterans Memorial

Orders for the third of engraved 4" x 8" brick pavers are currently being accepted. As soon as enough paver orders are received, another order will be processed. Engraved 4" x 8" brick pavers with veteran's names may be purchased for \$30.00 each. If you are interested in purchasing a brick or making a donation to help with the construction of the Park, please contact the Village Office at (513) 899-2821 for a brick form. Please make your check payable to Morrow VFW Post 8202. Please mail your completed brick form to:

Morrow VFW Post 8202 · Post Office Box 115 · Morrow, Ohio 45152



The image shows a form titled "Morrow Veterans Memorial Park Paver Order Form". It includes fields for "Paver Number", "Name", "Address", "City", "State", and "Zip". There is also a section for "Comments" and a table with 14 columns and 2 rows for recording paver orders.

If you have any questions concerning the Morrow Veterans Memorial Park, please call Bob Blankenship at (513) 678-4410.

Fort Ancient Restored Machinery Club (F.A.R.M. Club) Helps Little Miami Food Pantry

Each year on the weekend before Father's Day, the Fort Ancient Restored Machinery Club (F.A.R.M. Club) holds The Great Warren County Tractor Ride, also known as the Tractor Trek. The Tractor Trek is a charity tractor ride organized in 2010 by the F.A.R.M. Club. The purpose of the Tractor Trek is to raise funds for the various needs of Warren County. Past beneficiaries have included the Warren County Abuse Shelter and a youth program call Jump Start. The 2015 Tractor Trek beneficiary was the Little Miami Food Pantry. Thank you to the members of the Fort Ancient Restored Machinery Club and their various donors. For more information, please visit www.FARMClub.org.

Salem Township News

Smoke Detectors

The Salem/Morrow Fire department offers smoke detectors to the community it serves. Please contact the station for more details at 513.899.2222.

Free Blood Pressure Checks at the Salem-Morrow Fire Department

The Salem/Morrow Fire department staffs a member of the department at the fire station at all times. Anybody is welcome to stop by for a free blood pressure check or for any health concern. That's what we are here for. If you feel you are having a medical emergency please call 9-1-1 and we will come to you.

Salem/Morrow Fire Department Cadet Program

The Salem/Morrow Fire Department Cadets is a youth oriented program directed at helping young adults who have an interest in the field of firefighting and Emergency Medical Services, as well as, to assist the Salem/Morrow Fire Department when able.

The program meets on the 1st (first) Monday of the month at the fire station at 1800 hrs. Cadets are required to participate in the department's fire training, held the 2nd (second) Monday of each month at 1830 hrs. Cadets are taught the basic skills of firefighting and first aid. Much of the training is hands-on and is supervised by Fire Department personnel. Meetings also include public service projects and fund raising activities.

Cadets are allowed to respond with the department to any "station response", provided that he/she is not serving any type of suspension – school or program. During the school year, cadets are permitted to make runs from the time that school is dismissed for the day until 9:30pm, only if school assignments are complete or at the discretion of parents/guardians. If cadets are on a response close to the 9:30pm cut-off, every attempt will be made to return them to the station to meet their parents/guardians or to take them home. During school vacations/breaks, cadets are allowed to run around the clock, but only at the discretion of his/her parent/guardian.

Cadets will learn how hard work, discipline, and a structured work environment in the fire service promote safety and teamwork toward successfully completing a common objective. All members shall be trained and certified in Basic First Aid and C.P.R. Cadets will also gain a sense of pride in serving the community. Parents will witness the positive outcome by having their child enroll in this growing program.

The Cadets are always in search of energetic young men and women who are eager to learn more about the fire service. Any student between the ages of 14 and 18 years of age with a grade point average of 1.0 or greater is eligible to apply.

Anyone interested in becoming a cadet contact:

Salem/Morrow Fire Department · 5270 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3 · Morrow, Ohio 45152 · 513.899.2222

Join the TEAM! Make a change for the better!

Program Advisors

Lieutenant Richard Oeder, FF/EMT

Mike Belanger, FF/EMT

Get Your Car Seat Safety Inspection at the Salem-Morrow Fire Department

Did you know these Child Passenger Safety Facts (from www.safekids.org)?

- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children ages 3 to 14.
- Correctly used child safety seats are extremely effective and reduce the risk of death as much as 71%.
- Nearly 73% of child restraints are not installed or used correctly.
- Nearly half of kids 14 and under who died in crashes were completely unrestrained.

You can come to the Salem-Morrow Fire Department for car seat checks which are conducted by National Child Passenger Safety Board certified technicians. Appointments can be made by calling Salem Morrow Fire Department at 513.899.2222 or emailing jzwerling@station71.com. Please allow approximately 30-45 minutes per car seat. When you come in for a car seat check please have the following:

- The car seat (not in the box if new)
- The car seat instructions
- The vehicle owner's manual

All parents/caregivers and any children riding in the car should try to be at the appointment.

KNOX-BOX® Rapid Entry System

The KNOX-BOX® Rapid Entry System was specifically developed for the fire department. With one master key, you can gain access to commercial and residential property. More than 7,000 departments nationwide use Knox key boxes, vaults, Haz-Mat cabinets, key switches, locking FDC caps, padlocks and the Knox-Scan heat sensor. Many of these departments use Sentralok(tm), the master key security system, to control the Knox Master Key®. Property owners in your community store entrance keys, access cards and floor plans in high-security Knox-Boxes mounted near their building entrances.

Commercial Properties: Each KNOX-BOX® purchased by the property owner is keyed to a single master key controlled by your department. With the Knox System, there is no cost to the fire department, no waiting for a property owner to unlock the door in the middle of the night, and no forcing the door open to gain entry. The Knox Rapid Entry System reduces response time, property damage and the liability for lost keys. The Salem-Morrow Fire Department is currently using the Knox System on several properties in the area.

Residential KNOX-BOX® Program: The Salem/Morrow Fire Department has started a Residential Knox Box Program to help us help you. What is Knox Box? It's a heavy duty box that we hang on your door that has your home key in it. We have a Master key that we use to open the box in an emergency situation so we can make access to your home and let us help you.

The reason we started the program is to help us make entry to our citizens without causing damage to their property. We receive calls to residents homes and when we get there we are unable to make access do to the house is locked up tight. We end up breaking into the house to help with their emergency and then they have an extra expense fixing what we had to break. Residents stop by and offer us keys so we do not have to break in. That would be a lot of keys for us to have and maintain. This would cause more of a hindrance then help. This program is for residents that have chronic medical problems, elderly folks that live alone, persons with disabilities that would make it hard for them to let us in, and that live in our protection area. If you are not sure if you qualify, contact Chief Harrison. This is a free service provided to our residents for as long as they need it.

This program was started by donations to the fire department. We have purchased 6 Knox Boxes and Key Secure Systems. The Key Secure Systems secures the key to the vehicle and tracks who uses it. This gives us an accountability system on the use of the key. Supplies are limited.

Help the Salem-Morrow Fire Department Protect Your Dreams

The quicker the Salem-Morrow Fire Department's firefighters or EMT's can locate you, the quicker we can begin helping you and your family. In an effort to locate your home or business in an emergency, the Salem-Morrow Fire Department is providing a 6" x 18" reflective sign that will clearly display your street address. These signs are invaluable to firefighters, EMT's, and police officers, who may be looking for your home in your time of need. Similar signs have been installed in other communities with startling results. The Salem-Morrow Fire Department is selling these signs at the low cost of \$12.00 each. If you wish to have the SMFD mount your sign for you, they will do so for \$14.00. Each sign has your street address prominently displayed on both sides in highly reflective 3" numbers against a green background similar to those on an interstate sign.

The signs are installed in such a way that assures their visibility, even in high grass and snowy weather. If you would like to purchase one of these signs, simply stop by the Salem-Morrow Fire Department, 5270 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3, Morrow, Ohio 45152, to complete an order form. In approximately 7 days, your sign will be ready for pickup or installation. Generally, the signs can be made, while you wait, in less than 10 minutes. Isn't \$12.00 worth the peace of mind of knowing that help can find you in your time of need?

Morrow Area Historical Society News

History in Your Own Backyard Video Project

We've nearly completed the research for the videos we're creating with the company History in Your Own Backyard and should begin filming soon. We also have nearly reached our fundraising goal but aren't quite there yet. So if you haven't donated, please consider supporting this project that will be available online for our entire community, our schools and anyone interested in the history of our area.

Donations can be sent to: Morrow Area Historical Society, Post Office Box 189, Morrow, Ohio 45152.

You can also watch the videos that History in Your Own Backyard has created for other local communities by visiting their website, <http://www.historyinyourownbackyard.com/> or by visiting their You Tube channel.

Thank you for your support!

We're now on Facebook!

Please check out our page at Morrow Area Historical Society and watch for new information and updates to be added!

Please Donate Your Aluminum Can Pull Tabs to Help Support the Morrow Area Historical Society

The Morrow Area Historical Society is collecting aluminum can pull tabs to help support our efforts to preserve our local history. Please drop off your aluminum can pull tabs at the Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152.

Become a Morrow Area Historical Society Member

Please consider being a member and volunteering. Our membership brochure is below or you can call 513.899.2821. We want Morrow area history to be alive!



South Lebanon Historical Society News

2015 Membership Drive

The Southlebanonhistoricalsociety.com is in the middle of our membership drive for 2015, and if you haven't yet joined or renewed, it's not too late to do so! Did you know: As a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, we rely on community support to continue our work. We have few sources of revenue--donations, memberships, Kroger Community Rewards, --but our primary sources of recurring revenue are Donations and Memberships.

Can we count on you? Joining or renewing your membership for the 2015 season is only \$15 for an individual, \$25 for a family, and easy! <http://www.southlebanonhistoricalsociety.com/2015-membership-link> You can do it all online via credit card or PayPal. Or, if you prefer, South Lebanon LCNB just tell them you want to make a deposit to the South Lebanon Historical Society and ask for a receipt for your taxes download the form and mail it in.

We are proud of how far we stretch donor dollars. We have small office, no paid staff, and meet or exceed all best-practice financial standards for nonprofits.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please click here to share them.

Sincerely,

Maryan Harrison, President

South Lebanon Historical Society, Inc. · www.southlebanonhistoricalsociety.com

South Lebanon Historical Society Monthly Meeting

The South Lebanon Historical Society meets regularly on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the old South Lebanon Elementary School building located at 89 Section Street, South Lebanon, Ohio 45065. We occasionally have our meetings at historic homes throughout South Lebanon. All meetings are open to the public. Bring an appetizer to share along with articles, photos, ideas, etc. For more information, please visit the South Lebanon Historical Society's website at <http://www.southlebanonhistoricalsociety.com/>. Mark your Calendar for the third Tuesday of each month and plan to attend the South Lebanon Historical Societies Monthly meeting at 6:30 pm at 89 Section Street in South Lebanon, Ohio.

Warren County Historical Society News

Warren County Historical Society & Museum

Celebrating 75 Years of Service!

There is so much to see and do at the Warren County Historical Society. Whether you are 10 years old or 50 or 75, you will find something entertaining and educational here! From new exhibits in our three-story Warren County History Center museum to special events, to holiday tours of Glendower Historic Mansion...we are always offering something to explore and enjoy. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Gingerbread House Display at the Warren County History Center – Ends December 30th

When: **Tuesdays through Fridays, 10 am to 4 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm.**

Where: Warren County History Center, 105 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH 45036=

Details: See the imaginative, whimsical, and heart-warming creations from our [Gingerbread House Contest](#) on display on the museum's central "Village Green," the heart of the museum where one can browse "shops" of downtown Lebanon c1880. On December 1, the first place winners will be moved to Glendower Historic Mansion's "Christmas at Glendower" (see below), but the rest of the entries will remain on display at the History Center through December 30

Cost: Nov 27 - 29 only--admission is FREE for the Gingerbread House Display; All other days (Tues-Sat regular admission is charged (\$7 Adults, \$6 Seniors, \$4 Students 5-18) and includes all museum exhibits.

Winning Gingerbread Houses on Display at Glendower Historic Mansion – Ends December 27th

When: **Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, 1 pm-5pm.**

Where: Glendower Historic Mansion, 105 Cincinnati Avenue, Lebanon, OH 45036

Details: See the gingerbread houses that took first place in the each category of our [Gingerbread House Contest](#). The wonderful creations will add their charm to "[Christmas at Glendower](#)," a yearly tradition when the historic mansion is professionally decorated and open for guided tours.

Cost: Includes mansion tour - \$8 Adults, \$7 Seniors, \$5 Students 5-18 (cash only, please).

Christmas at Glendower 2015 – Ends December 27th

When: **Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm**

Where: Glendower Historic Mansion, 105 Cincinnati Avenue, Lebanon, OH 45036

Details: Bring the whole family to enjoy a guided tour of this beautiful historic Greek-Revival mansion, which will be professionally decorated for the holidays. The theme this year is "Christmas Traditions." In addition, see the 1st place winners from our Gingerbread House Contest on display throughout the house.

Cost: Adults \$8, Seniors 65+ \$7, Students 5-18 \$5. Sorry, Cash Only

A Preference for Lace Wedding Gown & Lace Exhibit – Ends December 23rd

Warren County History Center, 105 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH 45036

Details: The Warren County Historical Society has been collecting all manner of textiles throughout its 75 year history including quilts, needlework samplers, woven coverlets and hundreds of pieces of 19th and 20th century clothing from families all over Warren County. This exhibit showcases wedding dresses with beautiful lace details from the 1800s through 1980. Additionally, this exhibit includes displays of different types of lace that were available to past seamstresses. Featured are examples of bobbin lace, cutwork and needle lace, including both handmade and machine-made.

For more information call 513-932-1817 or visit www.wchsmuseum.org.

Lebanon Antique Show 2016

When: **January 16 & 17, 2016, Saturday 10 am to 5 pm, Sunday 11 am to 4 pm**

Where: Warren County Fairgrounds, 665 N. Broadway, Lebanon, OH 45036

Details: Antique dealers from far and wide offer high-quality American and Continental furnishings & decorative arts, textiles, jewelry, primitives, folk art, and fine art from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Delicious food available on site. Free parking!

Cost: \$8, good both days--proceeds benefit the Warren County Historical Society's mission to preserve and present the heritage of Warren County, Ohio.

For more information: wchs@wchsmuseum.org or 513-932-1817

2016 Old Post Office Flea Markets

When: **Friday 10-4, Saturday 10-5 on January 29 & 30, April 29 & 30, July 29 & 30, and September 23 & 24**

Where: Lebanon Conference & Banquet Center (Old Post Office), 121 S. Broadway, Lebanon, OH 45036

Details: Multiple vendors offer antiques, collectibles, books, decorative accessories, toys, and household goods at great prices!

Cost: Admission-FREE! Vendor Booth Space Rental: \$50. View or print a copy of the 2015 [Vendor Guidelines by clicking here](#).

This event is a fundraiser for the Warren County Historical Society. For More Information, to donate goods, or to participate as a vendor, contact Warren County Historical Society 513-932-1817 wchs@wchsmuseum.org.

2016 Lebanon Quilt & Fabric Arts Show

The 34th annual Lebanon Quilt & Fabric Arts Show & Sale

Date: **March 4, 5 & 6, 2016**

Time: **Fri & Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4**

Where: The Warren County Fairgrounds, Under the Grandstand, 665 North Broadway, Lebanon, OH 45036

Details: Vendors from around the country will offer quilts, quilting & craft supplies, patterns, fabrics, vintage textiles, & more!

Special Exhibit: TBD

Admission: \$5 (Admission proceeds benefit the Warren County Historical Society's mission to preserve and present the history of Warren County, Ohio)

For More Information Warren County Historical Society 513-932-1817 wchs@wchsmuseum.org

American Treasures Productions americantreasurespro@gmail.com

For More Information, contact the Warren County Historical Society 513-932-1817 wchs@wchsmuseum.org

2016 Summer Gatherings at Glendower Historic Mansion

[Glendower Historic Mansion](#) offers a series of summer programs for children and adults featuring historic music, crafts, fashions and food. Parts of the programs are free to the public; others have a small admission charge. All of the programs are family friendly and designed to educate as well as entertain. Parking is free. The mansion is located at 105 Cincinnati Avenue, Lebanon, OH 45036.

June 25 & 26, 2016: "Reclaiming our Skills of Old" Stroll the lawns of Glendower and interact with crafts people at work (free). For an admission fee, tour the interior of Glendower and visit with more traditional crafts people. Saturday Noon to 5:00 PM, Sunday Noon to 4:00 PM.

August 20, 2016: "Tea at Glendower" - Join us for a traditional afternoon tea, tour Glendower's gardens and the mansion interior. Hours are Saturday, Noon to 5:00 PM. Details to follow.

September 24 & 25: Civil War Encampment - Ohio Valley Civil War Association returns for this annual event with canons, close order drill and Cavalry officers. All events on the lawn on free. Tour the mansion for an admission fee.

Admission for Interior Mansion Tours (Except on August 20) Cash Only, Please

\$7 for adults

\$6 for seniors age 65+

\$5 for students ages 5-18 years old

For more information: wchs@wchsmuseum.org or 513-932-1817

Lantern Light Cemetery Tour at Lebanon Cemetery

When: **September 9, 2016, 6:30 pm.**

Where: Lebanon Cemetery, West Silver Street, Lebanon, Ohio, meet at the front entrance.

Details: A Historical walking tour of the Lebanon Cemetery in Lebanon, Ohio. By lantern light, visit the graves of notable and historic Lebanon citizens & meet the "spirit" of the departed through historic character reenactments. Led by John Zimkus, WCHS Historian and Vicky Van Harlingen, WCHS Director.

Cost: Paid reservation required. Space is limited! \$20 adults, \$10 Children. Reserve below or by calling 513-932-1817.

Old Lebanon Ghost Walk & Pub Crawl

When: **Saturday, October 1, 2016, 6:00 PM**

Mark your calendar and stay tuned for details! Call 513-932-1817 with any questions!

Morrow Area Church News

Celebrate Recovery at Fellowship of Praise – Each Thursday at 7:00 pm

Celebrate Recovery meets each Thursday at 7pm at Fellowship of Praise. Do you need a safe place to seek help for an addiction? Do you have a loved one you're concerned about? Join us. We offer unconditional love, support, and prayer. Come join us for Celebrate Recovery at Fellowship of Praise this Thursday at 7:00 pm. Fellowship of Praise is located at 8625 U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3, Clarksville, Ohio 45113. For more information, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/celebraterecoveryfop>.

“Meals for Morrow” Riversway Ministry, Feeding the Morrow Community – December 26th

Riversway Ministry recently began serving “Meals for Morrow.” Meals are served at the Old Train Depot on Main Street in Morrow, where people may eat at tables provided. Meals are provided at no cost to those in need every other Saturday from **12:00 pm – 1:30 pm**. Future meal dates are: **December 26th**. We will be putting up flyers around town and will be going door to door on the Friday night before, so we hope to have a big crowd. We have had a lot of interest in helping with this ministry, so we are hoping that on that day there will be plenty of help. For more information, please contact Melonie at 513.932.9678 or meloniemetz@embarqmail.com.

Church News and Event Information Needed!

Is your Church having a special event that you would like to share with the community? If so, please email your news and events to administrator@vil.morrow.oh.us.

Morrow Area Business News

“It’s Just Wine, Beer & Music” Every Thursday at Valley Vineyards

Come and enjoy great music featuring local artists, with all of your friends at Valley Vineyards, 2276 East U. S. Route 22 & 3, Morrow, Ohio 45152 **every Thursday** evening from 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm. Available are selected half-priced glasses of wine, seasonal hors d'oeuvres and light fare. No reservations necessary so come in and enjoy complimentary live music every Thursday with “*It’s Just Wine and Music*.” This fun filled, relaxing evening will begin at 6:00 pm and go until 10:00 pm. For more information, please contact Valley Vineyards at 513.899.2485 or visit their website at <http://www.valleyvineyards.com/events.html>. Future musical guests include:

Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve- Closed @ 5

Thursday, December 31: New Year’s Eve Cookout from 5-8:30

Big Tree Plantation - Where Christmas Memories Become Traditions

Listed by Cincinnati Magazine as a top 10 Christmas tradition for families. Providing the Cincinnati area with great trees for over 25 years.

New for Christmas 2015

Due to popular demand...WE ARE OPENING A WEEK EARLY!

We will open our Christmas Tree Fields, our Pre-Cut Barn and our Gift Barn

New this year for the little ones...a three car train ride. Great fun and perfect for pictures.

Late season hours from 12/21 through 12/23.

Winter Wonderland is back again this season. Your child can make a craft, visit animals, decorate a cookie and visit Santa. Winter Wonderland is open from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm on: 12/12 and 12/13

If You Have Not Visited Santa At Big Tree Plantation You Have Not Visited Santa!

Look for Hannah's Nut House

Open the first two weekends after Thanksgiving.

Between the Tree Barn and the Gift Barn sits last year's Big Addition.

Affectionately named Hannah's Nut House, you can pay for your Christmas Tree without going into the gift barn.

While you are in the Nut House you can purchase Roasted Almonds, Funnel Cakes, Nachos, Pretzels, Pop, Water and Cappuccino.

The Nut House is the perfect stop for those less interested in our Gift Barn and more interested in feeding Goats and Ducks.

Every year more and more customers come to our farm just to visit our Gift Barn!

Decorated Wreaths, Greenery, Beautiful Decorations, Gifts, Great Food and a KIDS SHOP just for little ones are just some of the reasons our Gift Barn is so popular.

Our courteous staff are ready to help personalize a special ornament or find just the right bow for your wreath.

Come see our painted tree and visit our life size Nativity.

Please check the Events and Specials page at www.bigtreeplantation.com for coupons as well as tree varieties, sizes and prices. Your well behaved dogs are always welcome when on a leash. For a complete listing of hours and events visit us at www.bigtreeplantation.com.

Every year we try to improve the experience of our customers. We listen to what you tell us you want and need to make your visit more enjoyable. We hope the Memories you create with your family at our farm during Christmas become your Traditions.

Last year we discovered a new way of managing our tree loading process. This process along with our new Nut House greatly reduced wait times and improved our accuracy to a success rate greater than 99.99%. As great as that is and as crazy as it might sound we have tweaked that system in pursuit of the year we accomplish a 100% success rate.

Pursuing better service and higher quality is just one small way we attempt to honor Jesus all year. After all...He is the reason we celebrate this time of year. We pray that for a couple of hours while you visit our farm that the "craziness" of this world will subside and you enjoy peace and laughter with your family.

Thank you for supporting our business and celebrating Christmas.

Ballroom & Latin Dance Instruction at You & Me Dance Studio

Learn to dance for a cause! You & Me Dance Studio is a volunteer/not for profit organization dedicated to teaching the art of dance to people of all ages. Every time you take a lesson, you're contributing to tuition free youth program!

Holiday Gift Cards are NOW AVAILABLE! Contact the studio for more information!

You & Me Dance Studio · 357 East Pike Street · Morrow, Ohio 45152

(513) 970-0020 · www.youandme.dance · www.facebook.com/youandmedancestudio

Cellar Dweller Craft Beers 4 Year Anniversary Party! – February 21, 2016

Come help us celebrate 4 years of Craft Beers at Valley Vineyards! Live music, wine and beer tastings, pints and glasses available all day. Special keg tappings throughout the day, cellar tours and lots of wine and beer! Food buffet available throughout the day. Music Schedule: TBD. No Reservations Required! Look forward to seeing you! Check out our beer list by clicking [here!](#)

Shop Buckley Bros. Feed & Pet Supply of Morrow for All Your Gardening, Feed and Pet Supply Needs

Buckley Bros. Feed & Pet Supply of Morrow is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Their friendly and helpful staff is available to answer your questions anytime. Please feel free to call them at 513.899.0304.

Need Space for an Upcoming Graduation Party, Wedding Reception, Family Reunion or a Corporate Event?

Do you have an upcoming wedding, anniversary, birthday, retirement party, or other special event? You may wish to consider are the Morrow Masonic Lodge No. 265, which offers the perfect setting for your special event. For more information, please contact Paul at 513.850.5788.

Healthy Solution Yoga & Cardio Drumming Drop-In Classes

Exciting News! Drop-in classes have begun for Yoga and Cardio Drumming. Yoga classes will be held on Mondays from 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm. Cardio Drumming classes will be held on Mondays at 7:45 pm and Thursdays at 6:30 pm and 7:45 pm. Get a jump on your New Year's resolution to lead a healthier lifestyle. For more information, please contact Jennifer Kavensky, Wellness Coach with Herbalife International, 513.387.9745, jkprezteam@yahoo.com or www.JenniferKavensky.com.

Emmons Construction, LLC Commercial/Residential Renovations

- Over 20 Years of Experience
- Our projects have included
 - Complete Home Renovations
 - Trucking Companies
 - Doctor and Dentist Offices
 - Walk-In Medical Centers
 - Entire Floors of High Rise Buildings
- Great References Available
- Lifetime Warranties on Our Workmanship

Call Steve Emmons today for your free estimate at 513.472.9074.

Plain Folk Café Offering Some of the Area's Finest Food & Entertainment

Whether you're looking for a place to gather with friends for a great meal or you're looking for great live music, look no further than the Plain Folk Café, 10177 State Route 132, Pleasant Plain, Ohio 45162. For more information, please check out Plain Folk Café's calendar of events at http://plainfolkcafe.com/CALENDAR_OF_EVENTS.html.

J & D Services

If you find yourself in need of an honest, trustworthy and reliable tree maintenance firm, please contact J & D Services at 614.804.2378 or jdtree123@gmail.com. Headquartered in Waynesville, J & D Services covers all of southwest Ohio. J & D Services will beat any reasonable estimate by 5%! Call today for your free estimate. J & D Services "A Cut Above the Rest."

Viox Excavating 6-Month Reminder

It's time to divert your septic system. Doing this twice a year helps your septic or mound system lasts a lifetime. For more insights, see our free report [Prevent Septic System Nightmares! 6 Things You Need To Know](#).

Diverting Your Septic System Instructions

1. You'll need a "key" to do this. One was provided as a part of the septic system installation and may be stored inside one of the risers on your tank. If your key has been misplaced, a replacement can be purchased from your local hardware store.
2. Take the lid off the white PVC pipe that sticks up out of the ground. You will see a 1 and 2 at the 11:00 and 1:00 positions. (If they are obscured by mud, pour water in to rinse them.)
3. Use the key to turn the valve to the other number. It may be quite difficult to turn but will not break.
4. Return the lid and forget about it until you receive your next reminder in 6 months.

Additional Reminders

Six months from now, and every 6 months thereafter, you'll receive an email reminding you to divert your system. If you move or want to stop receiving the reminders, you can always unsubscribe at the bottom of each email.

We're pleased to help you with all your excavating needs. In addition to septic and mound systems, we do:

- Pond Repairs
- Complete Lot Development
- Install Hauled Water Storage Systems
- Other Excavating Services

Please let us know if there is any way we can help.

Thanks,

The Viox Excavating Team

Viox Excavating · 5119 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3 · Morrow, Ohio 45152

www.VioxExcavating.com · 513.932.8900

Marks Xpress Trucking & Hauling, LLC

Marks Xpress Trucking & Hauling, LLC is a Woman Owned Small Business provider of Transportation and Logistics Solutions. We are a family owned and operated company that makes a commitment to treat customers like family. Our company is staffed by a group of dedicated transportation and logistics specialists that strive to solve our customers' needs. Our drivers and dispatchers operate by our company motto of "Safety. On time. Every Time." We look forward to serving your future needs! Flatbed hotshots 33' and 35' trailers, 10,000 lbs. capacity. For more information, please contact Marks Xpress Trucking & Hauling, LLC, 3381 Cornstalk Road, Waynesville, Ohio 45068, at 937.974.6327 or cwarego@aol.com for all your hauling needs.

Hawk Associates Insurance

Hawk Associates Insurance provides personal, commercial, and industrial lines of insurance to meet all of your insurance needs. Hawk Associates is a company focused on your security and peace of mind while dedicated to building and prospering the local community.

Hawk Associates Insurance would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss your insurance needs. Hawk Associates is a young independent insurance agency offering Erie Insurance's fine business and commercial products that are competitively priced and top-rated.

In 2015, Hawk Associates established the Little Miami Scholarship Fund, which is financed with 10% of Hawk Associates' annual company profits and benefit drives and is managed by The Hawk Foundation. The Hawk Foundation presented their first scholarship this year and hopes to grow the Foundation into an organization that presents multiple scholarships annually. Your business is a pillar of the local community, which is why they are asking you to join in their efforts.

Please contact Hawk Associates Insurance with any questions about your insurance needs at 513.258.2596 or hawkassociates@outlook.com. Request an insurance quote for your chance to win \$1,000 cash. Hawk Associates Insurance is located at 426 West Pike Street, Suite B, Morrow, Ohio 45152. Hawk Associates Insurance can also be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/HawkInsurance.

Little Miami Area Chamber of Commerce News

Little Miami Area Chamber of Commerce January Membership Meeting – January 7

Valley Vineyards
2276 East US 22&3
Morrow, Ohio 45152

Salem Township Public Library News

Adult Winter Reading:

A Winter's Treat: **January 4-February 13, 2015**

Come in out of the cold and find a nice warm winter's treat at your library! Enjoy all the library has to offer and receive special treats.

- ⊙ Sign up (18 years of age and older)
- ⊙ Visit the library often and check out some of your favorite things.
- ⊙ Receive weekly treats.
- ⊙ Receive drawing slips with each visit for a chance to win a prize!

Contact the library for more information!!!

Pre-School StoryTime, Toddler StoryTime, and GoodNight StoryTime

StoryTime is back and we've added a new evening story time as well, *GoodNight StoryTime*! Register your little book worm for *Pre-School Story Time*, *Toddler Story Time*, or *GoodNight StoryTime* beginning January 4. *Preschool Story Time* for 3-6 year-olds focuses on listening to stories, playing games, making friends, and creating crafts. Each thirty-minute Story Time class is held on Tuesdays at 11:00 am or 2:00 pm. *Toddler Story Time* for young children ages 18-36 months and a caregiver focuses on listening to short stories, rhymes, finger plays, and songs. Each 15-20 minute class is held on Wednesdays at 10:45 am. *GoodNight Story Time* is for children 18

months-15 years old will be held on Monday evenings from 7-7:30 pm. Call or stop in the library to sign up; registration is under way: (513) 899-2588.

Reading with Raider and Friends

Reading with Raider and Friends is one of the most beloved programs... and for a good reason! Kids can drop in to read to the sweet certified therapy dogs the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30-7:30 pm. The dogs are calm and welcoming, which creates a great atmosphere for children to practice their reading. Reading with Raider is tail-wagging fun for all!

Adult Book Discussion Group

Join a lively discussion group of book lovers and get in on the fun! Adults are welcome to sign up to attend monthly book discussions, which take place the first Tuesday evening of each month from 6:30-8:00 pm. The group discusses a different book each month, which can be picked up at the library. Interested participants can stop in to pick up the next book.

January 5: *Orphan Train* by Christina Kaker Kline

February 2: *Let Me Lead* by Kathleen Sutton

March 1: *The Storied Life of A. J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin

Writers' Circle Group Meetings

Calling all adults and high school students who are interested in writing: the library's Writers' Circle is a group that meets twice monthly on Saturdays from 10:30 am-12:00 pm at the library to share their creative writing pieces. Prompts are decided by the group and sharing ideas is welcomed and encouraged. Free coffee is served at each meeting. Join the group by contacting the library or emailing Dylan at: mccrackendy@saalem-township.lib.oh.us.

January 9 & 23

February 6 & 20

March 5 & 19

How-To: Knitting & Crocheting Classes

Perfect for beginners and anyone who enjoys knitting and crocheting, the library will be holding several how-to classes with instructor and library employee Lani Trinh. Lani's years of experience working with both knitting and crocheting will have you casting off and creating pieces in no time. Please bring at least one skein of yarn of your choice, knitting needles, and size G, H, or I crochet hooks.

The class schedule is as follows:

Knitting Classes: **Monday, January 11 & 25 – 6:30-7:30 pm.**

Crocheting Classes: **Monday, February 22 & 29 – 6:30-7:30 pm.**

You may register for one or multiple sessions. Please contact the library if you have questions and to register for classes.

Teen Movie Night—with Snacks!

Join Dylan on the Tuesday, January 12th for an evening of relaxation with a good movie and free food! We'll gather in the library's Meeting Room from 5:30-8:00 pm for some food, fun and a movie on our big projection screen. Bring a friend or two with you! You'll also receive information on our newest books and movies and upcoming parties and events, plus important information about how you can win prizes at your library!

Contact the library for more information or send an email to Dylan at: mccrackendy@saalem-township.lib.oh.us.

Download eBooks and Audiobooks for Free to Your Devices

Did you receive a tablet, eReader, computer, or smartphone during the holidays? You can use your device to download and enjoy thousands of free eBooks, Audiobooks, Music and Videos, all for free from the library. Your library card enables you to borrow digital materials without the responsibility of returning physical items or being charged overdue fees—borrowing, reading, and returning eBooks can be done anywhere, anytime—you don't even need to leave home! Enjoy bestsellers, popular series, classics, children's and teens' titles, audiobooks, and more. Get started by visiting www.ohioebooks.org or visit the library in order to sign up for a library card.

Please contact the library for more information and to sign up for events.

Salem Township Public Library · 535 West Pike Street · Morrow, Ohio 45152 · 513.899.2588

Little Miami Local School District News

Stay up-to-date on LMHS news

The staff at Little Miami High School is making it easier than ever to stay informed on events and activities. Check out [Principal Cathy Trevathan's blog](#), the [Guidance Counselor's blog](#) and follow LMHS on Twitter (@LittleMiamiHS).

Warren County Career Center News

Happy Holidays from WCCC!

During this holiday season more than ever, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who support our students and staff. In this spirit we say, simply but sincerely, Thank You and Best Wishes during the Holiday Season and Happy New Year!

Robotics Program Junior Creates Light Show with PLCs

Ever wonder about how someone can create a light show that is programmed to blink with the music? During Sophomore Showcase, Advanced Technologies & Robotics junior Connor Franklin Albin created this light show on three PLC machines to demonstrate the power of the Programmable Logic Controller. He said it took him about a half hour to do the programming. The visiting sophomores enjoyed the demonstration, along with many other hands-on activities.

WCCC Facilities Committee Continues Work

The WCCC Facilities Committee, comprised of community business leaders in the fields of finance, construction and education, has been meeting to learn more about WCCC facility needs. Pictured at right, the group tours a back hallway that leads to several under-sized labs and classrooms. Read more [HERE](#).

Record Turnout for Open House for Adult, High School programs

Over 200 students interested in WCCC Adult Technical Center and High School programs enrolled at our recent Open House, but it is not too late to apply! Many [Adult Education](#) courses have January 2016 starts, and you can enroll now by calling 513-932-8145 or online [HERE](#). [Sophomores](#) wanting to enroll in our two-year programs for the 2016-17 school year can apply for enrollment [HERE](#). New this year for high school, we are enrolling for [Dental Assisting](#). At right, the Electromechanical PLC Lab. See more photos [HERE](#).

Retired Teachers Celebrate Holidays with Luncheon at WCCC

Culinary Technology students prepared and served the meal for the Warren County Retired Teachers Association annual holiday luncheon. Landscape Technology students created the centerpieces for the table and decorated the tree. Criminal Justice students assisted with parking and greeted the guests as they arrived. See more photos [HERE](#).

Sophomores, 8th Graders Explore Career Options

Thousands of Warren County students in grades 8 and 10 visited us during the week of Nov. 30-Dec. 4 to learn more about career and technical education advantages and to explore career options. The Eighth-Grade Expo drew nearly 2,000 students from Franklin, Kings, Lebanon, Little Miami, Springboro and Waynesville. Another 2,000 sophomores from those districts, plus home-schooled students and those from neighboring districts interested in open enrollment, visited programs that interested them, and also heard about college options. See more photos of these events in our [Photo Gallery](#).

Spotlight on Success: 2014 Pharmacy Tech Grad Happy and Employed

Mariel Pesavento, May 2014 Adult Education Pharmacy Technician graduate, says:

"My instructor covered everything needed for me to take the state exam, and I felt well-prepared. Doing the externship was helpful; it was an experience you could not get in a classroom. Now I have a great job!" Mariel is shown at work at Atrium Medical Center.

Little Miami Athletic Boosters Club News

Use Your Kroger Rewards Points to Support the Little Miami Athletic Boosters

It is that time again! Kroger requires that you sign up yearly to enroll your Kroger Reward card to support the Little Miami Athletic Boosters.

Go to www.KrogerCommunityRewards.com

1. Select Cincinnati, Ohio as your location
2. Scroll down the page and select ENROLL NOW
3. If you already have an account you will sign in with your Email and Password
4. If you do have an account please make sure that all of your information is correct (name etc.) go to step 7
5. If you do not have an account. You must create an account by selecting the "Create An Account"
6. After you have created an account, return to step 1
7. Under Community Rewards select Little Miami Athletic Boosters or Organization No. 81640
8. Once you select Little Miami Athletic Boosters select SAVE CHANGES
9. When you look at your Account Summary you should see a box on the right hand side:
Community Rewards
Organization Name: Little Miami Athletic Boosters
Organization No.: 81640
Enrollment Date: xx/xx/xxxx (your date of enrollment)
After 7-10 days, you will see "At your request, Kroger is donating to "Little Miami Athletic Boosters" at the bottom of your Kroger receipt.

Thank you for supporting the Little Miami Athletic Boosters.

Little Miami Youth Baseball News

LMYB - 7th Annual Coaches Basketball Showcase – January 9th

LMYB is a proud sponsor of: 7th Annual Coaches Basketball Showcase

Saturday, January 9, 2015

Little Miami High School

Check the link below for the full schedule:

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.leagueathletics.com/Text/Documents/16897/70792.pdf>

Warren County Convention & Visitors Bureau News

Get the inside scoop!

What's all the buzz about Warren County? Learn more about popular attractions and uncover some of Southwest Ohio's best kept secrets on *Stories from the Playground*, the official blog of Ohio's Largest Playground. Don't miss this month's post on five of our must-stop shops!

[\[Read up! \]](#)

The Live it Like a Local Sweepstakes

You could fill your bags—and your belly—for FREE at a few of our local favorites! Enter below for your shot at winning our Live it Like a Local Sweepstakes! One lucky winner will receive:

- (1) One-night stay at the Kirkwood Inn
- (1) \$50 gift card to Wildflower Café & Coffeehouse
- (1) \$25 gift card to Main Street Sweets
- (1) \$25 gift card to Cobblestone Village Café

[\[Enter today! \]](#)

Friends of the Little Miami State Park News

Subscribe to Friends of the Little Miami State Park Electronic Newsletter, *TrailMail*

TrailMail, the e-newsletter of Friends of the Little Miami State Park, is published ten times a year. *TrailMail* welcomes submissions of trail-related photos and articles about people, events, history, and the trail's natural environment. Send submissions to: trailmail@flmsp.org.

Ongoing Volunteer Needs

- Help with regular maintenance on a trail section near you
- Tow the FLMSPP blower to clear the trail of leaves and debris
- Publicize FLMSPP at community events; we'll provide materials
- Help manage trail counters and their data files
- Write for our newsletter
- Provide photos of trail users (especially families) for our website

To respond to these needs or learn about other needs, please visit our [Volunteer webpage](#).

Little Miami Scenic Trail Hotline

Call 513-212-6958 to report downed trees or other non-emergency safety issues, or email to adopt-a-trail@flmsp.org.

What Can YOU Do in an Hour?

- Plant 5 trees
- Refinish a table with a friend
- Pick up litter
- Write an article
- Stain a kiosk
- Clean brush from a bridge
- Take a dozen photos
- Clean 5 signs
- Clear a culvert pipe

If even a quarter of the thousands who enjoy our trail would give back just one hour to help maintain it, that would be enough. As FLMSP board member Paul always says, "ANY help is GOOD help." Please send an email with your contact information and how you would like to give your ONE HOUR to volunteer@flmsp.org.

Human Services News

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Warren and Clinton Counties Recruiting Volunteer Mentors

Big Brothers and Sisters of Warren and Clinton Counties is currently recruiting volunteers to serve as mentors for the 2014/2015 school year. The Agency has three programs in Warren County located at Donovan Elementary School in Lebanon, Anthony Wayne Elementary, located in Franklin, and Western Row Elementary School in Mason. Volunteer mentors are matched one-to-one with a Little Brother or Little Sister and meet once a week in the school setting during the school year. Applications are being accepted for both adult and high school volunteers. Volunteers must be able to commit to the program for the school year, provide their own transportation to and from the program location, and complete the screening process. Screening includes application, references, and applicable record checks. Applications can be obtained online at www.bbbswarren.org or by contacting the agency office at 513.932.3966.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Warren and Clinton Counties is a non-profit organization that provides children facing adversity with strong, enduring, professionally supported one-to-one relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. Big Brothers Big Sisters holds itself accountable for: higher aspirations, greater confidence, and better relationships, avoidance of risky behavior, and educational achievement among the children we serve. For more information visit www.bbbswarren.org.

Enjoy a Healthy Lunch at the Earl J. Maag Center

Are you tired of always eating alone? Is cooking becoming too much work? Are you looking for somewhere else to eat? Would you like to meet new friends and enjoy stimulating conversation? Are you finding it hard to make ends meet? If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, then you may not be living as healthy as you can. Recent studies have shown that seniors who are live alone are at high risk for malnourishment and for dehydration.

"Five days a week, fresh, nutritious meals are cooked in the WCCS 741 Center kitchen. Lunch is a special time of day and we try to make it even more so. Sometimes the WCCS lunch is that person's only full meal of the day. You can find a healthy, delicious meal at the Earl J. Maag Center, 124 Pamela Drive, Morrow, Ohio 45152," says Mary Catherine Faller, MS, RD, LD, Manager of WCCS' Nutrition Services. Lunch with two

menu options is served at 12:00 pm (noon) every Monday-Friday. Find the daily menus online at www.wccsi.org.

Suggested meal donation for anyone aged 60 or over (or the spouse or disabled child of someone aged 60 or over) is \$3.00. Meal cost for anyone under age 60 is \$6.00. To make a reservation, simply call the Earl J. Maag Center at 513.889.8886 by 1:00 pm the day before. WCCS is a local non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations help fund the "Promote Healthy Living Among Older Adults" campaign. For more information about WCCS and its services, please visit the website at www.wccsi.org.

Business News

Incumbent Training for Advanced Manufacturing Now Available

In response to workforce needs being expressed by the private sector, our office created WIIN; a program that bundles like-minded training needs within Warren County businesses. Once bundled, WIIN interfaces with area educational partners to secure the best curriculum and rate to meet training needs.

WIIN's first training offering involves businesses in the manufacturing space, and classes are currently underway. Enrollment is on-going and once the appropriate number of employees are gathered, training modules can begin.

Flexible Training

The training program will cover 16 needed skills that have been expressed by the private sector. These skills cover a broad range of electric and mechanical needs from programming to blueprint reading. To allow maximum flexibility, each skill is taught in a separate module, and can be taken individually or in combination with other training. For specific details of each module, and to participate, please [e-mail](mailto:) Matt Schnipke.

Partnering Organizations

This effort would not be possible without collaboration from multiple sources including the Warren County Small Business Development Alliance, the Warren County Chamber Alliance, and the Warren County Port Authority. With the help of these participating organizations, WIIN hopes to deliver a quality training opportunity at a reduced cost to employers.

Ohio Means Jobs · Sinclair Community College · Warren County Career Center
Warren County Chamber Alliance · Warren County Port Authority

BusinessUSA: We Love American Manufacturers

American Manufacturing: Putting the "Pow" in U.S. Economic Power

Did you know that for every \$1.00 spent in U.S. manufacturing, another \$1.37 is added to the national economy? That's the highest return out of all the U.S. economic sectors. Or that if it was taken alone, [manufacturing in the United States](#) would be the ninth largest economy in the world? Those statistics illustrate the power and importance of U.S. manufacturing, from the number of jobs it provides to the dollars it adds to the economy. It's also the reason we celebrate [National Made in America Month](#), which President Reagan created in 1986 in an effort to commemorate American manufacturing prowess. Are you a manufacturer, or thinking about becoming one? Today's newsletter is for you.

Strength in Numbers

Are you a small or mid-sized U.S. manufacturer that needs additional funding? The National Institute of Standards and Technology's [Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership \(MEP\)](#) is a collaboration between

the federal government and a variety of public or private entities, including state, university, and nonprofit organizations, that support small to mid-sized manufacturers in this country. The national network of MEP centers was created to educate and assist manufacturers on a wide range of issues, from technology adoption to manufacturing processes, workforce training, and more. Get plugged into a [local MEP center near you](#). MEP also educates offshoring manufacturers on the benefits of "[reshoring](#)" or bringing production back to the U.S. Learn about [NIST MEP's Supply Chain Optimization](#) service and the [Access Cost Everywhere \(ACE\) Tool](#) to assess the total cost of manufacturing in the U.S. vs. abroad. Are you a federal agency? NIST MEP can help you [find "Make it in America" U.S. suppliers](#) in order to comply with Buy America and Buy American provisions.

Helping Manufacturers Get Stronger

[Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms \(TAAF\)](#) is a federal program that provides financial support to manufacturers that have been adversely affected by import competition. Specifically, its 50/50 cost-sharing initiative helps pay for consultants, engineers, designers or industry experts who can help manufacturers get back on track. [Contact your local TAA Center](#) for more information.

American Manufacturing Summit 2016

Connect with manufacturers from across the nation at the [American Manufacturing Summit 2016](#) this coming February 26th in Schaumburg, Illinois. The conference gives participants the opportunity to learn more about market dynamics, new technologies in manufacturing, operations and supply chain management. A few of the key themes that will be covered include plant floor optimization, collaborative business models and managing profitability. Learn more about the [conference details and agenda](#).

Manufacturing.gov

[Manufacturing.gov](#) is an interagency website portal that provides manufacturers with a database of resources to support their small and mid-sized enterprises. Manufacturing.gov partners with institutes such as [The Institute of Advanced Composites Manufacturing \(IACMI\)](#) and [The Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute \(DMDII\)](#) to support the advancement of manufacturing. Find out about how you can get involved with their federal initiatives, which include [SelectUSA](#) and [Startup America](#).

BusinessUSA Twitter Highlights and Digests

Here's a few of our top tweets from the past week:

1. Join the growing ranks of #newfarmers with a customized tool just for you: [[Tweet](#)]
2. A #business plan is an essential road map for success. Create your plan using @SBAgov's tool: [[Tweet](#)]
3. #TPP is a transformational agreement that will benefit U.S. #biz & workers across the country cc: @PennyPritzker: [[Tweet](#)]
4. The Global #Entrepreneurship Summit will bring innovators together in #SiliconValley #GES2016 #PAGE: [[Tweet](#)]

Interested in getting all of our BusinessUSA business advice and news from our Twitter stream in one, easy-to-read email? Sign up for [the BusinessUSA Twitter digest here](#).

Get Plugged In

[Subscribe to the BusinessUSA newsletter](#) for helpful resources, opportunities to learn, and tips that can help your business succeed. For past issues, [click here](#).

Source: BusinessUSA.gov

Get These 10 Essential Business Resources

Are you looking to start or expand your business in 2016? [BusinessUSA](#) can help with government resources for your most pressing business needs, whether it's information on financing options or getting a better handle on licensing and permitting requirements in your state. [Click here for a better look at the image above](#) and to find out more about the portfolio of BusinessUSA tools and resources.

Listen to Customers—Even Potential Ones

As valuable as data is, there's no substitute for talking with current and future customers. That's the idea behind the [Innovation Corps \(I-Corps\), a ground-breaking program](#) created by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The NSF started the I-Corps program to teach academic laboratories and NSF-funded startups how to implement strategies, such as in-depth customer interviews, that can enhance the likelihood of success when their innovations go to market. After all, just having a great idea isn't enough. Parts of the program curriculum are now available for general use by businesses at large. [Check out this map](#) to contact an I-Corps location near you and find out how they can help.

Is Your Business Intuition Enough?

As a business owner, you sometimes have to make decisions based on good old-fashioned gut instinct. Intuition benefits from information, however, and keeping up-to-date on relevant data can help you better understand the various market forces that affect your business. [Read more about how data published by U.S. federal agencies](#) can help you reduce risks, identify trends and open new doors.

Source: BusinessUSA.gov

News You Can Use

Additional Inflation Adjusted Tax Limits

A couple of months ago ([TTW # 322](#)) we took a look at some of the inflation adjusted limits you will see when filing your 2016 taxes. The IRS recently issued the following announcement:

The IRS has announced additional annual inflation adjustments for more than 50 tax provisions for 2016, including the tax rate schedules and other tax changes.

[Revenue Procedure 2015-53](#) provides details about these annual adjustments, including:

For tax year 2016 participants who have self-only coverage in a Medical Savings Account, the plan must have an annual deductible that is not less than \$2,250, up from \$2,200 for tax year 2015, but not more than \$3,350, up from \$3,300 for tax year 2015.

For self-only coverage the maximum out-of-pocket expense amount remains at \$4,450. For tax year 2016 participants with family coverage, the floor for the annual deductible remains at \$4,450; the deductible cannot be more than \$6,700, up \$50 from the limit for tax year 2015. For family coverage, the out-of-pocket expense limit remains at \$8,150.

Among other new limits:

- The AGI amount used by joint filers to determine the reduction in the Lifetime Learning Credit is \$111,000, up from \$110,000 for tax year 2015.
- The foreign earned income exclusion is \$101,300, up from \$100,800.

- Estates of decedents who die during 2016 have a basic exclusion amount of \$5.45 million, up from a total of \$5.43 million for estates of decedents who died in 2015.

We'll keep you posted on other changes as they occur.

For more information, give us a call at either of our offices in Centerville at 937.436.3133 and in Xenia at 937.372.3504, or visit our website at www.bradstreetcpas.com.

Source: Bradstreet & Co. CPA's Tax Tip of the Week | December 9, 2015 | No. 332

IRS Abandons Traditional Independent Contractor vs. Employee Test

For years, it has always been a struggle to determine whether a worker is an employee or an independent contractor. Now that some employers are required to offer health insurance under the Affordable Care Act, the bias among employers will be to treat as many workers as possible as independent contractors.

The IRS has given up its long used 20-factor test, replacing it with a 3-factor test it has been pushing in court cases. The previous test included the extent to which workers provided their own tools and supplies, provided services only for that firm vs. working for others, how and when their work was performed, and other factors.

The IRS fact sheet now states that instead of the 20 factors, businesses and other entities should examine the degree of control and independence in three categories:

1. Behavioral. Does the business control or have the right to control what the worker does and how the worker does the job?
2. Financial. Are the business aspects of the worker's tasks controlled by the business —how the worker is paid, whether expenses are reimbursed, who provides tools and supplies, etc.?
3. Relational. Is there a contract in writing? Is the work performed a key aspect of the business? Are these workers given employee-type benefits—e.g., vacation pay, a pension plan or medical insurance? Will the work relationship continue?

Some tax advisors say the change is little more than a different way of applying the same tests. Others say the three-category test will result in fewer workers being considered ICs. Give us a call to discuss your situation.

For more information, give us a call at either of our offices in Centerville at 937.436.3133 and in Xenia at 937.372.3504, or visit our website at www.bradstreetcpas.com.

Source: Bradstreet & Co. CPA's Tax Tip of the Week | December 16, 2015 | No. 333

Manage Your Finances like a Pro

Are you resolving to get a better handle on your finances in 2016? Then [order this packet of publications](#) so you can start managing your finances like a pro. You'll find steps to get out from under debt, learn how to repair your credit and put yourself on a path to achieve your biggest financial resolutions. No matter what your financial goal is in 2016 -- whether you want to buy a house, establish a realistic budget or start putting money into a rainy-day fund -- the tools and information in this kit will help you start the new year on the right foot.

Source: USA.gov

Learn to Manage Emotional Distress

Television or Internet coverage of upsetting events like natural disasters, terrorist attacks, or mass shootings can affect our sense of order and safety. It may even impact those with no personal connection to the situation. If you have kids, learning how to put [the news in proper context](#) and addressing their concerns can help them understand the situation and reduce distress.

Find out who is [most at risk of emotional distress](#) from incidents of mass violence and where to find help. If you are in emotional distress caused by recent events or know someone who is, seek help by calling the [Disaster Distress Hotline](#) at 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

Source: USA.gov

Include Fire Safety in Your Holiday Plans

Putting up a real tree, lighting candles, and other decorations, are holiday traditions in some households. But there are risk and safety concerns. Be sure that fire safety is among your holiday plans. Watch [this video which gives quick tips](#) to consider as you purchase and decorate for the holidays. Learn other ways to keep your home safe at [USA.gov](#).

Source: USA.gov

Are You Planning for Retirement?

Get Help Making This Important Financial Decision

Every year, more than 2 million Americans make one of the biggest financial decisions in their lives: choosing when to claim Social Security retirement benefits. Before you claim these benefits, get help thinking through this decision with an interactive tool from the [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau \(CFPB\)](#). For more retirement and pension benefits questions, visit us at [USA.gov](#).

Source: USA.gov

Domestic Violence: Get Help | Get Involved

[Domestic violence](#) does affect people of all backgrounds and ages. If you are a victim of domestic violence, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-787-3224. If you're interested in raising awareness, there are several [ways to get involved](#).

Source: USA.gov

Start Talking to Your Kids about Drugs!

"Start Talking!" Ohio's drug prevention initiative. Research show children are [up to 50% less likely](#) to use drugs when their parents or other trusted adults talk with them about drug use. Help get the conversation started in two easy steps:

1. Share these "10 Tips for Talking to Kids about Drugs"
 - a. Talk frequently
 - b. Show interest
 - c. Be careful what you say
 - d. Be careful how you say it
 - e. Know the facts about drugs, alcohol, and tobacco
 - f. Be respectful and genuine
 - g. They talk, you listen
 - h. Scare tactics don't work
 - i. Control your emotions
 - j. Take advantage of teachable moments

2. Sign up for free, bi-weekly emails to help raise drug-free kids at StartTalking.Ohio.gov/Programming/Know.

Source: Governor Kasich's Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives

Engineering: Challenge Your Students to Build Big!

Some kids like to mostly build things when they play, why not take an opportunity to tell them what engineers do? Check out this [PBS website that challenges students](#) to find the kind of structures they can build to problem-solve. They will learn about the important materials and what it takes to construct the buildings they see every day!

Source: KIDS.gov

Plan for January: This Teacher's Calendar is Ready!

January is just around the corner, don't forget to plan ahead with the [Kids.gov January Events Calendar!](#) We have teacher's guides and lesson plan ideas on National Mentoring Month, National Drug Facts Week, Winter Weather, Safety Awareness, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, to name a few. Don't see a subject area you teach? Forward to a teacher friend that could use this information.

Source: KIDS.gov

How to Talk to Your Child about the News

Television or internet coverage of upsetting events like natural disasters, terrorist attacks, or mass shootings can cause kids to worry that something similar could happen to them or their loved ones. It can also make them fear some aspects of everyday life — things that never worried them before. Help your child by putting the news in its proper context and addressing their concerns. [Here's a helpful article on how to start that conversation](#). If you are in emotional distress caused by recent events or know someone who is, find help with this [free resource](#) or by calling the [Disaster Distress Hotline](#) at 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

Source: KIDS.gov

Follow Santa's Journey!

Are your kids talking non-stop about the big day? Why not turn up the anticipation just a notch with our [Tracking Santa on Christmas](#) page? We have a Santa Tracking trailer and we link to the official [NORAD Santa Tracker website](#) where your kids can view the countdown, listen to some holiday tunes, play games, and so much more! And remember on December 24th, make sure the kids visit the NORAD site to track Santa as he flies around the world delivering gifts!

Source: KIDS.gov

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Marks Xpress Trucking & Hauling, LLC Seeking Experienced Drivers

Marks Xpress Trucking & Hauling, LLC out of Waynesville, Ohio is looking for experienced drivers to join our team hauling LTL/general freight. A CDL is not necessary but a current DOT physical and drug screening is a must. Interested candidates must be at least 25 years of age and have a minimum of 2 years verifiable commercial driving experience along with a clean driving record. Experience with tarping, strapping and chaining cargo is preferred. To be considered, send resumes to ltlfreightapps@gmail.com or call 518.238.3537 and ask for Marisa.

HELP WANTED: Salem/Morrow Fire Department Seeking Firefighters/EMTs/Paramedics

Part-Time Firefighter/EMT: The Salem / Morrow Fire Department is continuously accepting applications for Firefighter/EMT's Position. Minimum requirements are Ohio EMT-B and Ohio FF I. Job description and application are available at the Salem / Morrow Fire Department, 5270 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3 Morrow, Ohio 45152, Monday – Friday 0800 – 1600 hrs.

Part-Time Firefighter/Paramedic: The Salem / Morrow Fire Department is continuously accepting applications for Firefighter/Paramedic Position. Minimum requirements are Ohio EMT-P and Ohio FF I. Job description and application are available at the Salem / Morrow Fire Department, 5270 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3 Morrow, Ohio 45152, Monday – Friday 0800 – 1600 hrs.

For more information, please call the Salem/Morrow Fire Department at 513.899.2222 or visit www.station71.com.

HELP WANTED: Little Miami Local Schools Seeking Substitute Bus Drivers

Substitute bus drivers for routes and field trips are needed. Requires a Class B CDL license with "S" and "P" endorsement. Hours vary, with regular routes between 6:00 am – 5:00 pm and field trips 2:00 – 11:00 pm. We prefer those with knowledge of the district. We may supply training. Call 513-899-2941 or email gblake@littlemiamischools.com.

HELP WANTED: Pine Ridge Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation in Need of STNA's - \$200 Sign-On Bonus!

We are hiring! STNA's 12 hour shifts, 6:00 am – 6:00 pm & 6:00 pm – 6:00 am, FT & PRN. Competitive wages with full benefits package after 90 days. Qualified applicants are encouraged to stop by Pine Ridge Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation, 463 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152, or call 513.899.2801.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Humane Association of Warren County Animal Shelter & Adoption Center

Volunteer a few hours a week to walk our dogs. To qualify, those interested, must be a minimum of 19 years of age and must attend one orientation session held from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at our shelter. We do not accept volunteers requiring high school community service credit or to fulfill court appointed hours. For more information, please contact the Humane Association of Warren County Animal Shelter & Adoption Center, 230 Cook Road, Lebanon, Ohio 45036, 513.695.2537 or www.homelesspets.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Friends of the Little Miami State Park is in Need of Volunteers!

We need one or more people to:

- Help with trail maintenance on their favorite stretch of trail.
- Tow the FLMSP Blower to clear various trail sections of leaves & debris.
- Monitor our message service and refer issues to the appropriate resources
- Write grant applications
- Meet & Greet trail users to expand our TrailMail distribution & membership
- Provide accounting help to our non-profit group
- Provide civil engineering assistance - especially with stormwater drainage issues
- Operate chainsaws and help clean up trees & limbs following storms
- Help manage the trail counters and their data files.
- Help repair board fences

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY: Municipal Forestry Intern Program (SMA Intern) – Summer 2016

The Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA), in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service (USDA-FS) Urban and Community

Forestry (U&CF) Program, the Alliance for Community Trees, the Arbor Day Foundation, the Society of American

Foresters, and the Utility Arborist Association, is launching the sixth year of a Municipal Forestry Intern Program (SMA Intern). Positions are available nationwide for the Summer 2016 Internship Program.

Purpose of the Internship

To provide hands-on experience alongside practicing professionals who will serve as mentors in the municipal, utility, and non-profit sectors over the internship period, helping student to identify and develop the skills needed to be successful professionals in urban forestry positions in these employment sectors.

Who is Eligible?

Undergraduate and Graduate students interested in a career in Urban Forestry and Natural Resources, who want a broad-based internship experience.

Each student will be provided:

- Housing stipend (\$1,200)
- Registration and \$300 travel scholarship to attend the Fall 2016 Annual SMA Conference
- An hourly wage of \$12 for 10 weeks (40 hours/week)
- The opportunity to enhance professional networks with past SMA Interns and industry professionals.

Deadline to Apply:

5:00 pm (EST) Thursday, March 1, 2016

Scan & Send Application via email to:

Aldridge.nicole@gmail.com Subject: SMA Internship

To Download Application and For More Information:

www.urban-forestry.com

- Help plant new trees

To volunteer or to learn more, contact [Don Mills](#) and tell us what area of the trail you'd like to work on.

Calendar of Events

Now – **“A Preference for Lace” Exhibit at Warren County History Museum**

December 23: Warren County History Center, 105 South Broadway, Lebanon, Ohio 45036

For more information, please call 513.932.1817 or visit www.wchsmuseum.org

December 23: 1:00 pm **Wednesday Afternoon Bingo at Earl J. Maag Center**

Earl J. Maag Retirement Community, 124 Pamela Drive, Morrow, Ohio 45152

For more information, please call the Earl J. Maag Retirement Community at 513.582.7231

December 24: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm **“It's Just Wine, Beer & Music” at Valley Vineyards**
Valley Vineyards, 2276 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3, Morrow, Ohio 45152
For more information, please visit <http://www.valleyvineyards.com/events.html> or call 513.899.2485

December 25: **Merry Christmas!** – Village of Morrow Offices Closed

December 26-27: Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays **Christmas at Glendower 2015**
Glendower Historic Mansion, 105 Cincinnati Avenue, Lebanon, Ohio 45036
For more information, please call the Warren County Historical Society at 513.932.1817

December 30: 1:00 pm **Wednesday Afternoon Bingo at Earl J. Maag Center**
Earl J. Maag Retirement Community, 124 Pamela Drive, Morrow, Ohio 45152
For more information, please call the Earl J. Maag Retirement Community at 513.582.7231

December 31: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm **“It's Just Wine, Beer & Music” at Valley Vineyards**
Valley Vineyards, 2276 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3, Morrow, Ohio 45152
For more information, please visit <http://www.valleyvineyards.com/events.html> or call 513.899.2485

January 1: **New Year's Day** – Village of Morrow Offices Closed

If your business, church or organization is planning an event, please be sure to let us know and we'll gladly include it in our Calendar of Events. Please email the details (e.g. who, what, why, when, where, how and whom to contact for more information) of your event to administrator@vil.morrow.oh.us or call 513.899.3170.

Business & Government Meetings

Morrow Village Council

Meets regularly on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152.
For more information, please call 513.899.2821 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or visit www.vil.morrow.oh.us

Morrow Mayor's Court

Meets regularly on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm at the Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152
For more information, please call 513.899.2821 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or visit <http://www.vil.morrow.oh.us/departments/mayor-s-court/>

CHANGE IN JANUARY 2016 COURT DATES:

January Court Dates: 5:00 pm Wednesday, January 6 & 20, 2016

Morrow Neighborhood Watch

Meets regularly on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152
For more information, please call 513.899.2821 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or visit <http://www.vil.morrow.oh.us/boards-commissions/neighborhood-watch/>

Morrow Parks & Recreation Board

Meets regularly on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152

For more information, please call 513.899.2821 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or visit <http://www.vil.morrow.oh.us/boards-commissions/parks-recreation-board/>

Morrow Tree Board

Meets regularly on the third Thursday of each month at 10:00 am at the Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152

For more information, please call 513.899.2821 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or visit <http://www.vil.morrow.oh.us/boards-commissions/tree-board/>

Morrow Planning Commission

Meets as necessary at the

Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152

For more information, please call 513.899.2821 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or visit <http://www.vil.morrow.oh.us/boards-commissions/planning-commission/>

Morrow Zoning Board of Appeals

Meets as necessary at the

Morrow Municipal Building, 150 East Pike Street, Morrow, Ohio 45152

For more information, please call 513.899.2821 Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm or visit <http://www.vil.morrow.oh.us/boards-commissions/zoning-board-of-appeals/>

Hamilton Township Trustees

Meets regularly on first and third Wednesdays of each month at 6:00 pm at the Hamilton Township Administration Building, 7780 South State Route 48, Maineville, Ohio 45039

For more information, please call 513.683.8520 or visit <http://hamilton-township.org>

Little Miami Area Chamber of Commerce

Meets regularly on the first Thursday of each month at 11:45 am at

Valley Vineyards, 2276 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3, Morrow, Ohio 45152

Please RSVP to Peoples First Savings Bank at 513.899.2040, by 5:00 pm on Tuesday prior to the meeting

For more information, please visit <http://www.littlemiamiareachamber.com>

Little Miami Local Schools Board of Education

Meets regularly on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the

Little Miami High School Auditorium, 3001 U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3, Morrow, Ohio 45152

For more information please call 513.899.2264 or visit <http://www.littlemiamischools.com/districtBoardEd.aspx>

Little Miami Local Schools Business Advisory Council

Meets regularly on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm at the

Little Miami Intermediate School, 7247 Zoar Road, Maineville, Ohio 45039

For more information, please visit http://www.littlemiamischools.com/content_page.aspx?cid=572

Salem Township Trustees

Meets regularly on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Salem-Morrow Fire Department, 5270 East U. S. Route 22 & State Route 3, Morrow, Ohio 45152
For more information, please call 513.899.2222 or visit www.salemtownship-warrencounty.com

Warren County Career Center Board of Education

Meets regularly on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Warren County Career Center, Admin. Bldg. Board Room, 3525 North State Route 48, Lebanon, Ohio 45036
For more information, please visit <http://www.mywccc.org/BoardOfEducation.aspx>

Warren County Board of Commissioners

Meets regularly on Tuesdays at 9:00 am at the Warren County Administration Building, The Board is also scheduled to meet on the first and third Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm, as needed
For more information, please call 513.695.1250 or visit <http://www.co.warren.oh.us/commissioners/>

Warren County Park District Board of Commissioners

Meets regularly on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Warren County Park District, 1267 North State Route 741, Lebanon, Ohio 45036
For more information, please call 513.695.1109 or visit <http://www.co.warren.oh.us/parks/index.htm>

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