

North Ridgeville

# Community Connection

Quarterly newsletter of the City of North Ridgeville ~ July 2008

## Mayor's Message...

The question was recently asked: "With the current apparent decrease in home values, will our property taxes go down?"

The simple answer is, "probably not", but this is a very complicated issue. Let me try to explain why.

**Taxable Value X Property Tax Rate = Property Taxes Levied**

**Taxable Value** is a function of the property's worth on the market, or *market value*. After determination of the true market value, an **assessment rate** of 35 percent is applied to the true value, to determine the *taxable value*.

When a county government, municipality or school system passes a levy, it is generally for a specific amount of money - the **Property Tax Levied**, which amount remains constant from year to year. The *actual* tax rate for that levy is calculated based on the combined aggregate market value of all property at the time of passage. Property tax rates are expressed in terms of **mills**. One mill is equal to one-tenth of one percent. Under Ohio law, to avoid a windfall of tax resulting from a subsequent increase in property values, the tax rate is recalculated annually. The new rate is the **Effective Tax Rate**. As a result, while the total market value has historically increased each year, the tax collected for that levy purpose remains approximately the same each year. In a rare year of property value decline, the opposite would occur. That is, the *effective tax rate* would increase, although not above the initial *actual* tax rate.

There are certain exceptions based upon the specific kind of levy passed and its purpose. If an individual has his or her property reassessed on a specific basis and the property is disproportionately devalued, then the property taxes may likely go down.

In Ohio, property taxes are generally the single largest source of revenues for school districts and the second largest source for municipalities, after income taxes.

North Ridgeville's current assessed valuation or "tax duplicate" is \$697,214,164 and the *actual* 2008 millage which includes voter approved levies is 71.07 mills. The *effective tax rate* or assessed millage is 52.31. In 2009, our schools will receive about 62.9 percent of the property taxes collected, the County will receive 18.8 percent and the City will receive about 18.2 percent.

This is an oversimplified explanation of the property tax structure. These are issues of inside millage vs. voted millage, reduction factors, levy purposes, special purpose levies, levy types and other considerations which complicate the explanation and calculation of property taxes. But in general, this should explain why your taxes will probably remain consistent.



*David Gillock*  
Mayor

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In the Mayor's Message for the April 2008 newsletter, the source was inadvertently left off of the 2007 Real Estate Taxes/\$100,000 Valuation information. It was from the Cleveland Plain Dealer. We apologize for the omission.

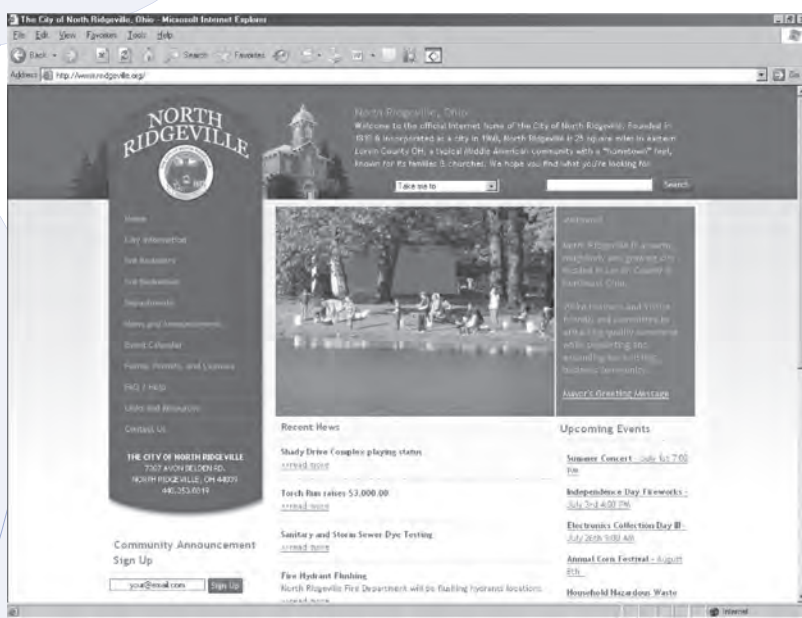
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2008 marked the beginning of a new web presence for North Ridgeville. Much thought and planning went into the process along with hard work by Computer Services Department Head, Rita Taylor, and her team. She was assisted by a committee representing various city departments. The result is not just a better looking more easily navigated site, but a site designed to remain up to date, to grow as the city grows.

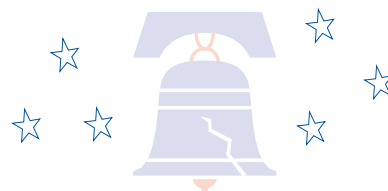
Each department has responsibility for the portion of the site that represents them. An overall guiding principle has been making the information available to our residents without a visit to City Hall or numerous phone calls. Our goal is to save time and effort for both the residents and city employees. The time we save will allow us to better serve residents that are unable to use our services on the web.

While the site is full of useful information, it is far from complete. We will be adding and updating the site on an ongoing basis. We hope to include helpful new features such as fill-in-forms in the near future. The site is located at [www.nridgeville.org](http://www.nridgeville.org). Stop by and visit!

Would you like to be a part of the new site? We're looking for pictures of North Ridgeville to use all over the website. You can submit them by e-mail to our Web Master @ [www.nridgeville.org](mailto:www.nridgeville.org). Once submitted, they are the property of the City to use as they see fit and cannot be returned. Please note your name if you would like a picture captioned with your name as submitted by.



## Memorial Day 2008



Mayor Gillock waves to the crowd from the North Ridgeville Fire Department's antique fire truck, "The Buffalo".



Mayor Gillock participates in Memorial Day Ceremonies at Ranger Stadium.



One of the many floats participating in this year's parade.

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## *Honor Our Military*

We want our soldiers to know how much we appreciate them. We have a beautiful bulletin board to display our military people, wherever they are serving. If you have a picture to share, please come by and add it to the board. If you have information to include with it, that would be great, too. Stop by during business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or ask a City Hall employee to post it. You can't miss the board when you enter. (See photo on right.)



This beautiful board was the brain-child of our retired Deputy Auditor, Donna Kiraly, and the hard work of our own Jeff Brown and Dennis Tenney. Thanks Donna, Jeff and Dennis!

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## *City Receives Old Town Hall Grant*

During this year's Capital Appropriations Bill process, Mayor Gillock worked with State Representative Matt Lundy in applying for a grant to make improvements to Old Town Hall. On June 25, 2008 the Mayor was officially notified that the City would receive a \$175,000 grant to make improvements to our City's great historical building.

The Old Town Hall was completed in 1883 and is registered as an historical landmark. With the assistance of the North Ridgeville Historical Society, a list of potential improvements was drawn up last year. It is important to the City to do what it can to preserve magnificent historical structures such as the Old Town Hall. This grant will go a long way towards preserving the building which is currently used as our City museum and our community theatre group.



The Mayor appreciates the dedication and support from State Representative Matt Lundy in this process.

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## *Senior Center Lap Robe Project*



Pictured sitting Wanda Foy, Rosaline Carameli; second row Lillian Rak, Jenny Sajetowski, Carrie Freidenstab, Hilda Howell, Ester Paxton; back row Yvonne Polvoorde, Elsa Makowski, Ann Brandt, Louise Klecan, Margaret Sigsworth; not pictured, Ralph Carameli

The North Ridgeville Senior Center Craft Group is working on a project to help patients at the Ireland Cancer Center stay comfortable and warm while receiving their treatments. These ladies and one gentleman have been working for the past year to piece together 111 lap robes which were so thankfully received! These crafters spend Mondays from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. at the Senior Center working on projects and sewing together the pieces for quilted lap robes and crocheting afghan lap robes as well. We thank the Craft Group for all their many hours of hard work, giving so generously of their time, as well as the kind folks who have graciously donated the materials used in completing these coverlets. If you are interested in joining this active craft group, contact Activities Director Shelly Sullinger at 353-0835.

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## *Quarterly Calendar*

Tuesday, August 5	Concert in the Park (South Central Park) “Cross Light”
Friday, August 8	Corn Festival, Bainbridge Road, 6-11 PM
Saturday, August 9	Corn Festival, Bainbridge Road, 12-11 PM
Sunday, August 10	Corn Festival, Bainbridge Road, 12-11 PM
Saturday, August 16	Summer Movie Night, South Central Park
Friday, September 5	2nd Annual “Night at the Races” by N. Ridgeville Seniors, Inc. & Ridgeville Firefighters’ Community Fund, Inc. Call the Senior Center at (440) 353-0856 or ask a N. Ridgeville Firefighter!
Tuesday, September 9	Concert in the Park (South Central Park), “Straight Six Dixie”
Wednesday, September 17	Senior Center Annual Big Band Dance at DeLuca’s Place in the Park, 7-10 PM
Friday, September 26	Spaghetti Dinner at the Senior Center, 5-7 PM
Saturday, October 18	SPOOKVILLE @ South Central Park
Friday, October 24	Spaghetti Dinner at the Senior Center, 5-7 PM

## *Handicapped Accessible Restroom Installed at the Root Road Soccer Complex*



A pre-cast concrete handicapped accessible restroom was delivered to the Root Road Soccer Complex in early June. This eagerly awaited addition to the Soccer Complex was funded largely through the City’s FY07 CDBG Grant, with the remainder paid for with Park & Recreation Improvement Funds. The new restrooms are anticipated to be fully operational well before the Fall Soccer Season.