

# MIDWAY

# MATTERS

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## CITY OF MIDWAY CONTACT INFORMATION

CITY HALL • 846-4413  
101 East Main Street • P.O. Box 4275  
Midway, Kentucky 40347  
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 to 4:30  
Phyllis Hudson • City Clerk  
Diane Shepard • Assistant Clerk  
Police • 873-3126  
Fire • 873-5829

Mayor:

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[mayor@meetmeinmidway.com](mailto:mayor@meetmeinmidway.com)

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## MAYOR'S TIDBITS



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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## COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

On Friday January "13th" Kentucky American Water had a main break on Leestown Road at Moores Mill Road. This caused a citywide "Boil Water Advisory" go into effect until Sunday. We have had 3 citywide advisories in the last 3 years because of a Kentucky American Water main line break. This is very unusual for Midway because when we have a line break within the city limits it is localized to one area. We have steps that we follow to notify and insure the safety of our residents. The first is to notify media outlets of the Boil Water Advisory, send an email blast to our database, and put signage around town. After it has been lifted which is usually after 1 day we send out notifications that the advisory has been lifted the same way. If you have a question after hours please call City Hall (846-4413) and the answering service will let you know if the advisory is in effect or has been lifted. Official notification will come from City Hall. If you have a suggestion or an idea that will help us do a better job please let City Hall know.

Just a reminder that the deadline to run for Midway City Council is January 31st. You can pick up your papers for filing at the Woodford County Clerk's Office.

At our last City Council meeting there was a spirited question and answer session between Council members and Magistrate Larry Craig regarding Judge Coyle's decision, after 30 plus years, to cease clearing the roads in Midway during the winter. The Council voted 5-1 to continue to work with the Fiscal Court and try to work something out but explore all options available to the City of Midway. One question that continues to be asked but is never answered is what do we get for our tax dollars that are paid to the county?

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## EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT UPDATE

"Early in the Spring, Life Scout Tim Hagan of Midway's Boy Scout Troop 40 will be completing his Eagle Scout Project by building a dog park in Walter Bradley Park. This will be a great place for dog owners to bring their pets and allow them to run safely and exercise in the enclosed 1 ½ acre area. Fence posts have already been donated, however, to complete the project, additional financial help is needed. Tim is asking our community to assist him through donations to help in purchasing the wire, staples, boards, nails, concrete and gates needed to complete the fence. Any checks given may be made payable to the City of Midway with "Dog Park" written in the memo section of the check. Donations may be dropped by or mailed to Midway City Hall, 101 East Main Street, Midway, Kentucky 40347. Any support for this project will be greatly appreciated and put to good use for the future benefit of Midway residents."

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## CHILI COOK OFF

On Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 6:30 p.m., Midway Christian Church is hosting a Midway Community Chili Cook Off for our monthly community dinner. All residents of the Midway Area are invited to enter a pot of chili in the contest for judging. Please call the church office (846-4102) by Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> to enter your chili into the cook off. Prizes will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Come join us for food, fellowship, and fun!

Heather McColl  
Minister  
Midway Christian Church  
123 East Bruen Street  
Midway, KY 40347  
859-846-4102

# CHRISTMAS 2011



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# OUT ON A LIMB

"Even if something is left undone, everyone must take time to sit still and watch the leaves turn." - Elizabeth Lawrence



## STRADIVARIUS VIOLIN

I recently ran across an article in the [Science Daily](#) (Nov. 20, 2001) that I found very interesting and wanted to share some of the content of this publication. The article deals with tree rings dating the wood used in a Stradivarian violin to prove that it is a Stradivarius crafted violin.

Malcolm Cleaveland, professor of geosciences University of Arkansas, joined lead investigator Henri Grissino-Mayer of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and Paul Sheppard of the University of Arizona. These researchers used tree ring records to accurately date the wood used in a famous violin purported to be made by Stradivarius and showed that the wood was hewn during the violin maker's lifetime. Their findings were reported at a recent meeting of the Violin Society of America in Carlisle, Pa.

The violin in question bears the name Messiah and is believed to be one of the instruments made by the famous violin maker Antonio Stradivarius. After a colorful past, the instrument landed in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, England, where it has remained on display enclosed in glass.

Four years ago (1997) an American expert declared the Messiah a fake. The controversy over the violin's origin escalated as a British violin maker and tree ring researcher dated the instrument to the 1680s, while a German tree ring expert put the date in the late 1730s -- too late to be an authentic Stradivarius. The British investigator measured the violin itself, while the German researcher measured the rings using photographs. The German researcher didn't have an instrument to measure, and the British expert presented no convincing graphical evidence or verifiable statistical evidence for his assertions. The controversy continued in the violin world, where enthusiasts consider a Stradivarius to be almost priceless. This particular instrument is prized because of its pristine condition.

Helen Hayes, the president of the Violin Society of America, put together a panel of American dendrochronologists led by Grissino-Mayer, who invited Cleaveland and Sheppard to measure the tree rings in the Messiah. The researchers brought specialized microscopes and measuring equipment to the Ashmolean, where they carefully teased out the tree rings lying beneath a coat of varnish on the front piece of the violin. The front of the violin is made from Norway spruce from somewhere in southern Europe. It is made from two pieces of the same tree joined together at the center in what is called a "butterfly." The oldest rings from the center of the tree would be found at the center of the violin's front, so the researchers were allowed to remove the strings and use their microscopes and instruments to make measurements.

The researchers compared the rings to tree ring chronologies for Norway spruce found at high altitudes in the Alps of Austria, Italy, Germany and France. They also compared the Messiah tree rings to those of another famous violin, the Archinto, which they measured at the Royal Academy of Music in London. The Archinto, a confirmed Stradavarius dating back to 1696, had more rings for comparison -- 159 versus 109 in the Messiah. They were able to determine, by comparing the Messiah to the Archinto and the Archinto to the tree ring chronologies, that the wood in the Messiah dates back to 1686 -- during the lifetime of Stradivarius."

I leave you with the fruit for thought. What is your opinion? Was the violin in question truly a Stradivarian? My personal opinion is a YES!

Larry Hanks is a American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA) Registered Consulting Arborist and International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist. Questions, suggestions or comments are welcomed at [wlhanks@earthlink.net](mailto:wlhanks@earthlink.net).

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# 2011

## Midway Woman's Club

### 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Decorating Contest Winners

Judges: Mary Sayre, Debra Shockley, Sarah Wilson, Kelly Brengelman

The MWC Holiday Decorating judging took place on December 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 pm and the following are the winners in each category:

Winners:

**Most Animated Lights** – 112 Cottage Garden Lane

**Best Front Door** – 219 W. Higgins

**Best Wreath** – 109 Carriage Lane

**Most Creative Lights** – 408 Elkton

**Most Whimsical Lights** – 335 Second St.

**Best Daytime Display** – 124 E. Stephens

**Best Indoor Tree** – 304 S. Winter

**Best Christmas Spirit** – 255 W. Higgins

**Best Traditional Decorations** – 349 Northridge Dr.

**Best Business Decorations** – Crittenden Gentlemen's  
Clothing 141 E. Main St. *(See photo at right)*

**Best Overall Design** – 129 Old Towne Walk

**Best Outdoor Tree** – 210 Cottage Grove

**Most Fun** – 417 S. Gratz

**Best Decorated Backyard** – 225 E. Higgins

Honorable Mentions:

211 E. Higgins – “Earliest” Christmas Spirit

110 and 120 E. Higgins – Best Combined Decorations

All of Downtown Midway

