

Quarterly Calendar

- **October 16, 2007** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Flu Shots** at the Senior Center. (See article on page 1.)
- **October 17, 2007** 7:00 p.m. the North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce **Candidates Night** at the North Ridgeville Education Center, 5490 Mills Creek Lane.
- **October 20, 2007** **Halloween Party**
5:00 to 7:00 pm, the whole family will enjoy games, crafts, a pumpkin patch and making applesauce. The North Ridgeville Public Library will sponsor story telling and craft time at the Community Cabin.

7:00 to 9:00 p.m. for those who dare there will be a spooky Halloween maze along the walking trail. A child friendly walking area for the younger children will also be available.

8:00 to 10:00 p.m. adults are invited to a Costume Party/Dance at the VFW Post #9871 at 6805 Lear Nagle Road. The dance is free but tickets are required and can be obtained at the Parks & Rec office or the VFW.
- **October 26, 2007** 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. **Spaghetti Dinner** at the Senior Center. (See inside info.)
- **October 31, 2007** **Tots-Trick-or-Treat** at 1:00 p.m. at the North Ridgeville Senior Center and City Hall. Tickets must be obtained through the Parks & Rec Dept. Call 353-0860 for further details.
- **October 31, 2007** 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., **Trick or Treat** will be celebrated on this date set for Lorain County by the Lorain County Community Alliance.
- **November 1, 2007** Thru Dec. 20, **Food Drive** donation boxes will be located at City Hall, the Senior Center and Parks & Rec office, Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please bring your non-perishable food items. All donations will be delivered to Community Care of North Ridgeville.
- **November 4, 2007** Spring ahead. Fall behind. **TIME CHANGE** will be on Sunday at 2:00 a.m. Don't forget to turn your clocks **BACK** one (1) hour and test your smoke detectors.
- **November 6, 2007** **REMEMBER TO VOTE!** Polls open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **November 10, 2007** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Flu Shots** at the N.R. Middle School. (See article on page 1.)
- **November 11, 2007** **Veterans Day** observed. City Hall is closed.
- **December 1, 2007** Thru Dec. 15, **Toy Drive** donation boxes will be located at City Hall, the Senior Center and the Parks & Rec office, Mon. - Fri., 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please bring only new toys and gifts in their original packages. All donations will be delivered to Community Care of North Ridgeville.
- **December 1, 2007** 9:00 a.m. **Holiday on the Ridge** North Ridgeville's kick off to the holiday shopping season. Visit the 16 different locations throughout the day and throughout the City on a self guided tour. The event is open to the public. Some craft shows charge a nominal admission.
- **December 1, 2007** 5:00 p.m. **Tree Lighting Ceremony** at the South Central Park Gazebo. Join Mayor Gillock and the local scouts in adding a festive touch to the community holiday tree. Get in the spirit as the school choirs lead joyful songs and Santa makes his appearance. Girl Scout Troops 804 and 523 will be selling hot chocolate, coffee and donuts at the Community Cabin.

North Ridgeville Community Connection

Quarterly newsletter of the City of North Ridgeville ~ October 2007

Mayor's Message...

The North Ridgeville Fire Department will be implementing several changes this fall, all in our continuing goal to improve the safety of our citizens and of our property.

First is a move to Westcom Dispatch Center now being used by Rocky River, Bay Village, Fairview Park and Westlake. The regional dispatch center is a result of member communities cooperation and will help improve response time, especially when mutual aid is required by any member community. This dispatch center is located in Saint John West Shore Hospital and enjoys technology and assets we do not currently have.



Mayor David Gillock

All emergency 911 calls will still be answered by the Lorain County Emergency Management System. Those calls are currently passed to a Firefighter at the North Ridgeville Station, who must then see that the correct vehicle and manpower are dispatched from our two stations or a mutual aid community. Westcom will now enable us to use the Firefighter formerly kept on dispatch duty.

The second change is an added Firefighter to each of our three shifts. This added Firefighter will be paired with the Firefighter released from dispatch duty, providing for a third response crew for both EMS and Fire calls. This combination of centralized dispatch and the added response crew is a major step toward our goal of three fire stations strategically located for a swift response in any area of our community.

These exciting changes follow the recent addition of a new ladder truck, specialized dive rescue, a dedicated training officer and a conversion to a 12 lead EKG machine that allows doctors to diagnose while the patient is in route to the Emergency Room.

Now more than ever, our Firefighters are ready and able to serve when you need them.

With the holidays fast approaching, please allow me to wish you a happy Thanksgiving, a blessed Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

It's That Time Again... Flu Season



Flu and pneumonia shots will be offered at the Senior Center through Maxim Health Tuesday, October 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Medicare accepted with Medicare card and proper I.D. If no insurance, the cost is \$30 for flu and \$40 for pneumonia shots. All ages are welcome, walk-ins only, no appointments taken.

The second offering will be by the Lorain County Health Dept. at the North Ridgeville Middle School, 35895 Center Ridge Road on November 10, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Schedule subject to change based on availability of vaccine. Call the flu hot-line, (440) 329-7926 or visit www.loraincounty.com. Fee \$10.00, Medicare and Medicaid will be accepted. No one is refused due to an inability to pay. Individuals with any special medical conditions or concerns should talk with their doctor before getting a flu shot.

Community Housing Improvement Program

The City of North Ridgeville recently received a \$528,000 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) grant from the Ohio Department of Development. The grant provides for four (4) basic housing activities.

- \$266,000 for Homeowner Rehabilitation on a city-wide basis;
- \$ 68,000 for Home Repair on a city-wide basis;
- \$ 83,000 for Down Payment/Rehabilitation Assistance on a city-wide basis;
- \$ 58,000 for Private Rental Rehabilitation on a city-wide basis.

The balance of the grant provided for fair housing services and administration. The grant must be completed by August 31, 2009. All participants must meet eligibility requirements and be within the income guidelines for the program. Applications for Homeowner Rehabilitation, Home Repair, Down Payment/Rehabilitation and Rental Rehabilitation Programs for the City can be obtained by visiting the Treasurer's Office at North Ridgeville City Hall located at 7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039 during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

StealthStat

There are few days that go by in the Police Department that we do not receive a complaint about speeding. We typically would only be able to respond to these complaints in two ways. One would be to dispatch an officer to the street to monitor traffic for a short time and then issue citations or warnings as warranted. The other option would be to do a traffic study which involved putting an officer on the street for an extended period of time to do the study. This would greatly limit us as to how long the study could be conducted due to many factors, not the least of which would be manpower constraints, as well as the limited time that a person could sit in one place. Either way, a lot of man-hours were invested in these complaints with few resulting citations or warnings due to the lack of enforceable speeding violations.

We believe that we have found a solution to this problem with the recent purchase of what is called a StealthStat traffic statistics collection device. This device can be utilized on any street and collects vehicular data while unmanned and unobserved for hours. The device contains a dedicated data collection computer, internal count/control processor, as well as a directional radar unit. With a change of battery it can operate for up to 80 hours continuously.

Once a study is completed we can share the resulting data with the citizens making the complaints and with our officers. This data can then be used to determine if there truly is a problem or just an occasional incident that is perceived as a larger problem. If there is a problem, StealthStat will be able to determine specific times that they are occurring as well as any patterns that there may be to the issue. Once it is determined that a problem does exist we can choose the best method for our officers to try and combat the matter. We can also share the information with our Engineering Department to determine if a change needs to be made, either with the signage that is posted on the street, or with the actual street itself.

We believe that this will be an effective tool in helping to cut down on the number of traffic complaints that we receive and will help us to better utilize our limited manpower in solving these problems.

If anyone would like us to set up the StealthStat on their street, they can make a request by contacting the Police Department at 327-2191.



Changes in Yard Waste Collection



A recent mandate by the OEPA requires all waste haulers to discontinue the practice of composting yard waste that has been collected in plastic bags. Yard waste means grass clippings, leaves, twigs, brush, branches, weeds, vegetative matter and any other material generated by the maintenance or care of yards, flower beds, lawns, hedges, bushes, trees, etc.

Effective July 1, 2007, all yard waste will still be collected weekly beginning the third full week in April through the third full week in November, but only yard waste that is bundled and tied in the brown yard waste bags will be composted. Christmas trees will still be collected during the first week of January and composted. The size of bundled branches and twigs should not exceed four feet in length and the bundles or brown yard waste bags should not exceed fifty pounds. Yard waste improperly bagged or bundled will be tagged as unacceptable and left at the curb.

All residents are encouraged not to catch grass clippings and allow the grass to remain on the ground. A mulching mower does a great job at this and there are adapter kits available at many hardware and home improvement stores to convert regular mowers into mulching mowers. Generally, there are no adverse affects on lawns which are maintained in this manner.

Should you choose to recycle and compost your yard waste, the brown yard waste bags must be purchased by the resident and can be found at many local hardware and discount stores.

Please realize that yard waste in plastic bags will still be picked up, only it will be collected with regular refuse and directed to the landfill. The decision on how to dispose of yard waste is being left up to the individual resident at this time, but the City of North Ridgeville encourages all residents to recycle and compost yard waste. You may also consider composting your own yard waste, but please be considerate of your neighbors and properly maintain your compost site. Please remember that open burning of leaves, twigs, or other types of yard waste is prohibited by City Ordinance.

Since North Ridgeville began a yard waste collection program in 1994, residents have composted more than 15,000 tons of yard waste which would otherwise have ended up in the landfill.

Please call the Utilities Department at 353-0841 if you have any questions regarding yard waste collection or these recent changes.

Senior Center "Infamous" Spaghetti Dinner



It's Autumn and time for the North Ridgeville Senior Center's "Infamous" Spaghetti Dinners! They are still serving great homemade spaghetti with meatballs, garlic toast, salad and beverage which is bargain priced at: \$6.00/adults, \$5.00/seniors and \$4.00/children under 10. Treat yourself to a luscious dessert for only \$1.00. Everyone is welcome to attend this wonderful Italian feast with background music provided by the Strolling Musician. Carry-outs as well as ample parking are also available.

The September Spaghetti Dinner was an outstanding success, so don't miss out on the October event which will be held on Friday, October 26, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

For Further information contact Rita Price, Director, North Ridgeville Office for Older Adults, 7327 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039. Phone (440) 353-0856.
