

# Cridersville, Ohio



*Small Town America  
at its Very Best!*



Mayor's Office	419-645-4212
Village Administrator	419-645-5001
Water & Sewer Office	419-645-4883
Public Library	419-645-5447
US Post Office	419-645-6224
Cridersville Elementary	419-645-3000
Wapakoneta Middle School	419-739-5100
Wapakoneta High School	419-739-5200
Police (non-emergency)	419-738-2147
Fire & EMS (non-emergency)	419-645-4000

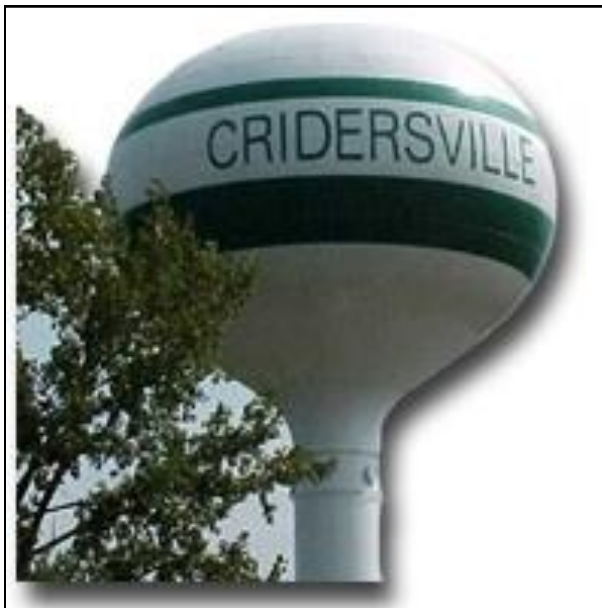
## EMERGENCY SERVICES DIAL 911

Local business telephone numbers are on page 13

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## CRIDERSVILLE • OHIO



# Welcome To Our Village!

As Mayor of Cridersville, I want to welcome you to our community. We are proud of our town and always ready to tell folks about its assets.

Our location on Interstate 75 is one of those assets. More than 15 million people per year pass through our village on the interstate. It also provides our residents with convenient access to larger metropolitan areas. It allows us to enjoy the quality of small town living with quick day trips to Dayton, Columbus, Cincinnati and beyond. We can enjoy the culture and excitement of cities and come home to the peace and safety of Cridersville.

Our award-winning schools provide our young people with the highest quality education, thanks to the constant involvement of parents, school staff, and our community. This is a village that grows great kids.

We also have access to high quality health care here in our community, and the three world-class, regional hospitals within 15 minutes of Cridersville. Our local emergency medical squad, fire department, and police departments provide prompt and professional services.

We invite you to spend time in our community. Discover the conveniences in our local stores, explore our historical museum, visit our beautiful public library, attend one of our friendly churches, or participate in a community event. There is always a lot to enjoy in Cridersville. We know you will be pleased with what you find.

If you should have any questions, please contact me at 419-645-4212 or [mayor@villageofcridersville.com](mailto:mayor@villageofcridersville.com)

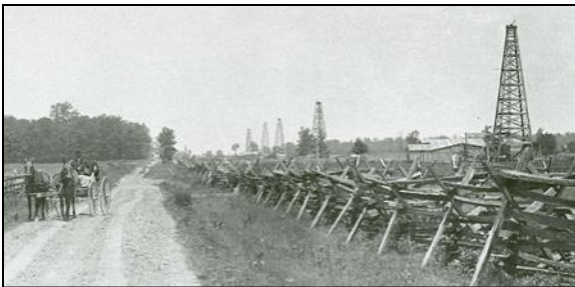
*Rick Walls*

Mayor



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## Remembering Our Past



Ephraim & Polly Crider

The Village of Cridersville was platted on April 17, 1856 when Ephraim and Polly Crider and their son Isaac filed a map of a new town they decided to call Cridersville. There were only 24 lots on this first town map. They were all on Main Street and High Street in the first block west of the railroad.

There was no railroad in 1856. The Dayton and Michigan Railroad was built in 1858. It was the quickest way to travel. The new railroad meant great success for the Crider's new town.

Ephraim Crider owned the first grain mill in the area. He built a steam-powered grist mill on the east edge of Cridersville in 1859. It was the place area farmers brought their grain to be ground into meal or flour.

In 1885 oil was discovered in Lima. Within two years, Cridersville was in the middle of the largest Oil Boom in the world. Thousands of workers came to drill hundreds of oil wells around Cridersville. The town grew very quickly. Many new stores and houses were built. The oil boom lasted about 20 years. The oil began to run out and more oil was discovered in Texas and Oklahoma.

On May 2, 1918 a young man was burning trash behind a store on E. Main Street. It was a very windy day and the fire blew into a nearby barn. Soon the fire from the burning barn blew onto the roofs of several stores on Main Street. The fire spread from building to building until both sides of the street were ablaze. Within three hours all the stores and homes in the block were gone.

To learn more about Cridersville's past, we invite you to visit our local history museum at 111 W. Sugar Street. To arrange a tour call 419-645-4782.



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### *Easy Access at a Prime Location*

Cridersville is conveniently located on Interstate 75 about mid way between Toledo and Dayton in west central Ohio. In the US Midwest, it is central between Chicago, Cleveland, and Cincinnati. It is within a day's drive of 50% of the US and Canadian population, and 70% of all North American manufacturing locations.

The Ohio Department of Transportation estimates that more than 15 million people pass through the village each year on Interstate 75. Cridersville EXIT 118 provides direct access to the village's primary business district.

The Village of Cridersville also has excellent access to regional commercial airports. Dayton International Airport is located less than an hour south of the village on Interstate 75. Dayton International is within 90 minutes, by air, to more than 50% of the US population. Its non-stop destinations include Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New York, Orlando, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Tampa, and Washington DC. Cridersville is also located less than 90 minutes from Port Columbus International Airport with additional non-stop destinations.

From an industrial perspective, Cridersville has the advantage of being located on the CSX Transportation main line rail in western Ohio. CSX operates the largest railroad in the eastern U.S. with a 21,000-mile rail network linking commercial markets in 23 states and two Canadian provinces. CSX Corporation provides rail, intermodal, and rail-to-truck transload services. CSX is among the nation's leading transportation companies, connecting more than 70 river, ocean, and lake ports, as well as more than 200 short line railroads. Cridersville has the advantage of several potential greenfield sites adjacent to the CSX mainline available for industrial development.



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# *A Fine Place To Call Home*

Home is a place of belonging, a place to feel safe, a place to be part of the community — that's what small town living in Cridersville is all about. Our village is a place where you are not afraid to say hello to strangers. It's a place to make life-long friends. With family and friends, plus church, school, civic groups, and a host of community events, there is always plenty to do. Life is good here!

Compared with other parts of the US, Cridersville residents enjoy a low cost of living. Coupled with reasonably priced housing, Cridersville offers a competitive alternative to major metropolitan markets. At \$ 74,500, Cridersville's median house value is more than \$ 45,000 less than the national median value. Homes simply cost less here. In other words, you get a lot more for your money in Cridersville.

And what a place to live! We have beautiful neighborhoods filled with friendly, caring people, and well kept homes. There are a variety of housing choices to fit every need and means. We have modern, first class subdivisions, or vintage 19th century homes. We have modest starter homes, rambling family-size homes, or the perfect retirement home. There are several new subdivisions ready for you to build your dream home. You can choose from apartments or condominium complexes. Or, when you are ready, we have the region's premier senior retirement community, and two of the best senior health care facilities. Cridersville has excellent housing options for all stages of life.

Cridersville's low cost of living also means that the median family income of \$ 36,653 simply goes further in West Central Ohio than in other parts of the country. Your purchasing power is stronger here than in other areas, especially metropolitan markets. Cridersville's housing options and low cost of living make it an excellent place to call home.



### Small Town America At Its Very Best!



## Our Pursuit of Knowledge

You can tell a great deal about a place by the investment it makes in its children and their education. Cridersville has always made learning an important priority.

As a partner community in the Wapakoneta School District, our children have modern school facilities with the latest technology and opportunities in the arts, music, and athletics. The Wapakoneta School District encompasses 159 square miles and includes the City of Wapakoneta and Cridersville. Five facilities — one high school (8-12), one middle school (5-7), and three elementaries (PK-4) — serve the district's 3,074 students.

The school district maintains a 20 to 1 student-teacher ratio. Our high school graduation rate is 92.5% and our overall student attendance rate is 96.1%. These statistics attest to the quality of our students and school staff. We believe they say much about our families, too. Our students learn about hard work and excellence at home. Our families value education and are partners with our schools. This dedication to excellence is apparent in the classroom, the concert hall, the athletic field, and ultimately the work place.

Our school district has recently invested \$65 million in new and improved school facilities. This includes \$13.5 million for a new elementary school in Cridersville. Our local elementary has been recognized as both an *Ohio Hall of Fame School* and four times, as an *Ohio School of Promise*. The staff is excellent.

For post-secondary and life-long learning, Cridersville is close to the Ohio State University at Lima, Rhodes State College, the University of Northwestern Ohio, Wright State University-Lake Campus, Bluffton University, and Ohio Northern University.

And, for learning fun there is our local Cridersville Public Library, a branch of the Auglaize County Library System. Patrons enjoy selections from 13,000+ volumes, audio visuals, and computer stations — or just reading a newspaper in a cozy wing chair under the library's beautiful dome.



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# Living A Healthy Life

The health care needs of Cridersville residents are met by several outstanding local and regional providers. St. Rita's Medical Center ( 6 miles from Cridersville), Lima Memorial Hospital ( 8 miles), and Grand Lake Health System ( 19 miles) are charitable, non-profit, comprehensive community hospitals. All provide a wide range of primary, acute and rehabilitative services to the region's residents. The hospitals are also dedicated to assuring that the appropriate supply of healthcare personnel is available to our communities.



Dr. Frank Cunningham, a member of the Lima Group of Family Physicians, operates a full service, family practice in an excellent facility on Cridersville's west side. Lima Memorial Hospital operates a satellite lab facility in the same building.



For emergency medical transport, our Cridersville EMT Service provides first-responder ambulance service to all three regional hospitals. Our emergency medical technicians (EMT) are members of our local fire department. Cridersville has thirty-one fully certified EMTs on staff. In addition to our local ambulance service, the regional hospitals partner with *Life Flight*, an emergency helicopter transport service.



Cridersville residents also have the advantage of two top-quality health care centers. Cridersville Health Care Center and Otterbein-Cridersville Retirement Community both are certified, skilled nursing centers providing high levels of care and comfort. They provide local residents with long-term care or short-stay options for respite and recovery.

Beyond the physical health of our community, our spiritual health is nurtured by four local churches. They include the Cridersville Church of the Nazarene, Cridersville Independent Baptist Church, Cridersville United Methodist Church, and St. Matthew Lutheran Church. These are all active congregations filled with friendly, caring people. They provide a wide range of church services, fellowship groups, and community events.



### Small Town America At Its Very Best!



# *Our Hometown Conveniences*

Although Cridersville is not a place with malls and large shopping centers, it does have all the local options for daily living. You can buy most of life's necessities right here.

Our local businesses provide a wide variety of goods and services—from groceries and lumber to lawn tractors and fire trucks. We can go to our local bank, florist, pharmacy, car wash, barbershop, or beauty salons. We can go out for a drink, order a great pizza, buy the best donuts, or have a good meal at a local restaurant. There's a veterinarian, pet grooming and boarding, and a coin laundry. We can have our car serviced, our plumbing repaired, or a new furnace installed.

For health care, we have a family-practice physician, a regional hospital satellite lab, and two top quality nursing and rehabilitation centers. And when needed, we can locally plan for our retirement years and funeral arrangements. The village truly has just about everything you need to enjoy a good life. And, it's all in less than a square mile, with no traffic jams, and plenty of free parking.

One of the nicest things about shopping in Cridersville is the friendly atmosphere. You are not dealing with strangers, but with friends and neighbors who work in our local stores. We can depend on our local business people to treat us well.

And for those occasional shopping excursions, we are only a short drive to regional malls in Lima, Findlay, Piqua, and Dayton. Plus, a day trip to Columbus or Cincinnati, or a weekend in Cleveland or Chicago are easy options. Our location on Interstate 75 makes a day or weekend trip very convenient. It's easy to hop on the interstate, do some big city shopping, and then come home to safe and friendly Cridersville.



Small Town America At Its Very Best!





## *Serving Our People*

We all want to feel safe and secure where we live and work. Whether it's police or fire protection, emergency medical services, or reliable public utilities — we are well provided for in Cridersville.

We feel safe with a well-trained and equipped local fire department and emergency medical squad. Our local volunteer fire department is staffed with forty-six firefighters. Of these, thirty-one are fully certified emergency medical technicians (EMT). They provide first responder ambulance service to our regional hospitals. Due to the department's training and modern equipment, village residents and businesses benefit from an affordable level 4 fire insurance rating.

Our local police department provides around-the-clock protection and fast response to resident needs. The department has three full-time and six part-time officers. As a result of an aggressive patrol schedule, the village has a low crime rate.

With four full-time employees, our village public works department provides modern, dependable water and sewer systems. Water capacity is 600,000 gallons per day and sewer treatment is 800,000 gallons. The public works staff also maintains 8.5 miles of roadways and 32 acres of park land.

TSC, our regional telecommunications company, headquartered in Wapakoneta, provides the village with state-of-the-art telephone, cable, and high speed internet services. TSC also provides Cridersville residents with local telephone service to both Wapakoneta and Lima. Other utility providers include American Electric Power (AEP), Midwest Electric, Dominion East Ohio Gas, and Time Warner.

The Village of Cridersville operates under a mayor-council form of government. The Village Hall is located at 110 W. Main Street. The Village Council meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of every month in the Village Hall.



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# *Celebrate Cridersville!*

Cridersville loves a good party. Our biggest celebration every July is the Firemen's Jamboree — a weekend of great food, big fun, and good friends. There's Uncle Louie's famous bar-b-que chicken, the Classic Car Show, big band music, and the grand parade down Main Street. The Jamboree, a fund raiser for our local volunteer fire department, is also an annual homecoming event that brings friends and family back to Cridersville every summer.

We celebrate the fall season at the annual Halloween Parade and Festival, during the last week of October. Dozens of floats and hundreds of kids once again parade down Main Street in their scariest attire, and end up at the Firehouse for the big costume contest. A tradition for more than 25 years, the annual Halloween festival is sponsored by our local businesses.

If it's spring, that means we're ready for the Easter Egg Celebration that includes crafts, games, a giant egg hunt, and photos with the Easter Bunny. And then there's the Historical Society's annual Ham and Bean Dinner at the 1836 Bowsher Log House on E. Main Street — a real pioneer meal cooked in a giant kettle over an open fire. Plus, there's time to tour the log house museum. In December, it's time to light the Community Christmas Tree, sing carols, and enjoy homemade cookies at the Bowsher's log home, again.

Life in a small town is filled with church dinners, Boy Scout breakfasts, and school carnivals. We have concerts and guests speakers at our retirement facilities and dances at the school gymnasium. Anyone who says small towns have nothing to do has never been to Cridersville. We fill our months with wholesome, family events and activities. We invite you to join in the fun and experience small town America at its very best.



Small Town America At Its Very Best!





# Enjoying Our Outdoor Pleasures

The Village of Cridersville may be small, but it does not think small when it comes to recreation. In a community that occupies less than a square mile, the village operates 32 acres of park land in four separate facilities.

Tower Park, named for the village water tower in it, is the largest park with five baseball fields, football field, soccer field, open-air shelter house, playground, concession stand, and the village recycle center. It is also the site of the Lions Community Building, a year-round place for meetings, birthday parties, and family reunions.

The Town Pond and Phillips Nature Path are located near the center of town. The pond was constructed in the 1890s as Cridersville's fire reservoir. Today, it's a great place to fish. The nature path, adjacent to the pond, is a wooded area with a path and benches. The pond is also the location of the local Ohio Historical Marker outlining the Big Fire of 1918, when downtown Cridersville was destroyed.

The Hinkle Playground is the village's neighborhood playground in the northwest corner of town. It was named for Clyde Hinkle who served as the village's mayor, police chief, school bus driver, maintenance superintendent, and Boy Scout leader.

Adjacent to the new elementary school on Reichelderfer Road, the village's newest park — Delong Pioneer Park — is currently under construction. This 18-acre nature park includes walking paths, shelter houses, a wetlands area with foot bridge, and an amphitheater. It is named for George Delong who purchased this property in 1835.

In addition to these there are regional state parks at Grand Lake St. Marys and Indian Lake, Johnny Appleseed Metro Parks, and numerous golf courses in the area. Year round, there is always something to do outdoors. Or, you can just sit back and enjoy the day in the gazebo in front of the public library.



Small Town America At Its Very Best!



## *Our Local Business Partners*

The quality of a place can also be judged by its local business community. Cridersville is a small town with more than thirty diverse businesses. They are the backbone of our village. They provide us with quality goods and services, and support our many community events and projects. Their success depends upon us, and Cridersville's success depends upon them. We encourage our residents—when considering a purchase—always think local first.



Armstrong Mechanical & Metal 419-645-4030

Aspire Home Healthcare 419-738-1176

Baker Animal Hospital 419-645-4311

Bayliff Funeral Home 419-645-4501

Bellman's Garage 419-645-4821

Bears Den Pub 419-645-9288

Blass Construction 419-773-8001

Casey's General Store 419-645-4455

Community Market 419-645-5770

Creative Hair Solutions 419-645-4087

Cridersville Crematory 419-645-4501

Cridersville Healthcare Center 419-645-4468

C J's Pizza 419-645-4133

Dixie Diner 419-645-5050

Dollar General 419-645-5017

Dotson's Plumbing and Heating 419-645-4078

Earth Safe Ozone 419-645-9920

Family Florist 419-645-5686

Fuel Mart 419-645-4197

Hempey Water 419-645-4705

K-9 Kennels & Grooming 419-645-5000

Lima Memorial Hospital Lab 419-645-5643

Midwest Shooting Center 419-645-6286

Myers Auction Service 419-645-4167

Otterbein Retirement Community 419-645-5114

R & K Upholstery 419-645-4727

Reichelderfer & Graham Lumber 419-645-4471

Speedway 419-645-5428

Steve Myers Service Inc. 419-645-4281

S & W Ecowater Service 419-645-4705

Subway 419-645-5903

Super Wash Car Wash 419-645-4545

TopMark Federal Credit Union 419-224-2941

United Fire Apparatus 419-645-4083

U. S. Post Office 419-645-6224

Village Cafe 419-645-1193

Village Store & Lock 419-645-4252

### OUR LOCAL CHURCHES

Cridersville Church of the Nazarene 419-645-4680

Cridersville Independent Baptist Church 419-645-5231

Cridersville United Methodist Church 419-645-4421

St. Matthew Lutheran Church 419-999-5329



Small Town America At Its Very Best!



# CRIDERSVILLE • OHIO



## Local Demographics & Data

### Population - 1871

Male - 840      Female - 977

Median Age - 37

Under 5 years - 137

18 years and over - 1325

65 years and over - 318

### Households - 732

Average household size - 2.43

Owner occupied housing units - 546 (74.6%)

Renter occupied housing units - 186 (25.4%)

Median family income - \$36,653

Per capita income - \$15,768

Median single-family home value - \$74,500

### Major Employers

Otterbein Retirement Community - 120

Cridersville Health Care Center - 52

Cridersville Elementary School - 30

Community Market - 17

### Land Area - 0.91 square miles

Elevation - 890'

Annual Rainfall - 37.2"    Annual Snowfall - 25"

Average Temperature - 51 degrees

Winter - 25 degrees    Summer - 73 degrees

### Public Health & Safety

Police - 3 full-time, 6 part-time

Fire - 46 volunteer

Emergency Medical Technicians - 31 volunteer

### Public Works - 4 full-time staff

Street miles - 8.5 miles    Park Land - 32 acres

Water supply capacity - 600,000 gallons per day

Average daily demand - 225,000 gallons per day

Excess water capacity - 62.5%

Sewer treatment process - activated sludge with tertiary treatment

Sewer treatment capacity - 800,000 gallons per day

Sewer average daily flow - 499,000 gallons per day

Excess sewer treatment capacity - 37.5%

### Utilities

Electric - American Electric Power & Midwest Electric

Natural Gas - Dominion East Ohio Gas

Water & Sewer - Village of Cridersville

Telecommunications - TSC & Time Warner

### Education - Wapakoneta City Schools - 3074 students

High School (8-12) - 1208 students

Middle School (5-7) - 665 students

Cridersville Elementary School (PK-3) - 278 students

Student-teacher ratio - 20 to 1 (district average)

Graduation rate - 92.5%

Daily attendance rate - 96.1%

### Cridersville Public Library

Books - 13,292    Periodicals - 32 titles

Audio-visuals materials - 508    Computer terminals - 4

Staff - 3    Registered Patrons - 1315

Branch of Auglaize County Public Library System

### Health Care

Lima Memorial Hospital Lab - Cridersville Office

St. Rita's Medical Center - Lima, OH

Lima Memorial Hospital - Lima, OH

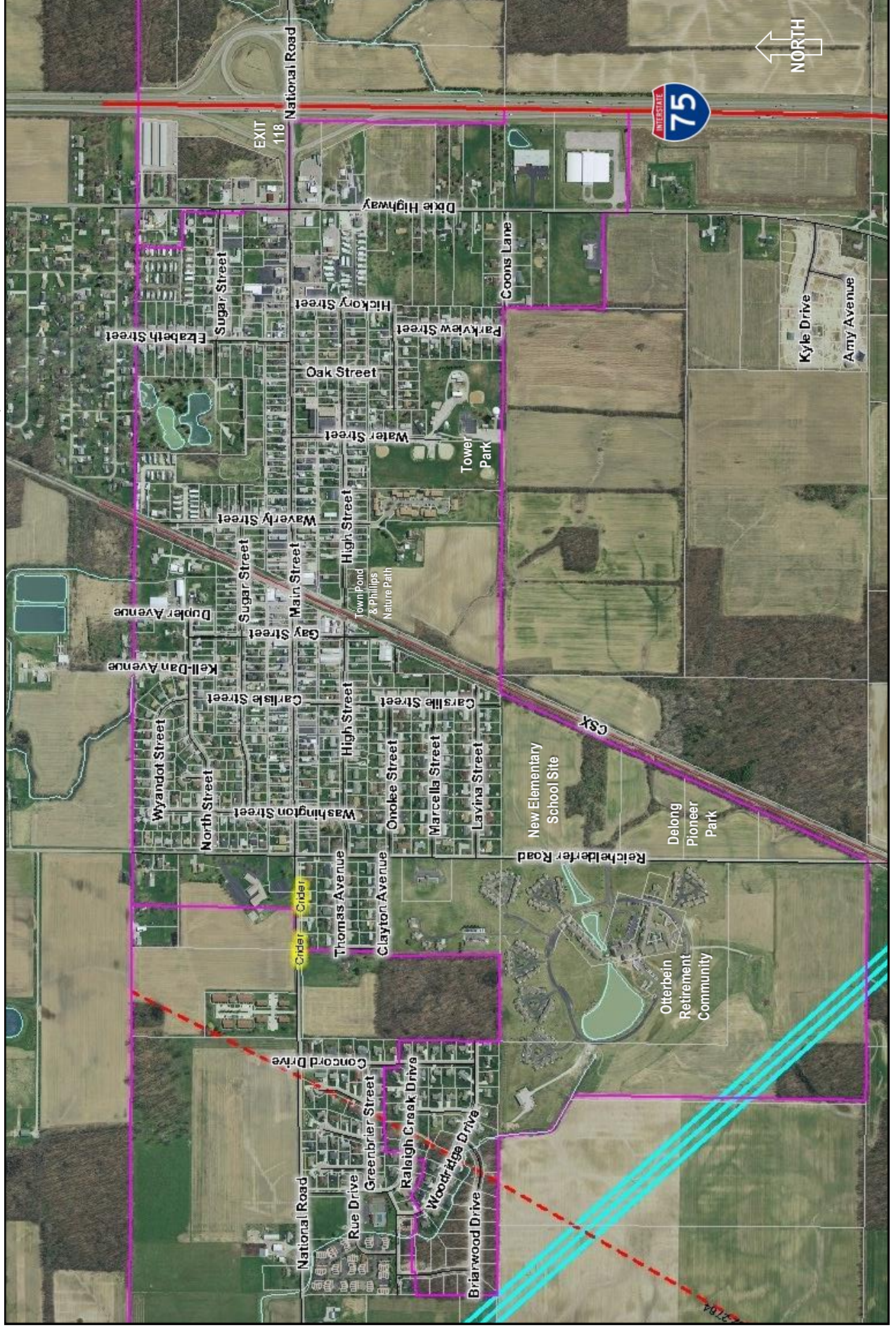
Grand Lake Health System - St. Marys, OH



Small Town America At Its Very Best!

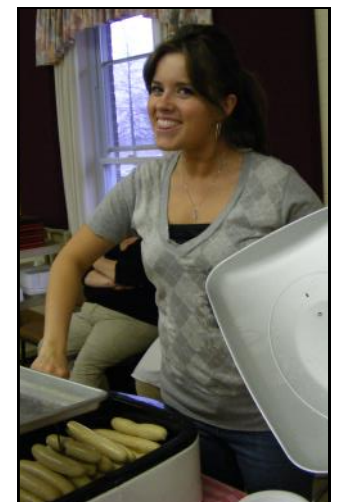
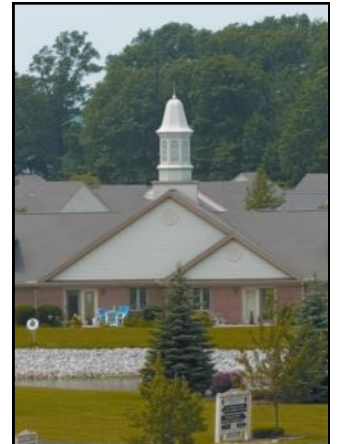


# VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE, OHIO





New Cridersville Elementary School



Otterbein-Cridersville Retirement Community