

Madeira Board of Education, 7465 Loannes Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45243
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Barreling Down Miami Avenue

The City of Madeira's ongoing Miami Avenue Revitalization Project will ultimately create an inviting environment for pedestrians, calm traffic, install utility lines underground, and create decorative and functional streetscapes. Madeira High School (MHS) art students recently helped with the decorative part during the process.

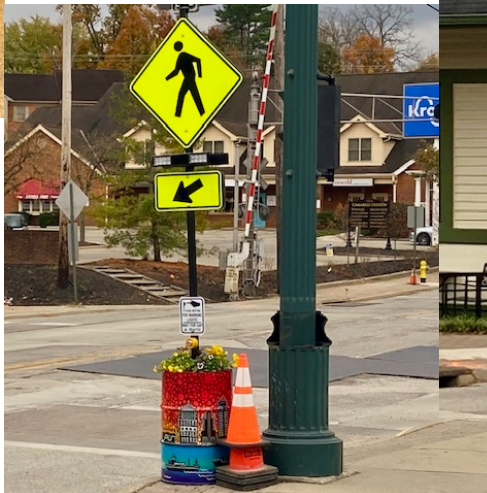
During construction, the old crossing signal had to be removed for road improvements and 55 gallon barrels filled with cement were brought in to hold temporary pedestrian signs and light poles. The barrels were less than attractive but Madeira Chief of Police David Schaefer had an idea to change that. "I had seen where other municipalities painted different objects, so when we had to put up the temporary pedestrian signs I thought painted barrels would look better," Madeira Chief of Police David Schaefer stated. "I pitched the idea to City Manager Michael Norton-Smith and he agreed."

Chief Schaefer contacted Madeira High School art teacher Jill Dulgeroff to see if some of her art students would design and paint the two barrels. "I contacted my art club officers to facilitate a plan and create the designs. They decided to go with bright motifs that would stand out during the dreary winter months and after lots of discussion, they loved the idea of flowers and a landscape," Dulgeroff said. "We ended up having about seven school days to paint them before they needed to be polyurethaned multiple times to withstand the elements of being outside for months."

The barrels are being utilized to hold temporary pedestrian signals at the crosswalk located on Miami Avenue at Dawson Road.



Pictured left are MHS art students who painted the barrels with representatives from the Madeira Police Department and their MHS art teacher: Row 1 (l to r): Alejandra Christiansen, Maddie Hambidge. Row 2 (l to r): Madeira Patrol Officer Vanessa Mayo, Avery Craig, Isabella Sammut, Dylan Harris, Dustin Opichka, Brooke Burnet, Cora Chalfie, MHS Art Teacher Jill Dulgeroff, Madeira Police Lieutenant James Roy.



Pictured right are completed barrels on Miami Avenue