



P R E S S R E L E A S E

B O A R D O F C O M M I S S I O N E R S

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, July 29, 2021

Commissioners
Steven A. Davis
Jeffrey M. Fix
David L. Levacy

County Administrator
Carri L. Brown

County Commissioners to Formally Dedicate Mural to Honor Hometown Heroes

Clerk
Rachel A. Elsea

Lancaster, Ohio - Today, the Fairfield County Commissioners dedicated a mural at the Amstutz Building, formerly the home of Veteran Services, at 227 E. Main Street in Lancaster. The concept for the Hometown Heroes mural grew from respect for our Veterans and those who have fallen in combat, especially those from Fairfield County.

Commissioner Dave Levacy, Board President, stated, “We will always honor our veterans and those who have fallen for their service to our country.”

At its core, the mural is depicted in a style reminiscent of antique advertisements found on the side of buildings through Fairfield County. Numerous patriotic elements and references to Fairfield County are carried throughout the mural. Please see the attached file for detailed information of the mural.

It was not possible to hold a public dedication last year as the mural was completed, given the safeguarding procedures of the pandemic. However, we are now gathering to dedicate the mural formally.

The purpose of the project was to promote local talent and engage the community to convert an empty wall into a public canvas with a lasting, positive effect on the community conversations to support gratitude for the military. Employees were engaged in organizational citizenship behavior as they volunteered to help with the project in support of their coworker. Information derived from the project helped improve understanding about public policy to allow for variances in zoning rules, permitting placemaking murals within the historic district directly on the face of a building.

Last year, as the mural was unveiled, there were community conversations to arise, grounded in gratitude for the service of veterans and inspiring private moments of thankfulness. A brief video explaining the mural can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qGZf_VP6IE.

These conversations were especially appreciated during the pandemic when there were feelings of loneliness and despair. The project helped to inspire intergovernmental cooperation and coordination. As such, the mural received a National Association of Counties Achievement Award in 2021.

For more information, please contact Carri Brown, County Administrator, at carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov at (740) 652-7096.

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