

Community Connection

Quarterly Newsletter of the City of North Ridgeville ~ July 2012

Mayor's Message...

Center Ridge Road Widening Study

You should have been there! On Monday, June 25th, Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) hosted a public meeting at the North Ridgeville Education Center as part of the continuing process to widen Center Ridge Road from Lear Nagle to Stoney Ridge Road. Approximately 100 people were in attendance to view the charts, read the maps, look at the pictures and ask questions of the representatives on hand. Representatives from ODOT, Engineering Associates and the City were available to not only answer questions, but to receive input from those that were there.



Mayor St. David Hillenkamp

The biggest question at this point in the process is to determine exactly where to place the pavement. Consultants know approximately 40' of additional right-of-way will be needed to complete the improvements. Plans are to widen Center Ridge Road to five lanes with a sidewalk on the north side and a multi-use path on the south side.

Engineering Associates presented three alternatives. Alternative 1 widens the road on both sides of the pavement. Alternative 2 adds 24.5' to the south side and 15.5' to the north while Alternative 3 adds 38' to the north and 2' to the south. All three alternatives are posted on the City's website at: www.nridgeville.org or stop by City Hall, outside of the Engineering Department, to view the exhibits through August 3.

It will be up to the involved parties to review the input received at the meeting and the comment sheets that were received by ODOT to determine which of the alternatives should be pursued or tweaked to provide an even better solution.

Rest assured, planning continues and we are moving forward. After the exact path of the road is determined, the detailed design engineering work will need to be completed, EPA reviews of potentially polluted parcels, land acquisition, and a myriad of other decisions to reach the actual construction phase. The largest decision to be made will be how to fund our portion of the project. With 80% federal funding for portions of the project, the City will still have to contribute \$8-10 million of this estimated \$40+ million project.

The one constant comment that came from the meeting, even from those concerned about their own property being affected, was that widening is sorely needed and must be done.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at 353-0811. Enjoy your summer and stay cool!

Are You Planning A Garage Sale Or To Sell A Vehicle?

If you answered yes, please stop by City Hall between the hours of 8 AM and 4:30 PM to obtain a permit. The cost is \$2 per permit and limited to two each per calendar year. Garage/moving sales are to be no more than four consecutive days. Vehicle sale permits are for a period not to exceed thirty days. More information will be provided to you when obtaining your permit.



Service Department Superintendent To Retire This Summer



After serving as Service Department Superintendent since August 2008, Bill Gluvna plans to retire on August 31, 2012. Gluvna has spent his entire career serving the public – from a very young age as a pool guard to his present position as overseeing the City’s Service Department. He has served in numerous capacities in many municipalities which has served our City well. When asked what he viewed as his biggest accomplishment, Bill responded, “As the Service Department Superintendent and as part of a great administration, I have given the residents the biggest bang for their buck in a strained economy.” He went on to say, “As a resident of the City, I take great pride in maintaining our roadways. We’ve been doing more with less with shrinking revenue streams.”

Gluvna’s commitment and dedication to the City of North Ridgeville will be sorely missed. Please join the City in congratulating Bill Gluvna on his retirement.

Does Your Water Smell Or Taste Funny?

A common question arises every year as the temperatures begin to rise. “Why does my water smell or taste funny?” Summer brings higher algae counts in greater abundance on Lake Erie. One type in particular, *Ceratium hirundinella*, has a fishy or grassy taste and odor, which is very common in our area. It’s a natural occurrence and it’s very difficult to eliminate it totally. In this instance, the water’s taste and odor poses no health risks but is less appealing to the senses. Increased algae are a yearly phenomenon that occurs during the hottest months of the year. Natural phosphate and potassium fertilizers filter from the land and are joined by nitrogen in the air and higher lake temperatures. During summer, fish eat in deeper, cooler water, allowing the bacteria to grow without much reduction. Some years are worse than others and are always affected by natural conditions that exist from year to year.

Helpful Hint: You should turn off outside spigots and disconnect garden hoses when not in use. When a hose is connected and the spigot is on with water left in the hose, the sun heats up the water in the hose, promoting algae growth. The heating of the water in the hose will also cause it to expand and begin forcing water back inside the house through the inside plumbing. The water from the hose may then be siphoned back into the house when a faucet is turned on inside, thus causing the water that you just got from the faucet to have an unpleasant odor and taste.

If you have any other questions or concerns regarding your water, please call the Utilities Department at 353-0841.

Chestnut Ridge Road Reconstruction Project

The first two phases of improvements to Chestnut Ridge Road will be completed this year. The projects were bid separately, with bids due on July 16, with work expected to begin in August 2012. Phase 1 is from Bainbridge Road to Lear Nagle Road and Phase 2A is from Lear Nagle Road to approximately 2,200 feet east. The project includes repaving the driving surface with asphalt, a slight widening of the driving lanes to eleven feet wide, some sidewalk improvements and the addition of a four foot shoulder. One way traffic will be maintained during construction for both phases.

If funding becomes available, Phase 2B from 2,200 feet east of Lear Nagle Road to the county line, will be completed in 2013.

Meet Bear, The Newest Member Of The Police Department

The North Ridgeville Police Department would like to introduce you to their newest four-legged-member of the K-9 unit, Bear (pictured right). Bear is a one year old, brown eyed, Belgian Malinois, who was born in the country of the Czech Republic and hand-picked to work for the Police Department. After arriving in the United States, Bear and his K-9 handler, Patrolman Brook Stewart, trained together for ten weeks in Columbus, OH. Bear was trained to be a dual purpose dog, which means he can perform multiple tasks, some of which include drug detection, tracking, article searching, and handler protection. Bear will be replacing Duc (pictured left) who will be retiring after nine years of service to the community.



Victory Sports Park Ohio Is A Good Investment

In 2006, the City purchased 67 acres of property off Lorain Road at \$25K now known as Victory Sports Park Ohio. In 2009, the City then entered into a 25-year lease agreement with Ohio Sports Park to maintain and manage the sports complex. Since that time, it has been a win-win for the City.

This year's Independence Day Celebration, Party in the Park and fireworks were held at Victory Sports Park. In addition, the City receives 18 field hours per week from May 1-July 31 on the baseball/softball diamonds and no more than 150 hours of usage on the two international size soccer fields from April 1-May 31 and August 1-October 31.

Tony Ballachino, Athletic Director for Victory Park Ohio, reports 40 travel baseball teams use the park as their home fields; the park is home to the entire CYO West Baseball and Softball programs (over 80 teams); adult leagues in the spring, summer and fall comprised of over 300 teams; home to four travel soccer clubs; host to six girls' fast pitch tournaments, ten boys' baseball tournaments, and the 2012 Continental Cup Baseball Games. Upcoming events include Tournament of Champions Baseball, Girls' Fast Pitch Scholarship Tournament, NSA Men's Softball Ohio State Tournament Championships, Midwest Invitational Softball National Tournament and the 2013 Gaelic Football Games.

With over 300,000 visitors expected to visit the park in 2012, this will increase the traffic at our local merchants, restaurants, places of entertainment and will benefit the local economy. This agreement has been and will continue to be a win-win partnership.

Solicitor's Permit And City Employees' Identification

During the summer months, City Hall processes more requests for door-to-door solicitation permits than any other time of the year. According to U.S. Supreme Court rulings regarding free speech, cities must allow solicitors to go door-to-door. In order for a permit to be issued, a confirmation from the parent company is required along with contact information/ID for each individual that will be going door-to-door. If a solicitor approaches you, please ask to see their Solicitation Permit. If they are unable to show you a permit issued by the City, please call the Police Department at 327-2191 to report them. All door-to-door activity is restricted to the hours of 10 AM to 8 PM.

If you have a "No Soliciting" sticker on your door, and a solicitor does stop by your home, please report them to the Police Department. If you would like to place a "No Soliciting" sticker on your door like the one shown here, please stop by City Hall to pick one up. Also, if you are approached by an individual that states they are a city official, please ask to see their city-issued ID badge. All employees are required to carry their ID when conducting city business.

**NO
SOLICITING**
City of North Ridgeville
David Gillock, Mayor • Ord. 854.03 (c) (2)

Community Calendar

- ★ DAILY SPLASH PAD is open daily from 10 AM-8 PM at South Central Park through September 1. The splash pad is free and open to North Ridgeville residents only.
- ★ July 31 QUARTERLY CITY INCOME TAX (estimated) for the second quarter 2012 is due.
- ★ July 31 YARD SALE at the Senior Center from 9 AM-2 PM.
- ★ August 10-12 CORN FESTIVAL on Bainbridge Road between Root & Avon Belden Roads. Friday 6-11 PM; Opening Ceremonies at 7 PM; Golden Kernel Award 7:15 PM; Saturday 11 AM-11 PM; Sunday 12-6 PM.

BLOODMOBILE on the Corn Festival grounds, sponsored by the North Ridgeville Fire Department, Friday 5-9 PM; Saturday 1-7 PM; Sunday 1-5 PM.
- ★ August 12 CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT registration behind the Gazebo at noon; tournament at 1 PM sponsored by the Friends of the Park.

CORN FESTIVAL GRANDE PARADE at 2:00 PM down Center Ridge Road from the Marc's parking lot to the Middle School.
- ★ August 21 "DINO TO DIAMOND" summer concert with Scott Brotherton at the North Ridgeville Education Center, 5490 Mills Creek Lane, from 2-3 PM. Advance tickets are \$6 and can be purchased at the Senior Center; \$8 at the door.
- ★ September 3 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED in observance of Labor Day.
- ★ September 19 BIG BAND DANCE at DeLuca's Place in the Park, 6075 Middle Ridge Road in Lorain, from 7-10 PM. Tickets can be purchased at the Senior Center.
- ★ September 28 SPAGHETTI DINNER at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost: \$6 adults, \$5 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available.
- ★ October 12 & 13 SPOOKVILLE is a free special event from 7-9 PM at South Central Park. Visit the spooktacular haunted forest walk along a ¼ mile trail at a cost of \$2 per person. Spookville is presented by the North Ridgeville Lions Club.
- ★ October 13 FALL FEST is a free special event that is held from 4-6 PM at South Central Park. Come out and enjoy an interactive DJ, pumpkin painting, face painting, magic, straw fight and hay rides (weather permitting); food vendors will also be available. Sponsored by North Ridgeville Parks & Recreation.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

For up-to-date class and program information, please visit the Parks & Recreation website at: www.northridgeville.recdesk.com/recdeskportal or call 353-0860. Watch for the fall issue of the Rec Gazette in your August utility bill.

FALL COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE, registration ends August 3 or until league is full, runs for five weeks with doubleheader play; no tournament due to weather constraints. \$150 per team, \$31 umpire fee paid onsite. League will run on Friday evenings with first game starting at 6:15 PM.

FALL COED KICKBALL LEAGUE, registration ends August 3 or until league is full, runs for five weeks with doubleheader play; no tournament due to weather constraints. \$125 per team, \$21 umpire fee paid onsite. League will run on Thursday evenings with first game starting at 6:15 PM.

BELLY DANCE, beginner & intermediate classes, each session runs for six weeks at Safetyville building. Fee is \$40 resident/\$50 non-resident. Class is taught by certified instructor Alanna Schultz.

PILATES, open to all fitness levels, each session runs for six weeks at Safetyville building. Fee is \$40 resident/\$50 non-resident. Class is taught by certified instructor Jennie Pettry.

VINYASA FLOW YOGA, open to all fitness levels, each session runs for six weeks at the Senior Center. Fee is \$40 resident/\$45 non-resident. Class is taught by certified instructor Jennie Pettry.

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.*

AARP SENIOR SAFETY DRIVING CLASS, July 24 and August 28, at the Senior Center from 9 AM-1 PM.

SENIOR SELF DEFENSE, Tuesdays in August at the Senior Center from 9-10 AM.

BEREAVEMENT "New Beginning" on September 10 at the Senior Center from 11:45 AM-1 PM.

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.