

North Ridgeville

Community Connection

Quarterly Newsletter of the City of North Ridgeville ~ April 2012

Mayor's Message...

Many of you have asked me about Internet Cafés. We currently have eight open establishments in North Ridgeville and have applications for two others. In 2011, those that were open brought an additional \$110,000 to City coffers which helped offset the reduction in Local Government Funds from the State. Those funds were due to the annual license fee of \$5,000 per location plus \$30 a month for each machine. Income and payroll taxes will be in addition to those funds.

Currently there are two bills circulating at the State level to regulate Internet Cafés. One, which I have read, keeps the Cafés open, limits the local number in the county, does not allow alcohol to be served and places them under the jurisdiction of the Gambling Law and Casino Gaming Law. The other is still in draft status and has not yet been officially introduced. This is a very open topic with wildly varying opinions. We'll try to keep you updated as regulations of Internet Cafés develop.



David Hillenkamp
Mayor

Old Man Winter seems to have taken a break this year and our budget can use it. We have been saved from the usual winter weather which inflicts serious damage to our roadways with heaving of the surface, potholes and damage from the plows. We have used less salt and have done less plowing than in many years. This year we had reserved 4,000 tons of salt and we will only have to purchase about 3,200 tons. This will save the City \$36,000. We also saved almost \$20,000 on fuel and \$28,000 on labor for a combined savings of \$84,000. These savings will enable us to pay for enough asphalt to repave an additional one half mile of roadway. Every little bit helps!

Whenever an employee retires, I always say it is bittersweet. I'm very happy that they will be able to enjoy life more, but I hate to see them go. Sandy Hall's retirement, however, goes a lot deeper. Sandy has been with me as my Administrative Assistant from the day I first took office. Not only is she an extremely dedicated and loyal employee, but she has long been a close family friend. I will miss her immensely in the office. She has earned her retirement after 22 long years. I wish her all the best and will keep Sandy informed of all the office gossip on my back deck. Thank you for the eight plus years you gave to me directly and thank you for all of your years on behalf of the citizens of North Ridgeville.

IMPORTANT TAX REMINDER

City income tax returns are due **APRIL 17, 2012**. The Tax Office is located in City Hall at 7307 Avon Belden Road. Regular business hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Extended office hours will be Saturday, April 14, 2012 from 8:30 AM until noon. Visa and MasterCard debit/credit cards are accepted. For more information contact the Tax Department at 353-0846. A "NEW" income tax **drop box** for tax forms and payments is located in City Hall near the main entrance.



Fond Farewell



*Robin Mayda, Sandy Hall
Tissy Simon and Penny Smith*

the Mayor in good hands. My replacement is Tissy Simon, who may be a familiar face to many of you as she comes to us from the North Ridgeville City Schools. She will be great and I know you will all come to appreciate her. Penny Smith is a new member to our staff who floats all over City Hall and has quickly become an integral part of our team. Of course, Robin Mayda, who is the best co-worker ever and a dear friend, will still be here to help our residents and fellow employees. I'll see you in line at the grocery store or at the Corn Festival...

Mayor Gillock has graciously left a little space for me. By the time this newsletter arrives, I will have retired as the Mayor's Administrative Assistant. These eight years and three months have been a wonderful experience. Mayor Gillock is an extraordinary man that I respect and admire. I will be forever grateful that he brought me into his office. Safety-Service Director Jeff Armbruster originally hired me in 1990 when he was Mayor as a part-time secretary for the Boards and Commissions. Thanks, Jeff! I have made so many friends here at City Hall and those we have contact with. I almost regret leaving. That being said, I am leaving

Sandy Hall

Good Neighbor Policy

Now is a good time to remind our citizens that we need to "love thy neighbor." For instance, dog walkers should please remember to pick up after their dog when they leave a deposit in a neighbor's yard or on a tree lawn. Codified Ordinance 618.22 also requires disposal of the feces in a sanitary manner in a proper receptacle. Domestic power tools may not be used from 9 PM until 7 AM of the following day or on Sunday before the hour of 9 AM as declared in Codified Ordinance 634.01. Recreational fires must have a permit in order to burn and are available through the North Ridgeville Fire Department at 7090 Avon Belden Road. See Codified Ordinance 1620.02 for important regulations governing bonfires and container fires on the North Ridgeville city website at: www.nridgeville.org then click Links and Resources, Codified Ordinances for this information.

Swimming Pool Sanitary Sewer Credit Information

The City of North Ridgeville allows for a sanitary sewer credit based on the water consumption needed to fill a pool. According to city ordinance 1044.01 (k), there are two main requirements that must be met in order to be eligible for the sanitary sewer credit:

1. The pool must be a minimum of four feet deep.
2. The amount of water used to fill the pool must be equal to at least 80 percent of the volume needed to fill the entire pool at the time of filling.

You must call the Utilities Department prior to filling the pool and if the pool is new, supply the new pool permit number issued by the North Ridgeville Building Department along with the size of the pool and the total gallons needed to fill it. For more useful information and helpful hints about draining/filling your pool visit our website at: www.nridgeville.org/departments/utilities/swimmingpools.asp. If you have any questions, please call the Utilities Department at 353-0841.

Railroad Quiet Zone Safety Improvements

Norfolk Southern Railway's work of installing the additional gates at Race, Root and Chestnut Ridge Roads and installing circuitry upgrades to provide constant warning time at the crossings is expected to be completed during the week of March 19. The Ohio Rail Development Commission has worked out the issues they had with the federal funding for this project so the city's portion of the work can now begin. The city's contractor, Campbell Technology Corporation, expects to begin work shortly after the asphalt plants open in the second week of April. The city's contractor will install median barriers at Maddock Road and four-quadrant gates with vehicle detection systems and quiet zone beacons at Race, Root and Chestnut Ridge Roads. The asphalt roadway pavement at these crossings will be replaced after the vehicle detection system is installed. Campbell Technology plans to complete all of their work at one time in a period of two or three weeks. The current completion date required by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) is July 4, 2012.

Spring Has Sprung!

We all need to be aware of problems which may result from grass clippings being blown into the street. Grass will be washed down the storm sewers which will clog inlets and restrict the flow of the sewers resulting in street flooding. Also, please keep stacks of firewood, tree limbs and yard equipment away from the creeks, ditches and waterways. When the water rises it will take these stored items with it and we soon have a blocked waterway.

April is Safe Digging Month. Always call 811 before you dig.

Safetyville 2012

The North Ridgeville Police Department is sponsoring its annual Safetyville program. The program provides an educational setting in which children are exposed to various safety concerns and skills such as traffic, school bus, bicycle and pedestrian activity, stranger danger, 911, drug safety, gun safety and fire safety.

Safetyville is designed for children entering Kindergarten in the fall, but it is not a pre-requisite for Kindergarten. Classes are set up as one week sessions, three sessions per day, June 11-22, Monday through Friday, for one and one-half hours each day. Cost is \$25.00 per child which covers all classroom material, instruction and a Safetyville t-shirt. Payment is due upon registration.













Registrations can be completed at the North Ridgeville Police Department located at 7307 Avon Belden Road. (SR 83). All registrations are on a first come, first served basis. For more information call Sergeant Adam Freas at 327-2191.





Community Calendar



-  April 27 SPAGHETTI DINNER at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost: \$6 adults, \$5 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available. Everyone is welcome to attend!
-  April 28 LORAIN COUNTY SHRED DAY at Lorain County Solid Waste District Collection Center, 540 S. Abbe Road in Elyria, from 9 AM-noon. Free to Lorain County residents; bring photo ID to show proof of residency. Limit 5 boxes or blue bags per vehicle.
- GREEN FEST at South Central Park from 10 AM-2 PM. Free admission. For more information, visit www.nrgreenfest.org.
-  May 12 FISHING DERBY at South Central Park from 8 AM-1 PM. Open to youth ages 3-18. Derby is FREE, \$5 donation to Aluminum Cans for Burned Children will be accepted. Bring your own pole and bait.
-  May 13 MOTHER'S DAY
-  May 19 PRIDE DAY - City-wide clean-up! To volunteer, call Frank at Parks & Recreation Dept., 353-0880. Donate old computers, cell phones, flat screens and servers, behind the Senior Center, from 9 AM-noon. Proceeds from the collected items will benefit Community Care. Goodwill will also be accepting donations at this location.
- GROWERS, GARDENS AND HOMES TOUR from 9 AM-5 PM. Call the Visitor's Bureau at 327-3737 for more information.
-  May 28 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED in observance of Memorial Day.
- MEMORIAL DAY PARADE from Marc's to the Middle School at 9:45 AM. Memorial Day Ceremony at the Ranger Stadium immediately following the parade.
- SPLASH PAD at South Central Park is open from Memorial Day thru Labor Day from 10 AM-8 PM.
-  June 9 TOUCH A TRUCK at the North Ridgeville High School parking lot from 10 AM-noon. Get up close and personal with all kinds of big trucks.
-  June 17 FATHER'S DAY
-  June 20-23 CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE - contact the Visitor's Bureau at 327-3737 for details.
-  July 3 INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION - Party in the Park at Victory Park from 7-9:30 PM. **Fireworks after dark.**
-  July 4 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED in observance of Independence Day.
-  July 19 MEN'S BREAKFAST AND CAR SHOW at the Senior Center. Reservations are required, please call 353-0828.

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.

FREE SENIOR PANCAKE BREAKFAST, May 31, 9-10 AM.

LUNCH & BINGO meets every Wednesday at the Senior Center from 10 AM-2 PM.

MEN'S BREAKFAST the first and third Thursday of each month at the Senior Center from 9-10 AM.

WOMEN'S BRUNCH the fourth Thursday of each month at the Senior Center from 10:30-11:30 AM.

SUPER THURSDAY LUNCH the second Thursday of each month at the Senior Center at noon.