

The Vintage

Publication of the Madeira Historical Society
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Miller House Museum

Today is Tuesday May 19, 2026, finally beginning to feel like summer. The forecast is for temperatures rising into the high eighties. The Madeira Historical Society has just finished up three very busy months including the March 14th yard cleanup, the March 29th Easter Egg Hunt, the annual Yard sale held on April 25th, the “America 250” Quilts and Quilt making May 2nd program held at the Madeira Library, participation at the annual Art Fair held on Laurel Avenue, and the Ferrari’s May 3rd annual fundraising dinner. In just a few days society members will be walking in the annual Memorial Day Procession. Also during this time our major fundraising effort began, selling American Flags, flag poles, brackets and custom-made one-of-a-kind “America 250” ribbons. At this week’s Board meeting the society will appoint Kathy Laumann as the next Museum Director and Nathan Brunner as a new board member. Nathan’s mom, Kathy Brunner, formally served as a board member. After all of this activity there is still so much more to look forward to in 2026, so let’s begin....

Yard Cleanup



Each spring, volunteers get together at the Miller House Museum to clean the grounds, removing leaves and limbs, prior to mowing the grass. The volunteers bring rakes and power tools used for trimming and edgers used for sidewalks. The society provides coffee, bagels and bottled water. The volunteers clean out the flower beds and take care of minor pruning work in the yard. Not long after the yard clean up mulching will begin. A big shout out to all of the volunteers.

Third Annual Easter Egg Hunt



Easter Egg Hunt was held on the beautiful Miller House Grounds. The number of participants exceeded our expectations with an ample inventory of sweets inside the “Easter Eggs”. A highlight every year is the appearance of the Easter Bunny and this year was no exception. The Easter Bunny greeted the children and their parents attending the Easter Egg Hunt, posed for photos with the families, and helped smaller children find the brightly colored Easter Eggs. This year there were some changes including free tours of the Miller House Museum, refreshments and the society sold more American Flags. The society is encouraging Madeira residents to fly their flags as often as possible; a show of patriotism.

Madeira Yard Sale

Yard Sale Project Chairwoman Carol Heck had a comeback year, in a big way. Many things can affect the success of a yard sale including weather, your inventory of sale items, and the shoppers / customers showing

up at your sales event. Last year, 2025, was a little disappointing for the society and for Carol when sales goals and objectives didn't reach expectations, but this year more than made up for 2025. The weather was very

good; we had an abundance of foot traffic and the inventory was substantial. The day was fun for everyone involved and sales were more than last year's sales.



Library Program - Madeira Quilts and Quilt Making

This was a very successful program that attracted a sizeable audience. Madeira Historical Society member, Kathy Bertoli, presented our program at the Madeira public library. There were about 20 quilts displayed in the library meeting room and two historic quilts are displayed in the main library area. The historic quilts were made in 1976 in recognition of our country's 200th birthday. The names of the Madeira ladies that made the quilts have been preserved.



Art Fair

We had not been notified that spaces on the street were not reserved like it had been in every previous year, but Melanie from the Madeira Inn came to our rescue. "Mel" allowed the society to pitch our tent alongside her food area located in the grassy area adjoining the Inn. We may have had one of the best locations at the fair. We sold jewelry, calendars, books and of course American flags and other related pieces. What made it even better was being so close to the food and beer court. What a fun day!



Ferrari’s Little Italy

For a very long time the Madeira Historical Society has dined at Ferrari’s Little Italy on a day in early May. Ferrari’s is owned and run by Patty Bassano. The restaurant is one of the top Italian restaurants in the Tri-State area. Ferrarri’s has been in business for more than 30 years serving Madeira residents and beyond. When the building was built it was a Cork & Cleaver, then a Mexican restaurant before the Bassano family purchased the building and it became Ferrari’s Little Italy and Bakery. Patty supports the society and we encourage members to support Patty’s business. Members Tim and Kathy are shown checking out the menu.



July 3rd Parade

The Widmeyer Family is parade. A preview from Jana costumed members of the plenty of time for you to statement... “As is the Society will have an entry in parade on July 3rd. We are to join us. You can walk or costumes welcome. For more Widmeyer at



again organizing our entry in the Widmeyer is that we will have society and Jana says that there is participate. Here is Jana’s custom, the Madeira Historical the Madeira Independence Day looking for friends; old and young ride in our float, Vintage information, contact Jana jmwidmeyer@gmail.com”

Flag Sales

In February, the society approved an alternative to the grand raffle that was already in our 2026 budget. We decided to sell American flags, flag poles, pole brackets and we decided to include a ribbon to commemorate “America 250”; a national celebration of our country’s 250th birthday. The society created a flyer, publicizing the project, purchased some beginning inventory and we were off to the races. Since then, we have sold out of our beginning inventory and repurchased additional product 2 times. A familiar face, society member Nathan Brunner, volunteered to help design a custom-made one-of-a-kind ribbon that could be flown on your flag pole and kept forever after this year. We currently are sold out but have reordered. The society has not yet set a closing date for the flag project and are encouraging you to use the enclosed flyer to make a purchase. Any purchase is greatly appreciated.

Spring Storms

It doesn’t seem like there spring without rain. This winds and lightning along in the back yard one of our the tree didn’t fall on any exception of one very nice minor damage to two by. Unfortunately the cost was not in this year’s cost has to be addressed minus some available nearly \$2,000.00. Any excepted and appreciated. interest by calling 513-561-second tree that has been evaluating the condition of one and ½ acres.



have been many days this past week, there were high with the rain bringing down tallest trees. Lucky for us structures with the bench. It did do some other trees growing close to have the tree removed budget but the removal within our budget. Our cost insurance help will be contributions will be Let us know of your 9069. Since this was the removed this year, we are all remaining trees on our

Upcoming Events

Saturday June 6th Miller House Open for Public Tours 1-4 PM

Friday July 3rd Madeira 4th of July parade beginning at 6:30 PM on Miami Avenue

Saturday August 1st Miller House Open for Public Tours 1-4 PM

Saturday September 5th Miller House Open for Public Tours 1-4 PM

Saturday September 19th Open Meeting at Madeira Library 12-1 PM followed by
Program "How to Research the History of Your Home" 1 PM

Saturday September 26th **Tentative** Annual Membership Appreciation Picnic Date.

Letter From the President

May 28, 2026

Dear Members,

As I am sitting here in Miami Township at 2 AM, working on my letter to the membership, I can't help remembering 55 years living in Madeira, I hear the same train whistle that you may have heard ten minutes ago in Madeira. The RR tracks at Loveland Madeira Road stretch forever including thru Madeira and Loveland.

Most importantly is remembering what you mean to the society, there would be no society without members and the support that members bring. Support comes in many ways beginning with your personal involvement and secondly is your financial support. Like any other organization there is always the need for both. The society cherishes those members that provide financial and or personal involvement in society activities. Financially the society begins each year following a budget that was crafted in December of the year before. Our constitution requires that we have and follow a budget. Part of our budget requires that we have invested properly and are able to use interest generated from our investments.

Each year the society funds the Miller House Museum, activities at the museum and activities on the surrounding grounds totaling somewhere around \$30,000. Members are at the Miller House every week working on behalf of the society and the Madeira Community.

You would be surprised if you knew how much work goes on at your museum and how varied the work is. Various volunteers some compensated while most aren't are working at the museum, and on the grounds keeping the outside as beautiful as the Miller House itself.

Now you can understand why thanking and appreciating the membership is so important. The society is in its 54th year because of your support.

Sincerely,

Doug

***Douglas Oppenheimer, President
Madeira Historical Society***