

North Ridgeville

# Community Connection

Quarterly newsletter of the City of North Ridgeville ~ October 2011

## Mayor's Message...

The city of North Ridgeville recently made a presentation to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TRAC), an ODOT advisory group that oversees infrastructure projects over \$5 million. The \$41.5 million Center Ridge Road project proposes to add two lanes to Center Ridge Road between Stoney Ridge and Lear Nagle Roads. It will be mid-December 2011 when TRAC rankings are announced and the final list will be announced in March or April 2012.



*Mayor St. David Sillock*

2016 is the anticipated date for the year-long construction to take place. North Ridgeville construction costs would be \$8.27 million; TRAC, \$15 million; Northeast Ohio Area wide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), \$8 million. Total cost of the project would be \$41.53 million with North Ridgeville paying 31 percent, TRAC covering 50 percent and NOACA contributing 19 percent.

Widening Center Ridge has been our priority for the past eight years. This project has taken and will continue to take a lot of time, effort and taxpayer dollars as we continue working to bring it to fruition.

Another long-term project which has finally come to the work stage is the safety improvements to be installed at the Race, Maddock, Root and Chestnut Ridge Roads railroad crossings to establish a quiet zone corridor through the City of North Ridgeville. Circuitry upgrades will be provided at all four crossings. Maddock Road will be provided with median barrier curbs as a supplemental safety measure and the other three crossings will be provided with four-quadrant gates as the supplemental safety measure.

Norfolk Southern Railroad will be installing the new gates and providing the circuitry upgrades. Constant warning time will also be provided with the circuitry upgrades in order to synchronize the gate closing with the speed of the approaching train. Campbell Technology Corp. has been hired by the city to install the vehicle detection system at the four-quadrant gate crossings, the quiet zone beacons to alert trains to power outages, the median barriers at Maddock Road and the pavement markings and advance warning signs on the roadways. The grade crossing improvements are to be completed by January 4, 2012 per the PUCO order. Norfolk Southern's proposed start work date is October 10, 2011. Watch for delays and/or periodic closings until the Railroad Quiet Zones are completed.

With the holidays fast approaching, let me take this opportunity to wish you a happy and blessed holiday season and a safe and prosperous New Year.

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## FALL LEAF PICKUP

Leaves may be placed at the curb in plastic bags beginning the weeks of October 24 through November 29 on the regular trash pick-up day. After November, leaves in plastic bags can only be left out as extra garbage the first full week of each month. From April through October each year, yard waste must be placed in brown yard waste bags for weekly collection.

# **HURRY TO REGISTER AT PARKS AND REC**

Visit us online at [www.nridgeville.org](http://www.nridgeville.org) (Parks & Rec Dept.) for more details and to REGISTER ONLINE or stop in our office. The Parks and Recreation office is now open Tuesday until 7 PM for your convenience. See a few activities listed here and on the calendar. It's not too late to sign up!

1st & 2nd GRADE INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL registration now through October 28. Cost \$45/residents, \$55/non-residents. \$10 late fee after October 28.

JUNIOR RANGER YOUTH BASKETBALL registration now through October 28. Cost \$45/residents, \$55/non-residents. \$10 late fee after October 28.

RECREATIONAL BASKETBALL registration now through November 18. Cost \$45/residents, \$55/non-residents. \$10 late fee after November 18. Boys and girls grades 7-12.

1st ANNUAL BASKETBALL TURKEY SHOOTOUT registration now through November 4. Teams will consist of one adult/one child ages 5-18. \$5/residents, \$7/non-resident.



Stop by to meet our new Program Supervisor Frank Vacha. I'm sure many of you already know him from the NR Soccer Complex where he has coached multiple teams since 2002 and has worn many hats as well in working for the league, also coaching multiple teams for NR City Baseball. Currently, Mr. Vacha serves as Vice-President of the North Ridgeville Board of Education. This married father of four sons has an extensive resume which proves him to be a dedicated family man and community activist. Join us in welcoming him.

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## **COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CHIP)**

Mayor Gillock is pleased to announce that the City of North Ridgeville recently received a \$500,000 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) grant from the Ohio Department of Development. The grant provides assistance for (2) two basic housing activities: homeowner rehabilitation and (emergency) home repair. These monies can be used to bring homes up to current health and safety standards and to address more immediate concerns such as a leaking roof, a failing furnace or a failing hot water tank.

All participants must meet eligibility requirements and income guidelines in order to qualify for assistance.

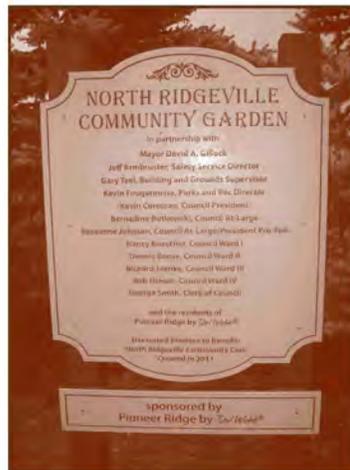
A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers to explain each type of assistance available and the eligibility requirements of each program. Applications for assistance will first be made available at this meeting. Thereafter, applications may be obtained by visiting the Treasurer's Office (Room 106) in North Ridgeville City Hall located at 7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039 during regular business hours.

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## **REMINDER- CITY INCOME TAXES DUE OCTOBER 31, 2011**

The 3rd quarter estimated taxes are due by October 31, 2011. You may pay your estimated tax on Ubill. Visit the city's website at [www.nridgeville.org](http://www.nridgeville.org) for information to enroll, view or pay your bill online. Contact the tax office at 353-0846, Monday-Friday from 8 AM to 4:30 PM for assistance or questions.

# GIVING BACK WITH A COMMUNITY GARDEN



While homeowners at Pioneer Ridge were hoping for a chance to grow a few vegetables, North Ridgeville city officials were seeking a group of volunteers to cultivate a community project. As luck would have it, a beautiful partnership was planted and a garden bloomed. In a handshake deal with the city of North Ridgeville, Pioneer Ridge and local farmer Bob Ternes, the homeowners were able to grow food for their own table while they also harvested vegetables for North Ridgeville Community Care's food pantry, serving our neighbors in need.

To help foster the project, Pulte Builders supplied the water to the garden and Mr. Ternes prepared the soil for planting. "This project has united neighbors together in a spirit of giving while offering novice gardeners the opportunity to learn from those with more experience," said Laurie Kortowich, Lifestyle Director. "It's rare to drive by and not see homeowners out there with their sleeves rolled up."

The plots are 15 ft. by 15 ft. and there are currently about 30 people involved in the project. William Yirava, president of the Pioneer Ridge Community Garden Club, said local nurseries have been very generous. Thousands of seeds for corn, beans and squash were planted on additional land which gardeners harvested as a team for North Ridgeville Community Care. "It's been successful beyond our wildest belief," he said of the garden, which is actually much larger than organizers had originally planned. The scheduled weekly drop offs to Community Care increased to almost daily at times and the raccoons are fat and happy.

After seeing the success of the project so far, many homeowners have already expressed interest in taking part in the endeavor next year. Watch upcoming issues of the Community Connection Newsletter for further information if you are interested in participating in the North Ridgeville Community Garden.



\*Garden photos  
courtesy of  
Julia Mulheren



# Quarterly Calendar



October 25

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION at the Senior Center. Wednesday Social and lunch served at 12 noon. Please call 353-0828 for reservations.



October 28

TOTS TRICK-OR-TREAT at 1 PM at the Senior Center, City Hall and Police Department. Must pre-register by October 21 at Parks and Recreation or call 353-0860. 2-5 year olds gather treats donated by employees handed out in each department. Also see a Fire Truck and Police K-9 unit up close and personal.



October 28

SPAGHETTI DINNER, 5-7 PM at the Senior Center. **Everyone welcome!** \$6 adults, \$5 seniors, \$4 children 10 and under, dessert \$1, pop .50. **Take out available!**



October 31

TRICK-OR-TREAT will be observed 6-7:30 PM.



November 1

HOLIDAY FOOD AND TOY DRIVE collection thru December 16. New toys in original packaging or non-perishable food items may be dropped off at City Hall, Parks and Recreation or the Senior Center.



November 6

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ends. Turn clocks **BACK** one hour. Check your smoke alarms!



November 8

ELECTION DAY - Please vote! Polls open 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM. Exercise your right! **All Senior activities are canceled for today.**



November 11

VETERAN'S DAY - CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED.



November 14

SENIOR DANCE with John Kowalski, 2-4 PM. Admission \$2. Light refreshments available.



November 24 -25

THANKSGIVING - CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED.



December 3

TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY at South Central Park Gazebo at 5 PM. Join Mayor Gillock, local scouts and the High School Choir. Santa will be present to collect boys' and girls' letters and wish you a Happy Holiday. Kick off the holiday season!



December 8

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON at the Senior Center, \$5, serving at 12 noon. 353-0828 to RSVP.



December 23

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS EVE.



December 26

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS DAY.



December 28

THE SINGING ANGELS held at St. Julie's Church - **FREE** - doors open at 6:30 PM. Basket raffle and free will offering to benefit the North Ridgeville Senior Center.



January 2

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY.



January 20

STATE OF THE CITY address by Mayor David Gillock at the North Ridgeville Education Center, sponsored by the North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce. For tickets and further information call the North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce at 327-3737.

## SENIOR CENTER NOTES

Call 353-0828 for an up-to-date Senior Center Newsletter with ALL Senior Center activities.

**BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK** the first and third Wednesday of every month from 9 AM to 12 noon. **FREE!**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** at the Senior Center the first and third Thursday of the month, breakfast \$3, served at 9 AM; RSVP at 353-0828.

**SUPER THURSDAY LUNCH** the second Thursday each month at the Senior Center, \$5, serving at noon; RSVP at 353-0828.

**WOMEN'S BRUNCH** the fourth Thursday of the month, serving 10:30 AM; to RSVP call 353-0828 (Thanksgiving excepted).

**A NEW BEGINNING** (a bereavement support group) at the Senior Center the third Monday of each month. Refreshments served at 11:45 AM, program at noon. Reservations preferred by calling 353-0828.