



Play Ball!!!



The North Ridgeville Parks and Recreation Department kicked off the 2007 City Baseball/Softball season with opening day ceremonies at the Shady Drive Complex. On hand to throw out the first pitch were Mayor Dave Gillock and Cleveland Indians greats Joe Charboneau and Len Barker. "Super Joe" Charboneau, 1980 American League Rookie of the Year, started working with the Parks and Recreation Department this year as supervisor for the youth baseball/softball program. Len Barker is best known as the only pitcher in Cleveland Indians history to pitch a perfect game. Both signed autographs and talked with players and parents. Also shown on far left, Parks and Recreation Director, Jim Spaulding.

Splish Splash

The Splash Zone project received a small set back when it was discovered the water line to the fire hydrant in the park was only a 2" line (installed back in the 50's) which had to be replaced. Along with that, the manufacturer had to back order some of the components to the park. Now, however, we are back on track and anticipate the Splash Zone being opened late this summer.

Did you Know?



The Service Department is in charge of all storm water, sewer and drinking water delivery systems inside the City Limits. They are also responsible for all paving, ditching, street cleaning, mowing, traffic lights, signs and much more. Should you have a problem with any system, please call 353-0814, or for after hours, the Police Department at 327-2191.



You can receive a sanitary sewer credit for filling your swimming pool as long as the pool is at least four feet in height and the water used is at least eighty percent of the volume needed to fill the pool. Call 353-0841 for more information. The following is a portion of Chapter 1294, Supplementary Regulations, of our North Ridgeville Codified Ordinances which govern swimming pools:

- 1) The Pool is intended and is to be used solely for the enjoyment of the occupants of the principal use of the property on which it is located.
- 2) It is not located, including any walks or paved areas or accessory structures adjacent thereto, closer than five feet to any property line of the property on which located.
- 3) A fence of at least four feet in height, but not more than five feet, and of a strength compatible with its intended use, shall be erected around the pool and be maintained at all times while the pool is filled. The fence shall have a gate which has its own lock or is capable of being secured by a lock, and it shall be kept securely locked at all times when the pool is not in use or attended by the owner or anyone using the pool with the owner's permission.

In the case of a pool elevated to a height of four feet or more, access to which is gained by a ladder or stairway, such access shall be removed or it shall be secured in such a way that no one may make entry to the pool when the pool is not in use.

North Ridgeville

Community Connection

Quarterly newsletter of the City of North Ridgeville ~ July 2007

Mayor's Message...

It is my firm belief that to help reduce or alleviate the tax burden on our residents, North Ridgeville must strive to attract new business to the City. Of course, keeping the businesses we have and helping them to develop is equally important. As our City continues to grow and prosper with new residents and demand for more Police and Fire, road maintenance and other services, we must continue to search for new revenue streams to help fund these services.



Mayor David Gillock

The last few years have been successful to a point. Last year, 34 new businesses moved to North Ridgeville. Invacare expanded into a vacant building with 200 engineering jobs before that and JBC Technologies brought 50 new jobs and continues to grow. Pizza Pan Pizza Headquarters and Zannoni Distributors will take up residence in North Ridgeville in the coming months. There are many such as Wolf Bros. Distributing, Ten-Point-O Gymnastics, Drake Transportation, Sherwin-Williams and others who help our income tax revenue.

Yet there remain large parcels such as North Ridge Plaza, the Staubach property and others that could be developed to bring needed jobs, remove some of the remaining eyesores and bring in new tax dollars. To help accomplish this goal, the administration considered hiring a full time economic development person. However, a much more cost effective alternative was to retain a real estate development firm that had the contacts, staff, and wherewithal to do the extensive traveling necessary to get North Ridgeville in front of the right people. Collier's/Osterndorf Morris Public Sector Solutions was hired to develop marketing materials, make contacts and let the business world know what North Ridgeville has to offer, which is a lot!

To date, OM PSS has developed a marketing brochure that has been distributed to all of the Fortune 500 companies, 170 Real Estate Attorneys in NE Ohio, 375 local owners and developers and 60 attendees to our recent Business Summit. It is our hope that the contacts and meetings that are now going on behind the scenes will lead to more new and desirable businesses considering North Ridgeville as the place to be. We all know that North Ridgeville is a great place to live and work, but we need to let others know how great our City is and what we have to offer. OM PSS is working hard to accomplish just that.



Summer suggestion...



With the nice weather, we are seeing more pedestrians and kids on bikes. Every year we get an increase in complaints of speeding motorists when the weather warms. This year we've added a new tool to help slow these vehicles down. Easily visible signs made of recycled material were purchased with our recycle grant money. There is a limited supply of these signs, so we will need to share them. If you would like to display one on your lawn, stop by the administration office and pick one up.

Here's the latest scoop on...

Finally, we have been able to clean up the corner of Rt. 83 and Center Ridge Road. We removed several truck loads of gravel and replaced it with topsoil in which we can grow grass. Now, if we could just get some rain, we would have a nice looking grassy area until such time that we can move forward with a clock tower or similar structure.

The Softball World project continues to move forward. Preliminary engineering should be completed the week of July 16th. Once we have a good estimate on the cost of the road, we can negotiate an agreement with the adjacent property owner to share the costs of the road. Dirt is already being brought into the site and an agreement has been signed with Softball World allowing them to go ahead and begin preparation of the fields.

Water, Water Everywhere, But N'er A Drop To Drink

Sixty percent of our body is made up of water. Seventy percent of our brain is made up of water. We must replace two quarts of water each day through the foods we eat and the liquids we drink. More than 40 percent of North American lakes, ponds, and reservoirs are impaired due to pollution. Bacteria contamination closed more beaches and prompted more health warnings for the third straight year at ocean, bay and Great Lakes beaches, confirming that our nation's beaches continue to suffer from serious water pollution. Interesting statistics!

Lake Erie, through the treatment process its water undergoes, is as good as, if not better than, any bottled water. The next time you are at the library, check any of the leading consumer magazines. Most have reported on bottled water vs. tap water. According to a poll conducted by several dozen river and watershed groups, 85 percent of the voters around the country would prefer cleaning up polluted waters to drinking bottled water.

That being said, maybe someone could explain why people will not think twice about paying \$2 for a bottle of water but will complain if their water bill goes up \$2 per month.

Recently, there was a report that someone was dumping gasoline down the storm sewer. At almost \$3 a gallon, why would someone do that? However, upon investigation, no gasoline was found. Dumping volatile liquids such as gasoline, paint cleaner, kerosene, etc. in a closed system like a sewer can create a potentially explosive situation. If you need to dispose of any volatile liquids, hold them until the next County Hazardous Waste Disposal day which is scheduled for September 29, 2007 at Grafton City Hall, 17109 Avon Belden Road, Grafton, Ohio.

As City Engineer, I would like to request that we all respect this planet that we live on by picking up after ourselves, picking up our debris and not placing it in our ditches and watercourses, picking up our pet droppings and disposing of them properly, by cleaning our septic tanks as required by the County Board of Health and then, by taking a pleasant walk in the park.

Larry Griffith, P.E.
City Engineer

Ken Carney's 17th Annual Horseshoe Tournament To Benefit The North Ridgeville Senior Center



Jeff Yager, Lorain County Engineer Ken Carney, Director of Office for Older Adults Rita Price and Mayor Dave Gillock.



Mayor Dave Gillock and Lorain County Engineer Ken Carney at last year's event.

Horseshoe enthusiasts will be joining Mayor David Gillock and County Engineer Ken Carney at the **17th Annual Ken Carney Horseshoe Tournament** taking place at the City's 33rd Annual Corn Festival. Ken Carney and Mayor Gillock will kick-off the tournament with a friendly game beginning at 12 noon on Saturday, August 11. Mayor Gillock won last year's competition and will try again to defend his title.

Everyone who enjoys playing horseshoes is encouraged to come out and play! Registration forms can be picked up at the Senior Center. Registration will also take place at the east end of the Saffeyville complex located on Bainbridge Road on Friday Aug. 10 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Late registrations will also be accepted on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until the start of the tournament at 12 noon. The entry fee is five dollars per event with all proceeds benefitting the Meals-On-Wheels program provided by the North Ridgeville Office for Older Adults (Senior Center). Singles and doubles, men and women, welcome!

"We have horseshoe players from all over the area come out to this tournament," said Mayor Gillock. "We appreciate Ken's support of the North Ridgeville Senior Center and the North Ridgeville community during Corn Fest Weekend."

The North Ridgeville Office for Older Adults has received approximately \$3,000 from Ken Carney's tournament over the last six years. "We really appreciate Ken's thoughtfulness and Mayor Gillock's participation as well as all those who come out and play at this popular tournament," said Rita Price, Director for the North Ridgeville Senior Center. "This is a great opportunity for horseshoe enthusiasts to join in the fun while helping seniors in our community."

Awards will follow immediately after the tournament. For more information or to register for individuals or teams, please contact Jeff Yager at (440) 246-1857.

Quarterly Calendar

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| August 10, 11, & 12 | 33rd Annual Corn Festival (Parade on August 12 at 2:00 p.m.) |
| Saturday September 1 | Community Care will host the Second Annual Pig Roast at the VFW Post 9871 pavilion from 5:30 to 7:00pm. |
| Sunday September 2 | The public is invited to a Party in the Park co-hosted by the Parks and Rec. Dept. and the Harvest Ridge Assembly of God from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. at South Central Park. Enjoy free hot dogs, refreshments, entertainment, children's games and FIREWORKS at 9:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday, September 19 | Senior Center Big Band Dance at DeLuca's Place in the Park |
| Friday, September 28 | Spaghetti Dinner at the Senior Center, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. |