

North Ridgeville Community Connection

Quarterly Newsletter of the City of North Ridgeville ~ January 2013

7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039 (440) 353-0819

Visit us at www.nridgeville.org

Mayor's Message...

WELCOME LORAIN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP RIDGE CAMPUS

If you've driven east on Lorain Road or entered our community from I-480 it's kind of hard to miss a brand new three-story educational facility undergoing construction. By the time you read this article Lorain County Community College's new University Partnership Ridge Campus (UPRC) will be open and in operation. Courses at the UPRC will begin Monday, January 7 for students in The University of Toledo's Computer Science and Engineering program through LCCC's University Partnership.



Mayor David Hillenkamp

The new facility is a 46,000 square foot building constructed to meet new environmental recommendations including being LEED certified. For example, the parking lot is constructed of material that allows the storm water to be absorbed into the ground through the parking lot so it doesn't run off into a ditch.

Other programs the UPRC will offer include bachelor and associate degree programs, as well as certificate programs. Two University Partnership programs will be located at UPRC - The University of Toledo's Computer Science and Engineering bachelor degree and The University of Akron's Computer Information Systems bachelor degree. As a result we are not only getting LCCC, but also The University of Toledo and The University of Akron. Welcome to North Ridgeville!



The UPRC will include a Patient Simulation Learning Center for Allied Health and Nursing programs, and a new associate degree program in Health Information Technology. Other programs that will be offered at the UPRC include business and IT certificates and degrees, and the digital forensics and computer application integration specialist programs. Associate of Arts and Associate of Science degrees may also be completed at the UPRC. (This information is taken from the LCCC website detailing their new offerings.)

Because of traffic concerns on Lorain Road with the college road being so close to the I-480 ramp, the front of the building faces Cook Road. Stop in and see this beautiful new addition to North Ridgeville and take advantage of all the new opportunities now available right here in our own home town.

Refuse/Recycling Collection 2013

In accordance with city ordinance 2387-89, "No person shall cause or allow trash, garbage, waste, rubbish, refuse or other materials or substances to be placed on the curbside earlier than thirty-six hours before the designated day of collection." All trash carts and containers should also be removed from the curbside and properly stored at the premises no later than the following day after the designated collection.

Bulky waste items such as furniture, mattresses, stoves, washers, dryers, water tanks and extra trash may only be left at the curb for collection on the first full week of the month. This includes old furniture and appliances and up to six regular sized trash bags or three 35-gallon trash cans. Below is the bulk pick-up schedule for 2013.

January 7, 8	February 4, 5	March 4, 5
April 1, 2	May 6, 7	June 3, 4
July 1, 2	August 5, 6	September 3, 4
October 7, 8	November 4, 5	December 2, 3

Looking Back at 2012

The year 2012 was a busy year for the City of North Ridgeville. You'll find on the next two pages, a partial list of projects and/or statistics of interest for several city departments. Without the community's support, these accomplishments would not have been made possible.

Building Department

A total of 249 new house permits were issued in 2012 compared to 180 in 2011 as well as 2,995 miscellaneous permits (decks, additions, alterations, swimming pools, outbuildings, re-roofs, etc.), 140 electrical permits, 385 mechanical permits, 580 plumbing permits and 85 commercial permits. Over 9,000 inspections were performed during this same time frame.

Also in 2012, the Building Department incorporated mobile technology for the inspectors. Using iPads, the inspectors can look at the plans for a project in the field; this enables them to insure work is being done as approved. Inspectors can also log their notes and inspection results from the field, saving time and reducing the amount of paper being generated each day.

Looking ahead to 2013, the Building Department will begin using electronic plan review which will allow users to upload applications and drawings for permits through the internet for review. Users will be able to track the status of their plan review and know when their permit is ready for pick up. This will result in less time and travel involved in dropping off applications for homeowners and contractors who use the system.

Engineering Department

Cornell Avenue waterline was started shortly after Thanksgiving and will be completed early in 2013.

Based on a study to provide flood relief to residents in the area of Highland Drive, a detention basin is under construction off of Jaycox Road on city-owned property. Total completion is expected in early 2013.

Chestnut Ridge Road reconstruction is nearly complete. The driving surface is finished with one foot wider lanes and four foot shoulders. The contractor will return in spring 2013 to finish the final grading and seeding.

The railroad quiet zone is now operational. Initially, there were issues with the train engineers breaking old habits and refraining from blowing their horns. However, even with a fully-functioning quiet zone, the train engineer has full discretion if a situation requires the horn.

Fire Department

In 2012, the department had a record-breaking year responding to 595 fire calls and 2,488 emergency medical calls for a total of 3,083 calls for assistance. The highest number of calls in prior years was in 2010 with 2,974 calls for assistance. The continued increase in call volume is directly attributed to the growth of the community.

In January 2012, the department began using the new EOne fire engine. The fire engine was purchased with proceeds from a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant received in 2011. It is equipped with a foam pump, foam tank, onboard generator, and all the necessary tools to handle fire/rescue emergencies and should serve the city for the next 20 years. Residents are encouraged to stop by fire station #1 on Route 83 to check it out.

Income Tax Department

After thoroughly researching the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) as a viable solution to maximizing the city's tax collection efforts and at the same time, a cost-savings measure for the city, a contract was signed in 2012. Effective January 1, 2013, R.I.T.A. will begin collecting municipal income tax for the City of North Ridgeville. R.I.T.A. will be responsible for the administration and collection of all income taxes and will serve as an Agent of the City of North Ridgeville in this capacity. Residents and businesses will have the ability to file and make payments online at no charge. All tax payments and tax forms, for current or prior tax years, are to be sent to R.I.T.A. via mail at: R.I.T.A., P.O. Box 477900, Broadview Hts., OH 44147-7900 or electronically by visiting their website at: www.ritaohio.com. If you have any questions, please contact R.I.T.A.'s customer service representatives at 1-800-860-7482.

Office for Older Adults (Senior Center)

The North Ridgeville Office for Older Adults had a busy year in 2012. The “young at heart” seniors attended all types of activities from self-defense to defensive driving, from crafts/bingo to watercolor and mahjongg. They ate well with delicious breakfasts, brunches and lunches too. Attendance at the activities increased 10% over the previous year. New activities planned for 2013 include a magic and theatre class, Ganasta, and a Hawaiian Luau to be held on January 31.

Services are a large part of what the Senior Center does with the kitchen serving 40 to 50 Meals-On-Wheels each day and the wonderful volunteer drivers delivering 10,583 meals in 2012. A special complimentary meal is also provided prior to a holiday – last year the Senior Center provided over 500 complimentary meals for the holidays and 1,810 complimentary meals for those who couldn't afford their daily meal. These numbers are in addition to the 1,138 meals paid for annually by the North Ridgeville V.F.W. Post 9871.

The seniors like to travel too, whether it's to the Senior Center for activities, short trips to doctor appointments, therapy, grocery shopping, or all-day excursions to the Home & Garden Show, Lorain County Joint Vocational School and Amish Country. This past year the vans took seniors on 2,280 transports around North Ridgeville and beyond.

In mid-November, most of the parking area behind the Senior Center was repaved. This much needed project was funded through the City's FY11 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Remaining CDBG funds, along with local funds, are being used to replace select windows and doors at the Senior Center.

Parks & Recreation Department

In 2012, the Parks & Recreation Department offered over 100 tot, youth, and adult programs and special events that serviced residents and non-residents. The department also rolled out a comprehensive program guide which now arrives in your home three times a year instead of twice a year. A number of improvements and additions were made to include a new shade structure over the state-of-the-art splash pad, replacement of unsafe pathways in South Central Park, and adding 15 security cameras to help protect the parks and citizens. Also introduced in 2012, a rental policy for the pavilions and gazebo to offer more organization and flexibility for families to enjoy the parks. The total number of reservations in 2012 was 108. With the support of City Council, the department was able to secure funding to conduct a comprehensive master plan to help guide the department for future growth and projects. The department received a \$150,000 grant through Ohio Department of Natural Resources to construct a 1.2-mile walking trail through South Central Park, North Ridgeville Middle School and Saint Peter Church. The application received the highest score of 121 points and will offer residents a nice connectivity to some of the wonderful amenities in the city.

Police Department

Through November 2012, the Police Department had responded to 33,506 calls for service. Calls for service not only include making criminal and traffic arrests, but also answering alarms (672), issuing warnings (3,782), performing vehicle lockouts (590) and handling motor vehicle crashes (537). During 2012, the city also fell victim to two groups of criminals who perpetrated many daytime and night burglaries. These criminals were brought to justice by neighbors phoning the police when something seemed amiss or by sharing information about what they had seen or heard. Whether you're observing a crime in progress or have the smallest bit of information to share, please let the Police Department know about it. Your information could be the lead that stops criminals from further victimizing the city. By working together and sharing information, we can continue to make North Ridgeville a safe place to live and work.

Sexton, North Ridgeville Cemeteries

During 2012, a total of 45 graves were sold and 29 burials took place in the following three city-maintained cemeteries:
















- Ridgeville Cemetery (4.83 acres), 36330 Center Ridge Road, Space Available: 431 graves remaining
- Fields Cemetery (4.09 acres), 34100 Lorain Road, Space Available: 571 graves remaining
- Sugar Ridge Cemetery (.46 acres), 38285 Sugar Ridge Road, Space Available: 211 graves remaining

The cost of one grave is \$500.00 for North Ridgeville residents and \$700.00 for non-residents. For more information, contact Gary Teel, Cemetery Sexton and Grounds and Maintenance Supervisor, at (440) 653-4619.

Service Department

In 2012, the department paved the following streets: Chestnut Ridge Road and Lear Nagle Road intersection, Root Road from Chestnut Ridge Road to Lorain Road, Chestnut Ridge Road from Avon Belden Road to relocated Route 83 and Barres Road from Stoney Ridge Road to Meadow Lakes Drive. The department repaired 38 water main breaks and replaced 201 curb boxes and 17 fire hydrants in 2012. Two track machines were purchased and have been in continual use cleaning and removing blockages in the various waterways.

Community Calendar

-  January 25 SPAGHETTI DINNER at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost: \$6 adults, \$5 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available.
-  January 29 LORAIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE TOUR sponsored by the Senior Center. Cost: \$8. Limited seating available. To register, contact Shelly at 353-0835.
-  February 4, 19 CITY COUNCIL meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
-  February 5 HOME & GARDEN EXPO TRIP sponsored by the Senior Center. Cost: \$20. To register, contact Shelly at 353-0835.
-  February 5-April 9 TAX PREPARATION every Tuesday from 9:30 AM-2:30 PM at the Senior Center, 7327 Avon Belden Road. Tax preparation for low to moderate-income taxpayers, especially those 60 and older. Call the Senior Center at 353-0828 for an appointment.
-  February 18 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED in observance of Presidents' Day.
-  March 4, 18 CITY COUNCIL meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
-  March 5-April 2 THEATER AND/OR MAGIC CLASS WITH THE GREAT BRAD every Tuesday from 9:30-11:30 AM at the Senior Center, 7327 Avon Belden Road. These educational classes (five week session, hour in length) will be instructed by Brad Schreiber, an 18-year veteran magician. To register, contact Shelly at the Senior Center at 353-0835.
-  March 9 ICE WINE FESTIVAL with North Ridge Tours sponsored by the Senior Center. Cost: \$79. Visit several wineries in the Grand River Valley region. To register, contact Shelly at 353-0835.
-  March 10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME begins. As a reminder, turn your clocks ahead one hour.
-  March 23 ROTARY EASTER EGG HUNT, 2:00 PM at Ranger Stadium, North Ridgeville Middle School, ages 1-9.
-  March 26 LIFE LINE SCREENING from 9 AM-4 PM at the Senior Center, 7327 Avon Belden Road. Stroke, vascular and heart rhythm screenings; each participant will be eligible for \$10 off a package of \$139 or more. Call Helping Hands registration line at 1-800-324-9458 or the Senior Center at 353-0828. For every registrant, the Senior Center will receive a \$10 donation.
-  March 29 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED in observance of Good Friday.
-  April 1, 15 CITY COUNCIL meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
-  April 2 STATE CAPITOL & ORCHIDS TOUR with North Ridge Tours sponsored by the Senior Center. Cost: \$74. To register, contact Shelly at 353-0835.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

For up-to-date class and program information, please visit the Parks & Recreation website at: www.northridgeville.recdesk.com/recdeskportal or call 353-0860. See the Winter Rec Gazette, enclosed in your December 2012 utility bill, for a detailed listing of events.

MIND/BODY COACHING WITH MADELINE DUSKY. Three-week course, Tuesdays February 5 through February 19, from 6:30-8:30 PM at the Community Cabin, 35717 Bainbridge Road. Ages 15 and up. Registration deadline is February 1. Cost: \$45 resident/non-resident.

SPANISH I WITH RACHEL PEREZ. Five-week course, Wednesdays February 20-March 20 from 6-8 PM at the Community Cabin, 35717 Bainbridge Road. Ages 15 and up. Registration deadline is February 15. Cost: \$65 resident/non-resident.

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL REGISTRATION to be held on Saturday, January 26 from 9 AM-1PM; Thursday, January 31 from 6-8 PM; and, Saturday, February 2 from 9 AM-1 PM at the Senior Center, 7327 Avon Belden Road, ages 5-18. Cost: T-Ball \$45 resident/\$55 non-resident; remaining leagues \$55 resident/\$65 non-resident.

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE, Saturday, February 23 from 7-9 PM at the North Ridgeville Middle School, grades K-5. Registration ends February 8 and is limited to 65 couples (130) maximum participants. Cost per couple: \$30 resident/\$40 non-resident, each additional child is \$10.

SENIOR CENTER NOTES

*Reservations are required for the following events.
To make reservations or to obtain a complete listing of activities, please call 353-0828.*

"YOUNG AT HEART" BREAKFAST AND HAWAIIAN LUAU, January 31 at 9:30 AM; cost \$3.
SOCIAL, LUNCH & BINGO meets every Wednesday at the Senior Center from 10 AM-2 PM; cost \$3.25.
MEN'S BREAKFAST, first and third Thursday each month at the Senior Center from 9-10 AM; cost \$3.
WOMEN'S BRUNCH, fourth Thursday each month at the Senior Center from 10:30-11:30 AM; cost \$3.
BLOOD PRESSURE TESTING, third Wednesday each month at the Senior Center from 9 AM-noon.
SUPER THURSDAY LUNCH, second Thursday each month at the Senior Center at noon; cost \$5.
MAHJONGG meets every Thursday at the Senior Center at noon (except the second Thursday each month).

CANASTA meets every Wednesday at the Senior Center from 1-4 PM. If interested in joining a group, please call Shelly at 353-0835.