

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DANIEL FRITZ

Dear Residents,

We continue to see improvements in terms of numbers and the subtle lessening of restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Our work is not over and we strongly encourage all residents to consider one of several options available for receiving the vaccine. The recent opening of the mass vaccination site located at the Wolstein Center has many residents emailing and reaching out to my office stating that the process has been efficient and well organized. As I stated in a previous newsletter, I understand some may be hesitant. If you fall into that category I would encourage you to reach out to your personal physician. He or she can provide you with up-to-date information that is far more beneficial than one can access on social media or fringe websites. The Cuyahoga County Board of Health continues in their efforts to organize these vaccination sites and they continue to partner with local mayors in terms of messaging and updates.

I would like to thank ODNR officers Scott Denamen and Matt Madgar for taking the time to meet with residents this past month. Over 50 residents attended our Zoom meeting on coyotes. The Village has made the recording available on our Facebook page and Village website. Additionally, the Village has purchased multiple copies of suggested reading material that these officers highly recommend. A copy of "Coyote America" by Dan Flores can be loaned out to any resident by contacting Sherri at Village Hall 440.248.1188. In the end, the officers explained that coyotes are here to stay. They are present in all of Ohio's 88 counties. In fact, coyotes are present in many major cities including Central Park in New York City. While these animals rarely pose a danger to humans, they can pose a danger to small pets. This behavior is more frequent during the mating and birthing season which runs from January through March. There are some steps that can be taken to reduce the likelihood that these animals maintain a presence in one's

yard. In addition to the Zoom recording, we have compiled a written summary that you may find useful. This summary can be found on our website and a shortened version is provided in this newsletter. A reminder that it is not permissible to hunt these animals in our Village and that the discharge of a firearm is strictly prohibited anywhere in the Village.

Members of our Parks Commission, chaired by resident Bill Janke, recently had an opportunity to review plans for our new pavilion at Forest Ridge. Commission members had some wonderful input and the conceptual drawing will now move to our Facilities Committee where further input will be collected. We are excited at the potential for community gatherings at this location and will continue to keep you all updated as developments take place.

I would like to welcome two new members to the Village's Green Commission. Residents Carol Feltoon and Jennette Irish Glass were recently sworn in. They will help to further our efforts associated with proper recycling, composting, community events and other environmental issues. This Commission continues to help us reach our goal of being the leader in environmental stewardship.

Lastly, the recent passage of our 2021 budget has some aggressive goals associated with our Road Program. This year we will be spending \$1,055,100 on road improvements. We will also be bidding out repairs on the two main retaining walls in our Village located at Miles and Bentleyville Roads and on upper Giles. I would like to thank members of Village Council for all of their hard work related to the passage of our budget. I would also like to thank our Village Treasurer Prashant Shah and his Assistant Marcia Bossart for their continued focus on the financial health of this wonderful Village. We all continue to work as a team to ensure that improvements are made after carefully being vetted under our conservative budgeting practices.



COYOTE MEETING SUMMARY

Please keep the following facts in mind when it comes to "living with coyotes."

- Coyotes are present in all of Ohio's 88 counties. Additionally, these animals have made their home in areas such as downtown Detroit, Los Angeles and even in Central Park in NYC.
- Attacks on humans are incredibly rare.
- Attacks on pets can occur. The coyotes are typically more aggressive during the mating and birthing months that encompass January, February and March each year. The coyotes tend to be more protective and territorial during this mating season.
- After the mating season, while attacks on pets can still take place, the incidents are reduced as the coyotes tend to be less aggressive after the mating season. Safe practices with pets should take place year-round.
- Coyotes can scale fences.
- Eliminate outdoor pet food, clean the grill area, and avoid garbage cans being stored outside when an indoor (garage) option exists.
- Culling or thinning the presence of coyotes is an exercise in futility.
- If a coyote appears to be aggressive and dangerous, residents can hire a nuisance trapper. However, they can be expensive and the snare method can be quite painful and inhumane.
- Read **Coyote America: A Natural and Supernatural History** by Dan Flores. The Village has purchased copies of this book and will make them available for loan to any resident interested in reading it. More education will help to reduce fear.
- Moreland Hills has a prohibition on the discharge of a firearm within our borders.
- The hunting of coyotes using a bow or gun is not a permitted action in the Village of Moreland Hills. If a resident were to hire a nuisance trapper they must be made aware of our prohibition on the use of firearms and bows.

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Moreland Hills

At a Glance

COMING EVENTS

Good Friday – April 2 – Village Offices will be closed on Friday, April 2.

Income Taxes Due – April 15 – Municipal income tax returns are due Thursday, April 15, even if no income tax is due. For filing requirements, contact RITA 1-800-860-7482 or visit their website at www.RITAOhio.com/faq.

Chipping Week – April 19-April 23 – The Service Department will chip branches and sticks on your street. The branches should be cut into 4-foot lengths and stacked, in small bundles, facing the same direction; they DO NOT need to be tied. Piles with crisscrossed branches and anything over 5 inches in diameter WILL NOT be chipped. Please have the bundles stacked by the side of the road by 7:00am on April 18; the Service Department will chip them over the entire week. Please note: per Village Ordinances, the first 15 minutes will be provided without a charge. Any additional time needed for chipping will be charged at a rate of \$30 for each 15 minutes over the allotted time.

Tree Giveaway @ Greening the Hills – Deadline to Register April 22 – Through the Cuyahoga County Soil and Water Conservation District, we are offering a free seedling giveaway at this event. You must register for your tree(s) (limit 2 per person) by April 22. Register online at www.cuyahogawcd.org (click on Events – May 15) or email jzevenbergen@cuyahogawcd.org

Greening the Hills – May 15 – Greening the Hills will be held on Saturday, May 15, from 9:00am to Noon at Village Hall. *Please note the following COVID procedures that must be followed: All items will need to be in your trunk/pick-up bed. When pulling into our campus, follow the directional signage. Do not get out of your vehicle. Open your trunk/hatchback when instructed to, so that our employees can then remove the items; they will not take anything from inside your vehicle including the passenger seat or back seat. Please note, that our employees will be taking proper precautionary measures by wearing masks and gloves.

Community Kids Fishing Day-SAVE THE DATE – June 12 – The Seventh Annual Community Kids Fishing Day Event will be held on Saturday, June 12, 2021, at Potts Pier. Like last year, there will be two different sessions that day; 9:00am-Noon and 1:00pm-4:00pm. Look for more details to be announced in the coming weeks as they become available.

FROM THE VILLAGE ENGINEER...

Sump Pump Tune-up

Residents should be reminded to ensure that your drainage pipes and sump pumps are working properly. If your home has a sump pump for the footer drains, the pump can fail at the worst possible time and cause thousands of dollars of damage to your basement due to water backup. If your pump turns on and off frequently, this may be indicative of an issue. Pumps should probably be replaced every 3 to 5 years. It is a good idea to check your sump pump system *now* to make sure it is operating properly in order to avoid damages to your home *later*.

The same applies to the pipe that takes the stormwater away from your home via the footer drains and downspouts. This pipe should be cleaned out every 3 years, especially if it is in an area with trees, because tree roots can grow into the older clay pipes, causing backups into the basement or through basement walls.

SCRAP METAL DROP-OFF

All drop offs at our scrap metal dumpster must be placed on the ground in front of the dumpster. Members of the Service Department will then place appropriate metal into the dumpster.

PROPANE TANKS CANNOT BE DROPPED OFF AT OUR SCRAP METAL COLLECTION SITE.

The Village can only accept propane tanks during one of our “Greening the Hills” events.

Thank you for your cooperation.

CARDBOARD DROP-OFF

Cardboard can now be dropped off during business hours and after hours at our drop-off location at our Village Hall Campus.

We are asking that you please break down and flatten the cardboard first.

Also, we have seen things such as styrofoam, wood pallets, and garbage in the bin as well. We would like to remind everyone that **ONLY CARDBOARD** is to be placed in the drop-off bin.

Thank you for your cooperation.

GOOD NEWS!

Spectrum has announced that they are doubling the “starting download speed” of their internet service from 100Mbps to 200Mbps in the Cleveland area.

The faster 200Mbps speeds are available to new customers; Current residential customers will automatically have their speed increased in the coming weeks but will most likely have to reset their modem to get the upgrade.

Please note: a small percentage of current customers will need a new modem (at no additional charge) to receive the faster speeds. Spectrum will contact those customers with the details on how to receive the upgraded service.

All Spectrum customers have the option to upgrade their service to 400Mbps for an additional cost.

Visit www.spectrum.com or call 1-855-70-SPECTRUM for more information.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

The following Ordinances and Resolutions were passed in February:

Ordinance 2021-07 – establishes the permanent appropriations for the fiscal year 2021 for the Village. This ordinance establishes our yearly budget.

Ordinance 2021-08 – an appropriations ordinance, which is a monthly financial housekeeping item.

Ordinance 2021-09 – authorizes Change Order No. 1 with Woodford Excavating for the 2020 Culvert and Drainage Program, in the increase amount of \$4,634.47 for additional work needed at 35/45 Fox Glen Road.

Ordinance 2021-10 – authorizes the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Cuyahoga County for county participation in the cost of the resurfacing of Chagrin Boulevard from South Lane to East Corporation Limit.

Ordinance 2021-11 – amends various Subsections of Section 1171.03 of the Planning and Zoning Code, “Swimming Pools,” and various sections of Chapter 1323 of the Building Code, “Swimming Pools,” to clarify approval procedures and regulations applicable to swimming pools, hot tubs, and swim spas. **Placed on First Reading and Referred to the Planning Commission.**