

Community Update

Spring 2011



Come and Enjoy Our Parks

The City of Riverside welcomes and encourages everyone to visit our parks for year round fun! The City has several parks throughout the community: Community, Drennen, Pheasant, Rohrer and Shellabarger. Each park offers different activities for every season of the year; whether it is organized sports, playing on the playground equipment or just a leisurely stroll on the walking paths; our parks offer something

for everyone. Picnic shelters are available at Rohrer, Community and Shellabarger and can be reserved by contacting the Service Department, 233-1801 or submitting a reservation online at www.riverside.oh.us To ensure continued enjoyment of our parks, we ask that you contact the Service Department at 233-1801 in the event you notice damage to equipment or an overflow of trash and debris.

Page Manor Remains Open for Business

Despite the recent fire which damaged the Page Manor Shopping Center, several businesses in the Center were untouched by the fire and remain open for business. Dollar General, Wing Zone, Subway, The Game Haven and the Greek Isle Deli all remain open for business under their normal hours of operation. All of these businesses are also making arrangements to continue regular operations when the reconstruction

of the Page Manor Shopping Center gets under way later this summer.

H & R Block, which did receive some minor damage as a result of the fire, is in the process of reconstruction and will be opening again soon. Anyone in need of services provided by H & R Block are asked to contact their Smithville Rd. office at 252-3152.

To the Citizens & Businesses of Riverside:

2010 has come and gone and we now begin our journey through 2011. As we all travel through this year in different directions, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you City Council's direction for this community and what we here at City Hall are doing to in furtherance of that direction.

The condition of our current economy has had far reaching effects on many of us and Riverside City Hall is no exception. With regional unemployment rates in double digits and property values slowly declining, revenues to the City have also declined. Thanks to conservative budgeting practices over the last few years, Riverside has been able to absorb the impacts of declining revenues without affecting the services delivered to you through reductions in staff or services. And while we at City Hall continue to find ways to trim our operational expenses, our financial future remains cloudy as we wait to see how the State's up-coming biennial budget will impact Riverside.

Community development also remains a focus for City Council in 2011. Late this spring, the City will complete the razing of 8 blighted and abandoned homes throughout the City. In early summer, the City will begin the clean-up of Lums Mobile Home Park by having 34 abandoned trailers removed. The City is also working to have 14 additional abandoned properties slated for demolition later this year. All these efforts have been funded without local tax dollars through the Federal Community Development Block Grant Program.

Economic development efforts continue to bring positive results to Riverside. Council has recently contracted with Forest City for a comprehensive master development plan of the Center of Flight. Progress also continues with the redevelopment of Airway Shopping Center and the Riverside Village Project in the Wright Point Office Park area. And finally, the Planning Commission and City Council will soon be considering comprehensive changes to the City's zoning codes to help facilitate a more development friendly environment.

Despite these trying economic times, there still remains so many opportunities for us to be excited about in the months ahead. And while there is so much more planned for 2011, I hope that this summary of Riverside's notable endeavors will provide you the confidence to know that City Hall remains diligent in working to improve our City for all its residents and businesses.

Respectfully,
Bryan RH Chodkowski,
City Manager



Spring Cleaning and Fire Safety

As the weather warms and the season moves into spring, it gives us the opportunity to clean, organize and discard those things we no longer need. Done properly, spring cleaning can also improve the safety of your home and family in the event of a fire. Although the clutter does not start fires, it becomes fuel for fires. More fuel makes fires more difficult for your local fire department to extinguish. Clutter may also make it difficult for those in your home to escape if a fire breaks out.

When cleaning the yard of fallen limbs and brush, there are some important things for you to know. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has "Open Burning" regulations that restrict the burning of yard waste. Visit www.rapca.org for more information and links about open burning. It is best to properly bundle brush and tree debris in order to be removed by a scheduled Bulk Pick-Up. In order for your brush and tree debris to be removed through the City's waste collection service, you must follow these guidelines:

- ▶ **Cut into lengths between four and five feet**
- ▶ **Be bundled, with no bundle weighing more than 25 pounds**
- ▶ **Not contain limbs or stumps larger than 18 inches in diameter**
- ▶ **Schedule Bulk Pick-up through City of Dayton Waste Collection Service Center (333-4800)**

When cleaning your garage, shed or basement, you will probably come across paint or chemicals. Properly store those chemicals that need to be secured from children. Paints or other hazardous materials that are old or no longer needed should be safely discarded. Visit the Montgomery County Solid Waste District web site at www.mcswd.org for a list of hazardous waste or recycling that can be dropped off at their facilities.

One of the best things you can always do for the safety of your home is to install smoke detectors. Make sure there is at least one on each level of your home, check them monthly, and change the batteries in them once a year.

Roadway Surface Repairs

Winter weather is extremely hard on roadway surfaces and the Services Department has been working to repair those pot holes with cold patch black top. This type of repair is temporary until a more permanent pavement repair can be made in the Spring. If you notice a pot hole, please notify the Public Services Department of the specific location. You may call 233-1801 or email at servicedept@riverside.oh.us.



Code Enforcement

The City will begin active enforcement of its zoning and property maintenance codes in April. Please remember that all properties shall be maintained by mowing the grass and keeping it free of debris. Should the owner of the property fail to comply, any cost incurred by the City in establishing ordinance compliance will be assessed to the property owner found in violation for the taxable year.

The City also prohibits the outdoor storage of items like wood, lumber, building materials, and debris as well as the parking of inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicles such as cars, trucks, busses, trailers and boats. An inoperative vehicle is defined as any vehicle that is not registered or properly licensed, is in disrepair,

does not have fully inflated tires or has any type of support under it, substantially damaged or missing windows, doors, transmission, or other major parts, and the vehicle cannot be lawfully operated upon any public street or public water course. As the active enforcement cycle begins for the City, please ensure that your yard is free of any such items. Firewood that is stacked in a compact and orderly fashion within the side or rear yard of a property and is limited to amounts intended for use by the property occupant in the current or upcoming heating season is exempt, provided that such storage is compliant to all fire regulations. If you are unsure as to whether you may be in violation of an ordinance of the City, please contact 233-1801.

Income Tax Due April 18

City income tax returns are due by April 18, 2011 to the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) for all City residents with current earnings. If you do not have taxable income to report, you may file a declaration of exemption for the tax year. If you move during the year, you must file a return for the period that you lived in Riverside. Riverside taxes wages, commissions, bonuses, earnings from self employment, rental income, and gambling winnings. Investment earnings, pensions, social security, unemploy-

ment, and workers compensation payments are not taxed. Riverside allows a tax credit up to the amount of the Riverside tax (1.5%) on income that has already been taxed by a workplace city. Be sure to attach your W-2 showing the tax paid. Tax forms are available at the Municipal Building or online at R.I.T.A.'s website, www.ritaohio.com. You may also electronically file your return through the R.I.T.A. website.



Spring Safety Bike Rodeos

The Riverside Health and Safety Commission would like to invite everyone to their annual Spring Safety Bike Rodeos. The Rodeos provide an opportunity for children within the community to learn how to properly wear a bicycle helmet and to practice bike safety skills. The Commission will be handing out free bike helmets, safety lights, and bicycle safety information to all the children. There will also be a drawing for a free bicycle at each Rodeo. Children must be in attendance to receive a helmet, as all helmets are personally fitted for the size of the child. The Commission handed out

approximately 200 bicycle helmets last year and looks forward to distributing more this year. Children are encouraged to bring their bikes and ride through the rodeo course.

The whole family is welcome to join us for free hot dogs, chips and drinks while learning important bike safety tips. The two Bike Rodeos are scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2011 at Beverly Gardens Elementary School, 5555 Enright Avenue and on Saturday June 4, 2011 at Rohrer Park; both from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Side Notes

Historical Society Remembers Page Manor Shopping Center

The recent unfortunate fire at the Page Manor Shopping Center has sparked the Historical Society to reminisce in the memories related to the shops, both past and present. The Historical Society is asking you to share your memories with them in order to document the history of this Shopping Center. You may either stop by their office located in the Airway Shopping Center on Tuesday or Thursday from 9:30-2:00 or e-mail any information to Riversidehistorica@yahoo.com. If you would like to contact the Historical Society, please call 937-254-1591.

Hydrant Flushing

To help ensure that fire hydrants are ready during an emergency, the Fire Department will be conducting fire hydrant inspections and flushing beginning the week of May 2nd and ending the week of May 23rd. The Fire Department will be checking hydrants between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Discoloration of water may occur as a result of the flushing of hydrants; residents are encouraged to let their water run until it is clear. If you notice the Fire Department flushing hydrants in your neighborhood, you should refrain from doing laundry or washing dishes until the inspection is complete. If residents have any questions please call the City building 233-1801.



Community Update

Spring 2011



► City Council Meetings

Council Work Sessions are held on every first and third Thursday of the month at 6pm located at 1791 Harshman Road.

Council Meetings are held on every first and third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm located at 1791 Harshman Road.

► City Administration

City Manager
Bryan R.H. Chodkowski

Director of Finance
Robert Gillian

**Director of Planning
and Economic Development**
Robert Murray

Director of Public Services
Mitch Miller

Acting Fire Chief
Robert Turner

Chief of Police
Mark Reiss

► Elected Officials

Mayor
Bill Flaute

Council Members
Beverly Campbell
Mike Denning
Steven C. Fullenkamp
Shirley Reynolds
Edward Schock
Michael Smith

VISIT US ONLINE:

www.riverside.oh.us

► Important Numbers

Waste Collection333-4800
(City of Dayton)

Water & Sewer 781-2688
(Montgomery County)

Police & Fire Dispatch225-4357

Area Two Court 496-7231

EMERGENCY 9-1-1