



## Community Connection, Fall 2019

7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039 Phone: (440) 353-0819 Visit us at [www.nridgeville.org](http://www.nridgeville.org)

### Mayor's Message...

It's hard to believe summer is coming to a close and the kids are back to school. With our schools in session so are the school buses traveling our streets picking up and dropping off precious cargo.



Many of you may recall the news reports regarding the rash of drivers illegally passing school buses. I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that passing a stopped school bus is **ILLEGAL** in North Ridgeville. Currently, there are no areas of the City in which the school buses will be picking up or dropping off students that would allow drivers to pass approaching from the opposite direction. The Ohio Revised Code 4511.75 also states drivers "shall stop at least ten feet from the front or rear of the school bus and shall not proceed until such school bus resumes motion, or until signaled by the school bus driver to proceed." When in doubt, STOP!



Also, as a reminder, according to the Ohio Revised Code 4511.21, the speed limit in school zones is 20 mph during recess and during the opening and closing hours of schools. Please pay attention in order to keep the children in our community safe!

With all of the construction happening in our City, I would also caution drivers that utilize Ranger Way as a cut-through from Center Ridge Road to Bainbridge Road, that the school district will once again be closing off access on Ranger Way from 7:30-8 AM and from 2:30-3 PM each day to accommodate bus and parent drop-off and pick-up. Please use Lear Nagle, Root Road (southbound traffic only) or Avon Belden during this time.

In the spring 2018 issue of the *Community Connection*, I shared with you two commercial projects – Danbury Senior Living and The Avenue at North Ridgeville. We have taken a number of calls at City Hall inquiring as to when these facilities will open for business. Danbury Senior Living located at 33770 Bagley Road at Lorain Road is slated to open in early 2020 and will offer independent living, assisted living and memory care. They are currently taking reservations for their North Ridgeville location by calling (440) 596-3797. The Avenue at North Ridgeville is located at 6200 Lear Nagle Road and is also expected to open in early 2020 and will offer nursing and rehabilitation services. Inquiries may be directed to Carl Holbrook at (330) 401-7581 through the end of October followed by calling their local number beginning in November at (440) 353-0066.

With my retirement at the end of December, residents have a very important election on November 5<sup>th</sup>. You will decide who will be the next Mayor of North Ridgeville. To learn more about the two candidates – Kevin Corcoran and Paul Wolanski – plan to attend the Mayoral Forum presented by the North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce on **Wednesday, September 25 at 7 PM** at the Early Childhood Learning Community, 5490 Mills Creek Lane (behind Dairy Queen). Exercise your right to vote and to take part in shaping the future of our community!

Sincerely,

Mayor G. David Gillock





## Fire Department to Host Annual Health & Safety Fair

On **Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 10 AM-2 PM** (rain or shine), the Fire Department will host its annual Health and Safety Fair in observance of National Fire Safety Awareness Month. The fair will be held at the new Fire Station #1 located at 7000 Ranger Way and is organized so that residents can enjoy a fun-filled family-friendly day of tips about healthy living and home fire safety. There will be local businesses, hospitals, charitable organizations and city departments on hand to offer information and giveaway items and tours of the new fire station will be provided. In addition, there will be entertainment for the kids including a bounce house, fire safety trailer and Kasey the Fire and Life Safety Dog show. Weather permitting, an emergency helicopter will land for tours. All residents are invited to attend.



## Ohio Utilities Protection Service - Call 811 Before You Dig



City Hall from time to time will receive calls from residents that arrive home to find flags or surface markings on or near their property. These flags/markings are used to indicate the location and route of buried lines in preparation for digging. The uniform color code is as follows: Red = Electric; Yellow = Gas/Oil; Orange = Communication/Cable; Blue =

Water; Green = Sewers/Drain Lines; Pink = Temporary Survey Markings; Purple = Reclaimed Water/Irrigation; White = Proposed Excavating.

If you plan to dig, the Ohio Revised Code states that “at least forty eight hours but not more than ten days before commencing excavation, the excavator shall notify the protection service of the location of the excavation site and the date on which the excavation is planned to commence.” Call Ohio Utilities Protection Service (O.U.P.S.) at 1-800-362-2764 or 8-1-1. This applies to not only excavators but residents that plan to dig or demolish any structure including post hole digging, landscaping, sign installation, etc. For more information, visit the O.U.P.S. website at: [www.oups.org](http://www.oups.org).

## StoryWalk Coming Soon to South Central Park

A StoryWalk will be a welcome addition to South Central Park and will be installed in the coming weeks along the fitness trail. A StoryWalk is an exciting way to combine physical activity with literacy. It is an innovative and enriching activity to get people of all ages outdoors walking and reading. Children's picture book pages will be mounted on frames that are then laid out along the trail inviting children, families, caregivers, teachers and others to follow along the path. The North Ridgeville Branch Library will change the book pages monthly April through November (weather permitting). This is made possible through a \$5,303 grant from North Ridgeville Heart and Sole and in partnership with the City's Parks and Recreation Department and the North Ridgeville Branch Library.



## Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers Needed



The North Ridgeville Office for Older Adults is looking for Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers. Anyone interested in spending a few hours a day delivering meals from approximately 10-11:30 AM, please call the Office for Older Adults at (440) 353-0829 or stop in the Senior Center to complete a volunteer application. Volunteer drivers are

reimbursed for the cost of mileage.





## City Ditch Maintenance

Stormwater runoff is any form of precipitation, such as rainfall, which flows across the surface of the ground. As water flows overland, it picks up fertilizer, oil, pesticides, sediment, litter, bacteria and other pollutants and carries it to the City's ditches and streams. Excessive rainfall, much like the City had experienced this past spring, increases flooding and erosion, reduces water quality, and creates costly problems to communities and their residents. Unlike water from toilets, showers, and sinks that is filtered through a wastewater treatment facility, runoff that enters catch basins, storm sewers, roadside swales, and tributaries which does not flow through a water quality measure goes untreated into the City's ditches and streams, and eventually into Lake Erie.

Blockages of ditches and pipes are frequent causes of flooding in North Ridgeville. Over time, ditches can become overgrown with vegetation. The overgrown vegetation combined with the accumulation of sediment and trapping of debris decrease the hydraulic capacity of the channel. This can lead to flooding problems in upstream areas. In an effort to address flooding, erosion and water quality problems, the City routinely inspects ditches to ensure they are functioning as intended. A properly maintained channel will carry runoff from most storm events. On January 1, 2019, the City assessed a stormwater utility fee for all residential and commercial property owners. This fee is intended to fund inspections, maintenance, operations, and any necessary improvements to the City's stormwater system.

The Service Department is responsible for the maintenance and cleaning of roughly 75 miles of ditch lines throughout the City of North Ridgeville. The efficient operation of this vast network of ditches and streams is essential to a well-functioning stormwater management system.

Ditch maintenance generally includes the removal of overgrown vegetation and accumulated sediment and debris to maintain the optimum depth and slope of the channel to maximize its drainage capacity. Once restored to their original shape, ditches are re-seeded to stabilize the soil and minimize erosion of the embankment. Open ditches with maintained grass are preferred in order to maximize capacity and provide erosion protection as well as a natural filtration system.

Residents can help maintain a well-functioning drainage system by keeping all debris, including leaves and grass clippings, out of ditches and storm drains. As a reminder, it is illegal to dump leaves, grass clippings, litter and other debris into the drainage system or in a location, such as a roadway, where debris could be swept into the system by stormwater.

The City will only maintain ditches and streams that are identified on the City of North Ridgeville Ditch Map and that have not been incorporated into a development. If a ditch lies within an easement, then whoever the easement is deeded to is responsible for maintaining the ditch. Home Owner Associations (HOAs) are responsible for maintenance of on-site detention basins and any associated drainage easements outside of the public right of way. In all other cases, property owners are responsible for maintaining swales, yard drains, and storm sewers that reside on their private property.

If you believe a ditch or drainage pipe is clogged and creating flooding problems in your area, contact the City's Service Department at (440) 353-0814. All requests for blockages will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.



## Special Leaf Collection, October 29-November 26

Leaves may be placed at the curb in **plastic bags** beginning October 29 through November 26 on regular trash pick-up day. After November 26, leaves in plastic bags can only be left out as extra trash each month during bulk pick-up. From April through October each year, yard waste must be placed in brown yard waste bags for weekly collection.

Please call the Utilities Department at (440) 353-0841 with any questions.





## **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

- September 3, 16** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- September 4, 10** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (9/4 Route 83 and all homes east; 9/10 all homes west of Route 83).
- September 5** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock** from 8-9 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- September 27** **Spaghetti Dinner** at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost: \$7 adults, \$6 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available.
- October 4, 5** **Spookville** is a wooded ¼-mile trail that makes you feel like you are part of a horror movie set in the woods. Appropriate for all ages. The event is presented by North Ridgeville Lions Club and will take place at South Central Park from 6-9 PM. Cost is \$2 per person. Non-perishable food items will be collected to help benefit Community Care.
- October 5** **Annual Health and Safety Fair** at Fire Station #1, 7000 Ranger Way, from 10 AM-2 PM. This is a family-friendly event with tips about healthy living and home fire safety. There's entertainment for the kids including a bounce house, fire safety trailer and Kasey the Fire and Life Safety Dog show. Admission is free.
- FallFest** is a free event held from 4-6 PM at South Central Park. Families will experience fun games, food vendors, face and pumpkin painting, balloon animals, pumpkin bowling and hay rides (weather permitting).
- October 7, 21** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- October 8, 15** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (10/8 Route 83 and all homes east; 10/15 all homes west of Route 83).
- October 8** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock** from 8-9 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- October 25** **Tots Trick-or-Treat** at 1 PM at City Hall. Bring your little witches and goblins to march in a parade and receive ghoulish treats donated by city employees. This is a free event for ages up to 5 years old. Please pre-register by visiting the Parks & Recreation Department's webpage at [www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec](http://www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec).
- Spaghetti Dinner** at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost \$7 adults, \$6 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available.
- Oct. 29-Nov. 26** **Special Leaf Collection** - Leaves may be placed at the curb in plastic bags on regular trash collection days.
- October 31** **Trick-or-Treat** will be observed 6-7:30 PM – citywide.
- November 3** **Daylight Savings Time Ends**. As a reminder, turn your clocks back one hour.
- November 4** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock** from 8-9 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- November 4, 18** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- Nov. 4-Dec. 6** **Holiday Food and Toy Drive** to benefit North Ridgeville Community Care. Non-perishable food items and toys in original packaging may be dropped off at City Hall, Senior Center and Parks & Recreation Department.
- November 5** **Election Day** – Exercise your right to vote. Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM.
- November 5, 12** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (11/5 Route 83 and all homes east; 11/12 all homes west of Route 83).
- November 11** **Veterans Day** – City Hall closed in observance of the holiday.
- November 28, 29** **Thanksgiving Holiday** – City Hall closed in observance of the holiday.
- December 2, 16** **City Council Meeting** at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- December 3, 10** **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days** (12/3 Route 83 and all homes east; 12/10 all homes west of Route 83).
- December 6** **Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock** from 8-9 AM at City Hall in Council Chambers. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- December 7** **Holiday on the Ridge** is the city's kick off to the holiday season. The self-guided tour takes you to multiple craft shows, business open houses and special events. Sponsored by the North Ridgeville Visitors Bureau. **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** at South Central Park Gazebo at 5 PM. This is an annual tradition where local scouts decorate the tree, High School Choir will lead the spectators in festive songs of the season while Mayor Gillock lights the community tree.