

# Milford Township News

Volume 5, Issue 2

Fall 2014



## Inside this issue:

About this Newsletter	1
Fire Department	1
Bicentennial News	2
Emerald Ash Borer	3
Paving Improvements	3
Village of Somerville News	4
Somerville Pork Chop Dinner	4

## Important Dates

- *October 4, 2014: Somerville Fire Assoc Pork Chop Dinner*
- *April 11: Milford Twp Fire Assoc. Spaghetti Dinner!*

## About this Newsletter Brad Mills, Trustee

Once again, summer is passing and fall has nearly arrived. However, there are always exciting news and events from this past year in Milford Township.....and many great events to look forward to. The Darrtown Bicentennial Committee pulled off a fantastic event in July. The Bicentennial was a huge success, and Milford Township was proud to display its history, and to bring so many people together. Also, the Milford Township Fire Department has completed the expansion of the Darrtown Station. Now, your Fire Department is better prepared to respond to any Township emergency. Finally, grants have been awarded and used to pave roads on the west side of Darrtown, and to expand the walking path at the Community Center. As always, more grants have already been sought to improve our playgrounds' protective surface, and to pave the east side of Darrtown.

As always, this mailing owes a debt of gratitude to Henry Sester and his company, KETMOY Printing ([www.ketmoy.com](http://www.ketmoy.com)). Henry continues to put the Township first, as he publishes this newsletter at a large discount. **We are also grateful to be supported (see ads inside) by some great local businesses; B & M Landscaping, Eric's Pizza and Don's Carryout, and E&M Repair and Fabrication.** We thank them for their support and hope that you will consider using all of our Township's wonderful local businesses.

Inside, you will find articles from and about the Fire Department, Road Improvements, the Emerald Ash Borer, and the Darrtown Bicentennial Committee. If you would like to contribute or add an important event, then please call Brad Mills at 907-6793 or email [bradmills21@gmail.com](mailto:bradmills21@gmail.com). In addition to this newsletter, you can find past newsletters, and other important Township information at [www.milfordtownship.net](http://www.milfordtownship.net).

## Fire Report Milford Township Fire Association

### Mark April 11, 2015 for the Spaghetti Dinner

The members of the Milford Township Fire Department in 2007, formed the Milford Township Fire Association. Since then, we have raised money to benefit the fire department. 100% of money raised goes back to the Department. We decided to let the community know how we have used the funds raised from our annual Spaghetti Dinner and the Aluminum Can collection. Here is a partial list of items purchased:

2 – AED Defibrillators, Tool Box & Tools for engine 162 Darrtown, Misting Fan, 2 - 12 x 12 pop up tents, 4 bag chairs for rehab at fires, Educational Material for students at Bogan School. Each October, during fire prevention month, we pass out educational material to students, Water proof LED Flashlights for each fireman, uniform pants and shirts for each fireman, Washer & Dryer for each station, tables for each station, signs for each station, T shirts, hats & jackets, safety vests, air compressors for each station, shelving for the Darrtown station, a copier for Darrtown, supplies for open house, specialty tools for trucks, P A system, Equipment for spaghetti dinner, LED projector for training, 6 Motorola Minitor v fire pagers—and much more.

Please keep donating your aluminum cans. When everyone donates it makes a big difference. Containers are located at the fire houses in Collinsville and Darrtown.

Shawn Gallagher Captain

# Darrtown Bicentennial Summary—Thank You! Fred Lindley

---

**Feedback deems Darrtown Bicentennial a huge success!** Since the July 5-6, 2014 Darrtown Bicentennial, members of the Bicentennial Steering Committee have received dozens of written notes and calls from attendees who proclaimed the event to be a huge success.

**Attendance beyond expectations!** Based on a review of the Welcome Center registration books and the practiced eye of persons familiar with outdoor events, the two-day attendance is estimated to be in the neighborhood of 2,500 to 3,000 visitors.

The registration books included guest signatures from 29 U.S. states and Okinawa, Japan. The 29 states represented in the registration books were: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

**Opening ceremony conducted at E-Dot Park** The opening ceremony included a reading of proclamations from Governor Kasich, State Senator Bill Coley, and State Rep Tim Derickson. Steve Baker sang the National Anthem and John Witt delivered the invocation.

John Hart, owner of Start Skydive of Middletown, Ohio, made it possible for Tom McClellan to parachute from a plane high above the festivities and deliver a message for local resident Don Beckett. The message included an announcement from the Milford Township Trustees that the softball field at E-Dot Park will henceforth be known as “Don Beckett Field,” in honor of the leadership and work that Don gave to the creation of E-Dot Park in the 1970s. A “Don Beckett Field” sign was unveiled along West Street.

**Darrtown descendants, cemetery tour, and “family tree” featured** Nearly a dozen descendants of Conrad Darr, founder of “Darr’s Town,” traveled long distances to attend the Bicentennial. Many visited their ancestor’s hometown for the first time.

Rebecca Evans hosted tours of the Darrtown cemetery. Participants were transported to and from the cemetery on farm wagons – borrowed from the local Isaac Walton League – that were pulled by farm tractors, provided by local farmer, Eddie “Rock” Stang.

The Darrtown “family tree” was displayed within a 30’ x 60’ Ancestry Arena tent, sponsored by Oxford Real Estate. The exhibit featured a 40-foot list that named over 4,000 former and current residents from Darrtown and vicinity. A dozen tables were used to display over 150 descendant booklets that identified 78 Darrtown “pioneer” families. Several family charts of 15-20 foot length and, as many as, ten generations were also available for viewing.

**Vendors, exhibitors, and music groups added to the festivities** Over 40 vendors and exhibitors helped make the Bicentennial a festive occasion. Visitors to the event had free access to over three acres of food, crafts, handicrafts, classic cars, and vintage tractors.

On Saturday, the past and present combined to “remember when” Darrtown had its own post office. Employees of the Oxford Post Office stamped mail items with a commemorative Darrtown postmark, from within the comfort of a 40-foot long recreational vehicle provided by Tom Raper RVs of Fairfield, Ohio.

On Saturday and Sunday, local music groups offered free entertainment from a 24-foot stage, sponsored by Phil Abshire of Edward Jones Investments of Oxford, Ohio. Dennis Byrd organized the Saturday performances of Coke Otto, Dashboard Mary, Pine Ridge Partners, Roundabout, and ThunderBay, with Brad Sparks. On Sunday, music was provided by an old-fashioned “West Street” jam.

## Auction conducted

In an effort to raise funds for the Bicentennial, an auction of Darrtown memorabilia was conducted on Saturday afternoon. Three local auctioneers, Doug Ross, Bob “Rowdy” Pieratt, and Harold “Arky” Vaughn donated their auctioneering services.

## Military veterans saluted

On Sunday afternoon, July 6, 2014, a 25-foot tall flagpole was installed and dedicated in the Veterans’ section of Darrtown’s village square. The flagpole was sponsored by the Robert Yeakle “Stars and Stripes” fund. In addition, Darrtown Medal of Honor medallions were awarded to over 50 current and former residents of Darrtown and vicinity who served in the military. An estimated 200 people attended the service, which featured speakers, the singing of the National Anthem by Alan Dunkelberger, plus a gun and cannon salute.

**More Bicentennial information at website** To see a detailed description of, and images from, the Bicentennial, visit: <http://www.darrtown.com/Bicentennial/index.html>



## Emerald Ash Borer Mark Gilmore, Audubon Miami Valley

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) came into the US from Asia through the Port of Detroit sometime in the early to mid-1990s, has now spread to 24 states and counting, and is rapidly killing all untreated ash trees (*fraxinus* species).

All indications are that NW Butler County is entering or within what researchers call the “exponential death curve”: if it has taken eight years or more to lose the first 20% of trees, the remaining 80% could be infested and dead within four years or so.

What to do? Begin treatment of any healthy, high-value trees immediately. Tree health is assessed primarily by the density and robustness of the leaf canopy – much beyond a one-third loss of leaf canopy means the tree is a poor candidate for treatment – examples and more detail can be found at websites below.

Example of high-value trees include they shade a dwelling, and trees with aesthetic value. A decision guide and cost calculator can be found on the Purdue website - <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/eab/index.php>

Given our level of pest pressure, and, particularly if treating larger trees of 20” diameter or more, research shows Arborjet’s “Tree-age” insecticide, delivered via their pressure-assist trunk injection method, to have superior effectiveness. Additionally, Tree-age is alone among EAB insecticide choices in having a 2-3 year treatment interval – any other option requires annual reapplication, something to factor as you calculate cost. To determine a tree’s diameter, measure the circumference, then divide by pi (3.14). Detailed information about insecticide options can be found here - <http://www.emeraldashborer.info>

Standard recommendation is to begin treatment if EAB gets within 15 miles. Since the pest is found throughout our area, it is way past time for any “wait-and-see” approach – wait, and see this year’s healthy appearing tree soon enough rapidly displaying decline, followed by tree death.

For more information, visit our booth at the upcoming Miami University Hike-A-Thon Plus Saturday 9/27, or the Oxford Museum Association Apple Butter Festival October 4&5. For more information about a local ash tree conservation project, see - <http://amvohio.org/conservation/>

## Paving Improvements

By the time you receive this newsletter, paving projects in the Township should be complete. This year has been a busy one for paving, thanks to the awarding of two grants, plus the annual paving plan. The planned paving was on Wayne-Milford Rd, between Tolbert and Oxford Middletown. As with any road project, we thank you for your patience with the inconveniences caused by any delays, while the contractor prepared the surface and then paved. Your patience will pay off with a newer and safer surface!

Grants awarded included NatureWorks, from the Ohio Dept of Natural Resources, and the Community Development Block Grant, awarded through Butler County. The NatureWorks grant allowed for the expansion of the paved walking path behind the Collinsville Community Center. This path connects to the previously paved path, which was also funded through NatureWorks. Now that the paving is complete, there is over a half mile of paved surface for walking, running, and bike riding. The Block Grant was a large award that is for paving the roads on the west side of Darrrtown.

Paving is a huge priority for the Township, but can also be an expensive one. To ensure resident safety while stretching your tax dollars, the Trustees will continue to seek alternative funding to continue to keep roads paved and maintained!



**Landscape & Construction, Inc.**  
Oxford, Ohio

Landscape Design & Installation

Landscape Maintenance & Cleanups

Lawn Care & Maintenance

24 / 7 Snow Services (Plowing, Ice Melt, Salt & Hand Clearing)

Construction, Concrete, Paver Patios, Retainer Walls & Excavation Services

Mulch & Topsoil Materials Available With Free Local Delivery

(513)839 – 5234 Visit us at [www.bmlandscape.com](http://www.bmlandscape.com)



### Eric's Pizza

Since 1993



Darrrtown (Inside Don's Carryout)

513-523-3003

Daily Specials!

Hours 4:00pm to 9:00pm (Mon-Thurs & Sun)  
4:00pm to 10:00pm (Fri & Sat)

Find us on Facebook!  
Ask for a menu at Don's Carryout!

## MILFORD TOWNSHIP, OHIO

Township Maintenance Building  
1414 Oxford Trenton Road

Office Phone: 523-1684

Fire, Life Squad—Emergency: 911

[www.milfordtownship.net](http://www.milfordtownship.net)

### Board of Trustees

<b>Russell McMillan</b>	<b>726-4442</b>
<b>Paul Gillespie</b>	<b>523-0365</b>
<b>Brad Mills</b>	<b>907-6793</b>

### Fiscal Officer

<b>Mollie Hansel</b>	<b>255-2501</b>
----------------------	-----------------

### Newsletter Editor

<b>Brad Mills</b>	<b>907-6793</b>
-------------------	-----------------

### Meeting Times

The Township Trustees meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are held in the Township Maintenance Bldg.

Presort Standard  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Cincinnati, OH  
Permit No. 6523

## Village of Somerville News

The Village of Somerville Council would like to express their gratitude to the Tyler Richardson Foundation for having the firehouse painted. Without their support we would not be able to do these kind of improvements.

The Village of Somerville Council would like to extend an invitation to any interested Village residents to attend council meetings which are the first non-holiday Monday of the month at 7pm. There are two vacant council seats and we would welcome any interested Village residents to apply. For inquiries, comments or concerns please call Mayor Paul Saurber at [513-255-7384](tel:513-255-7384) or Fiscal Officer Mollie Hansel at [513-255-2501](tel:513-255-2501).

### SOMERVILLE VOL. FIRE ASSN. PORK CHOP DINNER

**SAT., OCT. 4, 2014**

Dinner from 4:00 - 7:00

Menu: Pork chop

Choice of two sides (auGratin potatoes, green beans or cole slaw). Child's plate gets one side.

Beverage and dessert

Tickets will be sold on raffle items through-out dinner-time.

Bingo starts after dinner and runs until closing.

Questions may be directed to: Jon @ 513-524-3865, or Jane @ 513-726-5544 (Cell # 513-200-5182 is the only way to reach me on the day of the event.)

# Milford Township News!