

Where Residents Are First



Fall 2014

MAYOR'S REPORT

By Mayor Robert M. Weger

In my last City Newsletter report, I spoke with optimism about some possible "economic development projects that could prove to be very positive for our city" to include "Maple Valley Subdivision, Dunkin Donuts on Bishop Road, Clover Development on Chardon Road and possible new tenants for the Sears Building and Eaton." I am pleased to report that nearly six months later, most of these projects are well on their way, with the exception of Dunkin Donuts, which is still making its way through some planning stages. The new tenants for the Sears Building is Heritage Motorcycles - North Coast, which is a vendor for Indian and Victory brand motorcycles. "Founded in 1901, Indian Motorcycle has won the hearts of motorcyclists around the world and earned distinction as one of America's most legendary and iconic brands through unrivaled racing dominance, prowess and countless innovations and industry firsts." We look forward to welcoming them into our community (in the building formerly occupied by Sears on Bishop Road) with a grand opening very soon.

The other "possible new tenant" for Eaton has secured their property transfer and is now "Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools STREAM Academy." It is a district magnet Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STREAM) academy for students in grade 3 to 12. It is set to motivate and inspire students by promoting problem solving, investigation and questioning as learning tools. The district plans to open the school for the 2015-2016 school year with approximately 225 students. An estimated 700 students should be enrolled in the school over the next seven years. The plan is to add approximately 75 students each year until the building reaches capacity. Estimated tax revenue in 2015-2016 is \$16,600 and, with total capacity is estimated to be \$42,200. More information will be distributed to our residents over the next year as plans progress.

Even with some new businesses and building, we still experience the loss of federal, state and local funding. One item that cannot be neglected, however, is our Road Program. We must continue to repair and pave our roads to make driving safe in our community. Our Road Levy Renewal will be on the ballot in November. Our Service Superintendent has provided more facts relating to this important issue in this newsletter. Again, this is a REWEVAL of our existing Road Levy.

In closing, many of the articles found in this newsletter highlight some significant events in our community over the past few months and many Recreation events to add to your 2015 calendar. Thank you for your interest and support as we continue to make Willoughby Hills a nice place to live and work.

Robert M. Weger

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The City of Willoughby Hills

LAKE COUNTY, OHIO

COMMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

By: Ray Somich, Council President

On behalf of the elected officials who sit on our City Council, I want to share a few random thoughts, observations and facts about...

...Safety: we recently held a public safety meeting at the Community Center, and want to thank Police Chief Collins and Officer Craig Anderson for their excellent presentations. Among important information shared was that our city is very safe when comparing crimes committed here versus in our neighboring cities. The perception that we have more property or car thefts, or more physical assaults than other Lake County cities is simply not true. In fact, for many crimes, we are safer than other local cities, and this is true across our entire city. Some helpful hints: Lock your car at night. Don't leave your keys in your car when parked in the garage. Lock your doors all the time, but especially when no one is home. It is amazing how many crimes are committed because car or home doors are unlocked.

...the Roads Levy: as specified elsewhere in this newsletter, this is a very important issue for all voters to consider. With the losses of state funds and taxes paid by large companies and their employees, and reductions in real estate tax revenues, the funds obtained by the city from this levy are more critical than ever to our roads maintenance programs. If you have any questions about how these funds have been spent or will be spent in the future, please contact your councilman or the Mayor's Office.

...News from the city's westside: We are delighted that Giant Eagle and Office Max have renewed leases, American Heritage is now open, and Dunkin Donuts will break ground soon. Other land owners and businesses have completed major renovations. These businesses need our residents to make the same commitment to them that they made to our city. Please consider patronizing our city's many excellent retailers, professional services, restaurant and living options, including those on our city's westside.

...Public information requests: one of our important taxpaying citizen's rights is to make a public information request. There are times when this is very appropriate and needed. But sometimes, we need to think about the taxpayer's money that is being spent to fulfill these requests. In a recently published story from Beachwood, it was estimated that \$100,000 is spent annually in the time taken by their city employees to fulfill these requests. And this does not consider the work that is not being done because employees are busy researching and making copies. Citizens are entitled to and deserve the right to ask questions and get answers from your elected officials. But, before making an official records request, please consider if there is a way to get this information that doesn't cost so much taxpayer money or prevent our limited staff from doing their vital work. Yes, it's a citizen's right to jump off their roof, and if there is a fire it may be the best idea, but that doesn't mean that is always the best idea.

If you have a response to or questions about any of these comments, I invite you to please contact me at raysomich@willoughbyhills-oh.gov or call me at 440-567-8316. Thank you.



ADA DOORS WELCOME YOU TO WILLOUGHBY HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER

Our Community Center got a terrific present to celebrate its 10-year-old birthday! ADA doors were installed at the end of August, courtesy of a grant provided by the Community Development Block Program. Special thanks to our Lake County Commissioners for providing funding to complete this project.

The ADA doors will be a huge benefit to the visitors to the Community Center. With housing the Willoughby-Eastlake Library branch, Willoughby Hills Senior Center, and a Lake County Board of Election Polling location, many visitors will be able to take advantage of the ADA feature. This was a dream long sought by former Mayor Mort O'Ryan; we are just so sorry he is no longer with us to witness his dream becoming a reality. We hope the doors make it easier for the residents and visitors to Willoughby Hills.

ROAD LEVY RENEWAL INFORMATION

By: Mayor Robert M. Weger

On July 10, 2014, City Council voted to submit to the voters of the City of Willoughby Hills at the November 4, 2014 election, a renewal of an existing 2.5 mill levy for the construction, reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of streets, roads, bridges and the replacement and repair of necessary road equipment and machinery.

The City of Willoughby Hills has for many years been engaged in a program involving the resurfacing of the streets within the City as a part of its street maintenance program and providing for other necessary repairs to the street system. This renewal levy would be used to continue this program. Without this funding, the City will not be able to continue to patch, pave or maintain the City streets in the manner deemed appropriate by residents and motorists travelling within our city limits.

Council Clerk Victoria Savage has submitted the ballot language to the Lake County Board of Elections as follows:

"PROPOSED TAX LEVY – A RENEWAL"

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

"A renewal of an existing levy to constitute a tax for the benefit of the City of Willoughby Hills for the purpose of providing funds for general construction, reconstruction, resurfacing and repair of streets, roads, bridges, and the replacement and repair of necessary road equipment and machinery including but not limited to materials, labor & facilities at a rate not to exceed 2.5 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to 25 cents for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for five years, commencing tax year 2015, collections year 2016."

FOR THE TAX LEVY

AGAINST THE TAX LEVY

Since the beginning of my administration, the Road Levy has been utilized to purchase a mini-excavator and replace a backhoe, front end loader and three dump trucks and well as fund the following road projects:

- 2008 - Paved State Route 6 (Chardon Road); crack sealed all concrete streets
- 2009 - Paved Timberline Drive
- 2010 - Paved Route 91 (at Classic & I-90) with road widening; concrete section replaced on Maple Grove and Parsons
- 2011 - Paved Eddy Road west of Rockefeller; replaced concrete cul-de-sac on Camelot Court
- 2012 - Paved Riviera Ridge, Valley Brook Drive and Rogers Road from State Route 174 to bridge; replaced concrete cul-de-sac at Canterbury Court
- 2013 - Paved Hanna Road; Paved Maple Grove Road at I-271 Bridge; repaired concrete on Maple Grove Road; replaced concrete curb and gutter on Dodd's Hill Drive; Paved Dodd's Landing; replaced concrete section on Gatsby Lane & Kristen Ct.
- 2014 - Paved 2 sections of White Road; crack sealed Pine Valley Drive, Hanna Road, Michelle Court and River's Edge Drive to date.

With continued support through the renewal levy, I would plan to continue the concrete road repair program, pave numerous side streets and plan for completion of larger projects including Worrell Road (in cooperation with the City of Kirtland), Eddy Road between I-271 and Rockefeller and Route 91 (planned for 2016 with State funding). In addition, I feel it is important to keep up with service equipment purchases, as funds permit.

This outlines the Road Levy Renewal which will be placed on the November 2014 ballot, as well as how it has served the residents in the past and plans for future usage.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 440-946-6614.

RECREATION EVENT DATES

OCTOBER 2014

CRAFT SHOW

Saturday, October 11, 2014
10am-4pm



HALLOWEEN PARTY
Friday, October 17, 2014, 6-8pm

TRICK OR TREATING (*Door to Door*)
Friday, October 31, 2014, 6-8pm

NOVEMBER 2014



VETERANS' DAY CEREMONY

Tuesday,
November 11, 2014, 11am
Willoughby Hills Community Center
- RAIN OR SHINE!

DECEMBER 2014



WINTERFEST & CHRISTMAS CARD LANE - Fill an Ambulance with Toys

Sunday, December 7, 2014, 5pm

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Saturday, December 13, 2014
8:30AM-Noon

JANUARY 2015



ART GALLERY RECEPTION
Friday, January 9, 2014
7-9pm

FEBRUARY 2015

WILLOUGHBY HILLS BOYS LEAGUE RAFFLE Tailgate Party at LaVera Party Center - February 7, 2015

MARCH 2015



ART GALLERY RECEPTION
Friday, March 6, 2015, 7-9pm



WILLOUGHBY HILLS RECREATION PANCAKE BREAKFASTS

Sunday, March 1, 2015 and
Sunday, March 8, 2015



WILLOUGHBY HILLS LIONS PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Sunday, March 15, 2015



SPRING CRAFT SHOW
Saturday, March 21, 2015



EASTER PARTY
Saturday,
March 28, 2015

MAY 2015



ART GALLERY RECEPTION
Friday, May 8, 7-9pm

JUNE 2015



CONCERT IN THE PARK
Wed, June 17, 2015



**WILLOUGHBY HILLS
CAPTAINS DAY AT
CLASSIC PARK
TBA**



**HALLOWEEN PARTY
Friday, October 16, 2015**

JULY 2015



**SAFETY TOWN
July 6-10, 2015**



**ART GALLERY RECEPTION
Friday, July 10, 7-9pm**



**CONCERT IN THE PARK
Wed, July 15, 2015**

AUGUST 2015



**GARAGE SALE DAY IN
WILLOUGHBY HILLS
Saturday, August 8, 2015**



**CONCERT IN THE PARK
Wed, August 19, 2015**



**TOUCH A TRUCK
Saturday, August 22, 2015**

SEPTEMBER 2015



**ART GALLERY RECEPTION
(QUILT EXHIBIT)
Friday, September 4, 7-9pm**

OCTOBER 2015

**CRAFT SHOW
Saturday, October 10, 2015**

NOVEMBER 2015



**ART GALLERY RECEPTION
Friday, November 6, 7-9pm**

DECEMBER 2015



**WINTER FEST AND
CHRISTMAS CARD LANE
Sunday, December 6, 2015**



**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Saturday, December 12, 2015**

All events are subject to change.

*Visit our website at www.willoughbyhills-oh.gov
for up-to-date information and news
about all of these events.*



**ELECTION 2014
MAYOR ROBERT WEGER**

R F A C R E N E W A L A
D E M O C R A T V P P L
E T D E A I C D O L L E
T A N I L S I L T E I O
A D E N S P L N E N S N
R I N A I S B T N P E E
O D P P G N U A E A R I
T N E D N E P E D N I A
C A T T S R E N N I W F
E C E N S L R L E I A N
L I E T D T O A G I N N
E E T N E S B A L L O T

ABSENTEE
BALLOT
CANDIDATE
DEMOCRAT
ELECTORATE
FAIL
INDEPENDENT
ISSUE
PASS
POLLS
RENEWAL
REPUBLICAN
SIGNS
VOTE
WINNER

WILLOUGHBY HILLS MOURNS THE LOSS OF FOUR YOUNG MEN

By: Mayor Robert M. Weger

I have found over the past years as Mayor, there are often Mayoral tasks that are difficult. Such was the case when I sat down to write condolence letters to the families of four young men who lost their lives in Willoughby Hills on the night of August 25, 2014, when they perished in a plane crash that originated from Cuyahoga County Airport. These were four young Case Western Reserve University students who had their whole lives ahead of them. As I wrote the letters to the families of Michael Felten, Lucas Vincent Marcelli, Abraham Pishevar and John Hill, I struggled to find the right words to comfort them at this difficult time. Letting them know how many people in our community have the young men in their thoughts and prayers was the best approach, I thought, to console them as they grieve. Please join me in continuing to keep these fine families in your thoughts and prayers. I thought this verse was most appropriate for the sadness this event brought to our community as well (author unknown):

*The blow was great, the shock severe,
We little thought the end was near.
And only those who have lost can tell
The pain of parting without farewell.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone.
A part of us went with you,
The day you were called home.
Nothing can ever take away,
The love a heart holds dear.
Fond memories linger every day,
Remembrance keeps you near.*

ELECTION 2014
MAYOR ROBERT WEGER



ABSENTEE
BALLOT
CANDIDATE
DEMOCRAT
ELECTORATE
FAIL
INDEPENDENT
ISSUE
PASS
POLLS
RENEWAL
REPUBLICAN
SIGNS
VOTE
WINNER

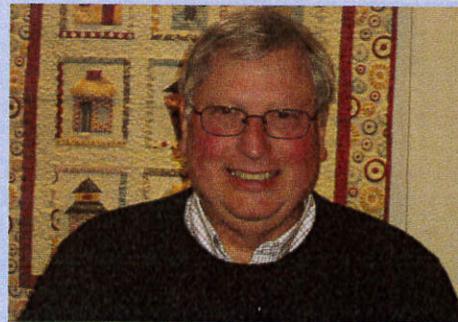
CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

Nine members of Willoughby Hills were selected by Mayor Weger and confirmed by City Council to review our City Charter. These members include:

Andy Gardner, Chairman
W. Jim Walsh, Vice Chairman
Stephen Atkins, DDS
Joyce Grady
C. J. Latsa
Judy Shrefler
Sandy Taddeo
Tanya Taylor-Draper
Jerry Wolanin

This group of individuals met for several weeks to discuss potential changes to our Charter. The September 2 deadline, as required by our Charter to adhere to Lake County Board of Elections provisions, came too soon for this Commission to submit any ballot issues for the 2014 election. They worked tirelessly to get to the root of many issues, but were not quite ready to submit ballot issues for our voters. It is now the hope of this Commission to be reappointed by Mayor Weger and reconfirmed by City Council after January 1st. They will then continue their work to prepare ballot issues for November 2015. Charter Review Commission meetings are open to the public and the residents of Willoughby Hills are encouraged to voice their opinions and/or concerns directly to the Commission at their meetings. Please check the City website for future Charter Review Commission meetings after the first of the year.

Mayor Weger commends these nine individuals for their hard work and looks forward to them completing their work in 2015.



**SPECIAL
THANKS
TO
JOHN
DAVIS**

JOHN DAVIS, ART GALLERY CURATOR

Special thanks to Mr. John Davis who served as our Art Gallery Curator since it began at Willoughby Hills Community Center. John had the vision to hang beautiful art on the plain walls and truly brought the foyer of the Community Center to life. Every other month, John would work with artists and photographers to offer them a place to showcase their talent. Over the years, we have been able to enjoy thousands of art pieces through the hard work of John Davis. John has recently stepped down as the curator due to personal and health issues, but promises to come back to enjoy the new shows at the gallery. John did an outstanding job for us and we will be forever grateful to him for establishing such a fine art gallery in the City of Willoughby Hills.

RESIDENTS WEIGH IN ON OFFICIAL GARAGE SALE DAY IN WILLOUGHBY HILLS

After proclaiming Saturday, August 9, 2014, as the "Official Garage Sale Day in Willoughby Hills", the Recreation Department could hardly keep up with the residents wanting to be a part of this new concept for 2014. The idea was to let the residents have their garage sales at their homes, rather than bringing all of their garage sale goods up to Campbell Park, as had been done in the past. Once they registered their garage sale address with the Recreation Department, they were put on a list which served as a shopper's guide for the many households that participated. Nearly one hundred residents signed up and many more "jumped on the band wagon" when they knew they could have a successful sale because the City had promoted their sale, along with many of their neighbors' sales.

The weather on August 9th turned out to be the perfect garage sale weather. With residents putting up their signs to direct shoppers, the turnout was fantastic. It was nice to see neighbors visiting with neighbors, too.

Thanks to all of the residents who responded so positively to this Recreation event. Here are some of the nice comments submitted by our participants:

Joyce Dale – "Thank you so much for a fantastic sale! The traffic was wonderful! I hope this becomes an annual event! Thank you again for thinking of it and doing it!"

Debbie Williams – "Thank you so much for organizing this! Great job!"

John Fiediga – "Started on Friday with great turn out. Good luck everyone!"

We will plan to make this an annual event. It's not too early to start putting your treasures aside for Saturday, August 8, 2015!!!

VOTING INFORMATION

GENERAL ELECTION: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014
POLLS HOURS: 6:30 A.M. TO 7:30 P.M.

POLLING LOCATIONS:

- 1) **IF YOU LIVE EAST OF ROCKEFELLER:**
Willoughby Hills Community Center, 35400 Chardon Rd.
District 1, Precincts AA, BB / District 3, Precincts EE, FF
- 2) **IF YOU LIVE WEST OF ROCKEFELLER:**
Calvary Assembly of God Church, 28870 Chardon Rd.
District 2, Precincts CC, DD
- 3) **IF YOU ARE A PINE RIDGE APARTMENT RESIDENT:**
Pine Ridge Apartments, 2255 Par Lane
District 3, Precinct GG

If you are unsure as to the location at which you should vote and for all other election and voting questions, please see www.lakeelections.com or call 440-350-2700.

ABSENTEE VOTING:

- Absentee voting begins in the Lake County Board of Election Office on October 7, 2014 and ends November 3, 2014, at 2:00 p.m.
- Absentee voting by mail begins Oct. 7, 2014 and ends Nov. 3, 2014.
- Voter registration forms are available at the Lake County Board of Elections website, or the City Hall kiosk, or by calling Mayor Weger's office at 440-946-6614.

POLL WORKERS NEEDED:

The Lake County Board of Elections is seeking workers for the polls on Election Day. If you are interested, please contact them at 440-350-2700.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Council President, At-Large III Raymond C. Somich | 440-567-8316 |
| Council Vice President, At-Large II Nancy E. Fellows | 216-952-3044 |
| Council-at-Large I Christopher L. Biro | 440-944-7470 |
| Council-at-Large III David M. Fiebig | 440-585-4433 |
| Council-at-Large IV John Plecnik | 440-382-9978 |
| Council, District 1 Frank A. Germano | 440-221-9923 |
| Council, District III Christopher Hallum | 440-840-6710 |
| Clerk of Council Victoria A. Savage | 440-975-3541 |
| Fire/Police Emergency | 911 |
| Fire Dept. – Non Emergency | 440-942-7207 |
| Police Dept. – Non Emergency | 440-942-9111 |
| Mayor's Court – WH only | 440-942-5050 |
| Recreation Dept. | 440-975-3540 |
| Fax | 440-918-8748 |
| Building & Zoning Dept. | 440-975-3550 |
| Service Dept. | 440-918-8740 |
| Mayor's Office | 440-946-6614 |
| City Hall – Main Number | 440-946-1234 |
| Fax | 440-975-3533 |
| Willoughby Hills Library | 440-942-3362 |
| Willoughby Hills Seniors | 440-951-1826 |



CLOVER SENIOR APARTMENT COMMUNITY COMES TO WILLOUGHBY HILLS

Conveniently located at the corner of SOM Center and Chardon Road, Clover Senior Apartment Community will soon offer affordable, high-quality senior (55+) living options. The facility will consist of 113 one and two bedroom apartments. There is a spacious community room, library and workout facilities. Covered garage spaces are available. Set to open in Spring/Summer 2015, inquiries regarding this housing should be made to: info@clovergroupinc.com or by calling (716) 688-4503. We look forward to the official ribbon cutting of this new development for senior living.



The City of Willoughby Hills

35405 Chardon Road
Willoughby Hills, Ohio 44094

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Willoughby, Ohio
PERMIT #221

Residential Customer
Willoughby Hills, Ohio

FALL CORNFEST 2014 RECAP

By: Gloria Majeski

The Fall Corn Fest Committee had decided to change things up a bit this year and, instead of the two-day festival, provide a Summer Concert Series for our residents.

The first of three concerts was held on Wednesday, June 18, 2014, and featured "Prime Time Big Band." While the rain necessitated having the concert inside the Community Center rather than outside in the Gazebo, many came to listen to the big band sounds of Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Count Basie, Frank Sinatra, Benny Goodman, Neil Diamond tunes and much more. This 18-piece band consists of area musicians who were formerly known as the "Richmond Heights Community Big Band" and has been playing in the Cleveland area since 1976. They were very entertaining and put on a great concert. Chris's Ice Cream Treats provided a cool treat to the concert goers, despite the rainy weather outside.



The second of three concerts was scheduled for Saturday, July 19, 2014, and was intended to be held at the Shoppes of Willoughby Hills. A great line up of activity was planned, including inflatables, music by "730 Club Band", fireworks, and a classic car show. At 3:00 p.m. we made the call to cancel the event when the torrential rains began. Councilman Ray Somich was particularly disappointed that this event was cancelled as he truly wanted to bring the entertainment and festivities to our residents on the west end of our community. We hope we can reschedule something to include the West End and the "730 Club Band" in the future.

The third and final concert was held on Wednesday, August 20, 2014, and provided the weather we had been waiting for all summer! Tommy Steele Band provided the country music and Stewart's Smokin' BBQ provided delicious sandwiches and dinners. Our Corn Fest Committee roasted fresh sweet corn on the grill. Neighbors were able to visit with each other as the weather provided excellent temperatures to be outside. Marcum Boulevard Resident Ron Ilc was the lucky winner of our 50/50 drawing. Our newest Willoughby Hills business, American Heritage Motorcycle - Northcoast brought an Indian and a Victory motorcycle to the event to showcase their presence in our community. The night ended with a spectacular fireworks display and lit up the skies of Willoughby Hills.

Thanks to all who attended our concerts. We hope you enjoyed yourself and found the evening to be entertaining. We did our best, despite the weather. We hope Mother Nature is good to us in the future with our Summer Concert Series event.

BASKETBALL SIGN UPS

By Tom Elliott, Basketball Commissioner, WHBL

Sign ups are currently underway for our 2014-2015 Willoughby Hills Basketball Program. Applications are being taken through October 25th. Practices will begin in November and will be held at Edison Elementary School. Children must be ages Kindergarten through 6th Grade. Cost is \$50 per child or \$100 per family. Applications are available at Willoughby Hills City Hall or online at www.whblsports.com. Questions may be directed to Tom Elliott at whbbldirector@gmail.com. Please join us for a great season!