



The ^{WH} Village Voice

October 2014, Issue 8

From the Office of the Mayor...



Dear Waite Hill Residents,

Hello. Hope all of you had a safe and enjoyable summer. There are many happenings in the Village, with some of the more noteworthy noted below.

Road Program

These past few months saw extensive work to our roads. We repaved Gardenside Drive in its entirety and substantial sections of Metcalf Road and Smith Road. In addition, there were extensive repairs performed on all roads in the Village.

Our road replacement and repair program was revamped about six years ago. At that time we developed a 15-year schedule for projected repairs and replacements in an effort to better plan for and budget for future needs. That schedule is reviewed and revised annually by our Service Department based on changing conditions, with the overall goal of extending the useful lives of our roads for as long as possible.

As we all know, this past winter was particularly harsh and all area roads suffered the effects. That required some adjustments to our schedule and projected repairs in future years. It is an ongoing process led by the Service Department, and one which we try to manage closely and carefully.

Service Department

Mike McClain has recently been promoted to Director of the Service Department. Mike has been the acting Service Director on a probationary basis since December. Since then he oversaw and successfully managed a myriad of challenges and activities during his probationary period (many of which are discussed in this newsletter) and earned the trust and confidence of Council, the Administration and me. Please congratulate him.

On a separate note, and as Mike previously communicated, the Service Department cannot accept any construction or remodeling materials (boards, plywood, drywall, shingles, fencing, etc.) on extra pickup Thursdays. The Service Department will continue to remove old appliances, mattresses, box springs and similar items. If you have any questions about the policy, please call the Service Department at (440) 942-2074 and they will answer your questions.

Office of the Mayor continued on page 3

The WH Village Voice is published quarterly for the residents of Waite Hill Village by Village Council. It is also available online at www.waitehilloh.gov. Please submit any updates on births, deaths, weddings and other news to share with fellow residents to villagevoice@waitehilloh.gov or by mail at 7215 Eagle Road, Attn: Village Voice.

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Updates from the Service Department

Summer is officially behind us and we all know what comes next ... Many leaves to clean up and then the cold and snow returns. As many of you have probably seen on the news or read in the paper, road salt prices have QUADRUPLED this year. The Service Department will continue to ensure roads are safe for travel. To this end, we recently took possession of our new International

plow truck. Stop by the garage at the Service Department to take a look!

The summer paving project was completed last month and we thank you for your patience and understanding during the process. We think the paving turned out excellent and hope the residents agree. We will continue to patch areas in need around the Village when the weather

permits.

Just as a reminder, please make sure to tie your garbage bags on Friday's to avoid any trash blowing out of our trucks. Never hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns at (440) 942-2074.

Mike McClain

Welcome to Waite Hill!

Creewood Forest
Carl & Ginger Kirjak

Chapin Ledges
Paul Kicher & Allison DePaul
Pat & Colleen Perrino

Metcalf Road
Brian & Deanna Doty
Brian & Shana Zollar

Mountainview Drive
Robert & Kimberly Koeth

Rollin Road
Mike & Megan Quinn

Smith Road
Vince & Kathleen Gentiluomo

South Lane
Gregory Lovins
Stan & Nora Nemec

In Memorium...

Our deepest sympathies go out to anyone who has lost a loved one in recent months. We'd like to especially recognize members of our Waite Hill community that have passed away.

Julia Allen October 14, 2014
John Dow August 30, 2014
Terry Cameron July 22, 2014
Susan Suski June 6, 2014

The Waite Hill Police Beat

Hello to all Residents!

I will be communicating a newsletter each month so each of you are up to date with what is going on within the police department as well as with the community. I will include information about criminal activity, hopefully none that is taking place here, but activity that may be happening within our surrounding communities. For the most up to date information, please go to www.waitehilloh.gov.

Deer season is here! We have already seen many deer on the move throughout the Village. Unfortunately, the deer are not too traffic "saavy" and think they own the roads. So please be extra careful when driving. While such deer-involved crashes can occur anytime, most mishaps happen between the hours of 5pm - 10pm and 5am - 8am. This occurs because deer are "crepuscular", meaning they are most active at dawn and dusk. Defensive driving is the best way to avoid hitting these animals. Please be particularly cautious at dusk and dawn when deer are the most active.



The school year is in full swing and our mornings can be quite dark outside during the winter months. Please be aware of children at bus stops. When you are heading out to work in the mornings, be aware of bus activity and children crossing the roads.

Drivers should maintain a safe distance when driving behind school buses and be aware that the yellow flashing lights mean the bus is coming to a stop, while red flashing lights mean children are getting on and off that big yellow taxi.

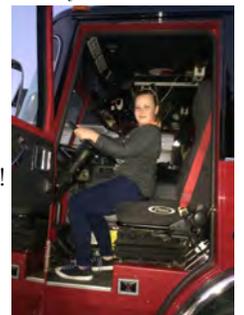


Thank you to everyone that came out for the Annual Halloween Celebration. The turnout was great and the weather was beautiful. Special thanks to Gardenside Road resident Tim Serazin for bring the Willoughby Hills Ladder truck for the children to try a turn behind the wheel. If you have ideas for improving the celebration, we would like to hear from you. Send us an email at villagevoice@waitehill.gov.

The Waite Hill Village Police Department, as always, looks forward to serving the community. Your safety and security is always our concern!

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. DeWitt, Chief of Police



Village Update from the Mayor continued

Finances

Like all municipalities, our financial position continues to be challenging. As much as I dislike droning on about this topic, it is important for all to recognize that the Village faces real long-term challenges in its financial paradigm. It is not an exaggeration when I say that we work on those challenges continuously. We projected a deficit in operations for the current year (even with the added revenues from the new tax levy) and our projections look to be pretty accurate. We will analyze our operations once the year is completed and report to you early next year.

On a separate front, we also have a small group of individuals working diligently on long-term funding options that could serve as a substitute for our Capital Fund. The Capital Fund has historically paid for capital improvements around the Village. Its revenues came almost exclusively from the Ohio estate tax which was recently repealed. So instead of a replenishing fund balance, we are now faced with an eroding balance. This is not a challenge unique to Waite Hill, as every municipality will be impacted. At the same time, Waite Hill will disproportionately feel its impact because unlike virtually all other municipalities, Waite Hill has no businesses or income taxes to help fund operations. This is a characteristic which makes the Village unique and, at the same time, exponentially challenged.

New Police Officer

Curtis Rice was sworn in as our newest part-time police officer in August. You can read more about him below. Please give him a warm welcome when you see him.

New Residences

Believe it or not, eight new residences in the Village have been built and occupied within the past two years.

Erosion Issues

The summer also saw some severe storms and storm damage. We experienced significant erosion issues on Waite Hill Road and Metcalf Road which are being evaluated by the Village Engineer.

We are also working on a slope stabilization project for a section of Metcalf Road where the base of a section of the road has eroded over a period of time and needs to be reinforced. We have submitted an application and are hopeful that a significant portion of the work will be covered by State funding.

Bridge Outage

All bridges within the Village are inspected annually by the Lake County Engineer's office. Recently we learned that the supporting plate of the Markell Road bridge was distressed and required repairs, which necessitated a closing of the bridge for a short period. The repairs were successfully completed and the bridge reopened with a reduced 18-ton capacity.

Village Website

Remember to stay on top of all Village happenings by visiting our website, www.waitehilloh.gov.

Please do not hesitate to call Village Hall or e-mail us with any questions, comments or concerns that you have. As always, we will do our best to address them. Again, thank you for your time and interest.

Very truly yours,

Bob Ranallo

Robert A. Ranallo

Village Meeting Schedule:
(all meetings held at Village Hall)

Council Meeting
2nd Monday of every month
8:00 am

Planning and Zoning Meeting
4th Monday of every month
8:00 am

WH Welcomes a New Officer

Waite Hill welcomes Officer Curtis Rice to the Village! He is a native to Lake County and currently resides in Kirtland. Officer Rice graduated from Kirtland High School in 2009 where he captained both his cross country and track teams. Receiving his OPOTA certification in 2014 from Kent State University, Officer Rice earned the rank of squad leader. He joined the Waite Hill Department in August 2014 and looks forward to meeting all of the residents he will be serving in this community. When not on duty, Officer Rice enjoys playing hockey and any outdoor activity.



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-  Council Meeting 8am
-  Planning and Zoning Meeting 8am
-  Trash Only
-  Trash and Recycle
-  Extra Pick-ups
-  Thanksgiving
-  Christmas
-  New Year's Day

JANUARY

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