

July 2016

## Message From Mayor Susan Renda

Dear Resident,

As you may remember, Stan Sirk retired from the Service Department at the end of April after more than 32 years of service to the Village. I gave him a proclamation at the June Council Meeting in honor of his dedicated service. Many of you know Stan from his many years of going out of his way to help residents. We all will miss him. There was a great turnout to send him off; many residents and most of the Service Department members attended.

The Village will not fill Stan's position this year. As I explained in my letter last month, we continue to study ways to be more efficient and operate in a less costly manner, especially in light of the budget cuts we have endured from the state over the last several years. In an effort to save money, our Finance Department is currently reviewing all contracts to look for every possible cost saving. Furthermore, they are reviewing all purchasing procedures and we hope to streamline our procurement operations. I will keep you updated.

The issue regarding possible rezoning on Chagrin Blvd. west of SOM continues to work its way through the legislative process. At their last meeting, Planning Commission members considered comments made at their Public Hearing, comments and questions that were submitted in writing by residents and interested parties, and further input from the Law Director, Engineer and Planning Consultant.

They had a long, in-depth and thoughtful discussion regarding all input and made some changes to the proposed zoning chapter. Council reviewed those proposed changes at their June meeting and had no objections to them. Currently the proposed zoning amendment would allow for a density of four residential units per acre with no commercial properties. There is a requirement for 20 percent of the property to be designated as green space and for buildings to be set back at least 100 feet from Chagrin Blvd.

According to Village Engineer Jeff Filarski, the property being proposed for a rezoning referendum makes up less than one percent of all Village property (0.91 percent to be exact). As I explained in the May 2016 newsletter, the Master Plan Committee found this property to be different from most neighborhoods in Moreland Hills in that it is located in a high-traffic area, near public use properties, near the retail-business district, and near existing higher-density developments.

Furthermore, they stated that because of these unique characteristics, this area is not well suited for traditional two-acre residential development. The Master Plan Committee recommended the possibility of using Planned Unit Development (PUD) as a potential redevelopment tool for this very small and somewhat unique property.

As you know, this issue will be voted on by the residents in November. I will continue to try to keep you informed about the process.

Lastly, the Village has received numerous calls inquiring about the work at the corner of Chagrin and SOM (old Lee Road Nursery). A French Restaurant, Cru Cuisine, is being constructed there and will open in Spring 2017. To see a rendering of the restaurant, visit [www.morelandhills.com](http://www.morelandhills.com).

Enjoy the summer!

*- Mayor Susan Renda*

## Green Tip: Xeriscaping

**Xeriscaping** is a great way to have an attractive yard in spite of periods of high temperatures and drought during the summer. It encourages the use of drought-tolerant plants in creative ways in our yards – saving water, time and money spent on pesticides and fertilizers.

A wide range of drought-tolerant plants can be used instead of grass on sloping areas of your yard and along driveways and streets. In some cases, the best choice may be mulch, gravel, a rock garden, or ground cover plantings. Lists of drought-tolerant plants can be found online and are carried by local garden centers.

Amending the soil with organic compost reduces the need for fertilizers in garden beds. If soil is heavy and compacted, add grit or pea gravel to aid drainage. Perennial native plants and shrubs are usually drought-tolerant and require less maintenance than annuals.

For more information about xeriscaping, go to [www.gardenclubofohio.org](http://www.gardenclubofohio.org).

## Visit the Butterfly Garden

Please stop by Veterans Gateway Park (at the corner of SOM and Miles) to see our beautiful new Butterfly Garden, which was planted by our Service Department.

### Police Department Community Meeting

The first Police Community Meeting will be held in the Community Building at the Village complex on **Monday, August 15 at 7 p.m.** Moreland Hills police officers will provide residents with updates on recent activity in the area and discuss other pertinent topics such as frauds and scams. This also will be a great opportunity to come and get to know your Village Police Department.

#### Mayor

Susan C. Renda, [srenda@morelandhills.com](mailto:srenda@morelandhills.com)

#### Council

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#### Clerk of Council

Sherri Arrietta, [villagehall@morelandhills.com](mailto:villagehall@morelandhills.com)

## Ordinances and Resolutions

The following Ordinances & Resolutions were passed in June:

**Ordinance 2016-19** – submits the question to the electors whether the Moreland Hills Planning and Zoning Code should be amended to enact new chapter 1159, “Chagrin Northwest Residential and Planned Development Conservation District,” as well as amending the Zoning Map of the to reflect that new zoning classification district of certain parcels from U-1 Dwelling House District to U-5 Chagrin Northwest Residential and Planned Development District. **Placed on Second Reading.**

**Ordinance 2016-20** – adopts the 2016 comprehensive Land Use Plan. **Placed on Second Reading.**

**Ordinance 2016-23** – authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with Longo Sewer Construction, Inc. for the 2016 Drainage and Culvert Repair Program for an amount of \$57,000.

**Ordinance 2016-24** – amends Section 123.01 “Method of Public Notice,” of the Codified Ordinances. This will allow for information pertaining to meetings to be posted on the Village website only.

**Ordinance 2016-25** – amends Section 1151.13(p)(2) “Fences and Walls in Rear Yards, and Section 1345.02 “Fences and Walls in Rear Yards” of the Codified Ordinances. Recent applications to the BZA

suggest that the purpose of these walls is to provide bench seating, therefore the maximum height of these walls will be increased from 18 inches to 36 inches.

**Placed on First Reading.**

**Ordinance 2016-26** – amends Section 115319(b) “Open Space Requirements of Chapter 1153 “Open Space Conservation District,” of the Codified Ordinances to clarify that the conservation easement required for a residential open space conservation development is to be held by a third party (such as a land trust or other third-party entity capable of accepting such an easement). **Placed on First Reading.**

**Ordinance 2016-27** – amends Section 1157.07 “Height Requirements” of the Codified Ordinances to increase the maximum principal building height from 25 feet or 2 stories to 35 feet or 2.5 stories in the Business District, which will make the requirement in line with all Residential Districts. **Placed on First Reading.**

**Ordinance 2016-28** – a monthly financial housekeeping item.

## Kiwanis Rummage Sale

The Kiwanis Club of Lander Circle is holding its 59th Annual Rummage Sale **July 14, 15, 16, 21, 22 and 23** at the Kiwanis Barns behind the tennis courts on Gail Allison Dr. on the Orange Schools Campus.

**Thursdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-8 p.m.**

**Fridays, 5-8 p.m.**

**Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

For more information, visit:

[www.landercirclekiwanis.com/rummage-sale](http://www.landercirclekiwanis.com/rummage-sale)

## Village Street Names

Did you know that some of our Village streets are named after early settlers?

**Lander Road** - Marcellus Lander was the proprietor of a cheese factory at the SW corner of Harvard and Lander.

**Jackson Road** - Christopher Jackson owned a fine farm at SOM and Chagrin Blvd.

**Sterncrest Drive** - Robert Stern had a farm off Jackson Road. He was a Moreland Hills property developer.

The Moreland Hills Historical Society wants to learn more about the history of our streets. If you have names, photos or history to share, please contact MHHS Archivist, Sandy Cobb at [smcobb@beechmere.com](mailto:smcobb@beechmere.com) or 440.247.4392.

## Service Department Reminders

- **Fire Hydrant Flushing begins in August**
- **Village Offices Closed on 4<sup>th</sup> of July**  
(No yard waste or special pick-ups that day.)
- **Chipping Week is July 18-22**  
(Branches should be cut into 4-foot lengths, and all sticks and branches must be bundled. They cannot chip logs over 5 inches in diameter. The Service Department will chip them throughout the week, beginning at the south end of the Village. **They will not come back through a second time, as it takes them the entire week to make their way through the whole Village; therefore it is important that you have the branches stacked by the side of the road on Sunday evening, July 17.**)
- **Block Party Information**  
If you are planning a Block Party, please notify the Police and Service Departments in advance so they can see if road blocks or extra rubbish and recycle cans are needed.

Village of Moreland Hills

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