

# City of North Ridgeville Mayor's Message, Summer 2019

## *Mayor's Message...*

One of the many things I'm going to miss when I retire at the end of this year as your Mayor is the collaborative efforts with the schools and scouts in educating our youth. Many of our residents may not be aware that the City hosts throughout the year numerous youngsters including college-aged students – on-site as well as at the schools.

I've highlighted below just a few examples of teaching and learning that took place in the month of May:

### **Ranger High-Tech Academy (RHTA) Project Learning Garden**

RHTA and associates from Heinen's and Dole Packaged Foods celebrated the donation of a Captain Planet Foundation Learning Garden to Ranger High-Tech Academy.



The Project Learning Garden program provides a context for multidisciplinary learning, ranging from nutrition and science to social studies, math, and language arts. It is also noted that students benefit by expanding their palates, taste-testing healthy foods, and learning about food origins; engaging in authentic science field investigations; manipulating the environment to understand math in real-life applications; recreating historical activities, and writing across all these disciplines.



Mayor Gillock with grandson and RHTA student Lincoln Gates

During the celebration of the Project Learning Garden, students harvested their crops to make a delicious salad for all to enjoy.

### **Ranger High-Tech Academy (RHTA) Studies the Environmental Effects on the City's Infrastructure**

Forty-six fourth grade students from RHTA made real-world connections on May 16th when teachers Ms. Detmar and Ms. Herbell along with the Assistant City Engineer, Christina Eavenson, took them on a field trip to observe some of the City's infrastructure that is in need of repair or replacement, in large part due to the effects of the environment.

The students observed examples of weathering and erosion from stormwater runoff, snow and ice, and wind on an asphalt street (Adele Street), a concrete street (Main Avenue), and a 100-year old stone arch bridge (Center Ridge Road Bridge over Chappell Creek); all of which are scheduled to be replaced by next year.

Ms. Eavenson also discussed the effects of new site development on the City's waterways. They reviewed how development can cause an increase in volume and velocity of the stormwater runoff which could cause a flooding problem. In order to make provisions for this, the City requires stormwater management systems like retention basins. The students also stopped at the recently constructed Academic Center to observe the new water quality and retention basins that were installed to control and filter the site's stormwater runoff before it proceeds to Robinson Ditch.



### **Academic Center Third Grade Field Trip to City Hall**

Over 320 third grade students embarked on City Hall May 17th to augment their social studies and government curriculum. Seven stations, encompassing nine city departments, were involved in the rotation schedule allowing 20 minutes with each group of students. When it was all said and done, all 320 students experienced each station and walked away with a better understanding of how city government works.

It was a great day for not only the students but for staff and employees alike! And, the Ranger Strong banner that was presented to us during their visit is now hanging proudly at City Hall.

*G. David Gillock, Mayor*

