

MAYOR'S REPORT MARCH 2013

The pancake breakfasts in Willoughby Hills used to be a sign that spring was just around the corner. The three breakfasts came and went and we are still experiencing some very cold weather. Unfortunately, our snow plows had a real work out this winter, using more salt than we originally anticipated. Now we have the challenge of repairing some of the roads that did not fair the winter weather well. Please make sure to call our Service Department at 440-975-3550 to report any unsafe road condition and the Service Department will make the necessary repairs.

One of the projects that has begun now that the weather seems to have been getting a little better is our Veterans Memorial Park. This project, the vision of Council President Dave Reichelt, will be located immediately adjacent to its existing Veterans Memorial on Chardon Road. It will consist of an amphitheater-style venue, with a gazebo-type stage and benches for attendee seating. The City views this construction as a welcome addition for the ceremonies held on Memorial Day and Veterans Day to honor our servicemen and women. In the past, attendees would be required to bring their own lawn chairs and then seat themselves in the driveway area leading to the memorial. This situation presented a safety issue with cars wanting to get in and out of the driveway when attendees were trying to enjoy the event. In addition, the acoustics were compromised with the traffic noise when speakers were at the podium. The cost to construct the facility is estimated to be approximately \$30,000 and will be funded by sponsorship donations and final revenues received from inheritance taxes. All revenues received will be used exclusively for the construction of the facility and sponsors will be recognized on permanent markers at the facility. There are plenty of opportunities, including benches, flower pots and other items that are available for sponsorship that will guarantee your posterity in the City of Willoughby Hills. Don't miss this opportunity to become a part of the community's history. While you will see construction of this project already beginning, opening date for the Veterans Memorial Park will most likely be for the November 11, 2013, Veterans Day Ceremony. If weather is unusually kind to us and we are able to get all of the necessary pieces in place, there is a chance it may be available for the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 27, 2013. We will make sure to give our residents plenty of notice as this project progresses.

We look forward to spring arriving very soon in Willoughby Hills!