

## Message From Mayor Susan Renda

Dear Resident,

In my position as President of the Cuyahoga County Mayors and City Managers Association, I occasionally have the pleasure of working with State Senator Matt Dolan on issues that are important to our association. He is a strong advocate for better relations between local and state governments and a staunch proponent of civilly and cooperatively solving problems. I am delighted that he has agreed to guest write my column this month. Enjoy!

- Mayor Susan Renda

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Where there is sunshine, there are also shadows. Today, the sun is shining brightly on Ohio – Governor Kasich recently announced Ohio enjoys \$2.7 billion in our budget stabilization fund (aka rainy day fund) and I applaud this effort.

Ohio needs to maintain a healthy budget stabilization fund to meet its budgetary obligations in the event of a sudden downturn in the economy during a budget term. Also, a \$2 billion excess is necessary to maintain a high bond rating so our strategic planning is done at the lowest cost possible.

In the shadows, however, is the deteriorating partnership between the state and local governments.

There is no doubt that the elimination of the personal property tax, the inventory tax and the estate tax had a significant impact on the growth of Ohio's economy. But, it cannot be debated that 100% of the inventory and personal property tax revenue and 80% of the estate tax revenue was lost to local governments. In addition, the state budget has cut payments to the local government fund by over 50%. Local governments throughout the state have felt the impact of this lost revenue.

Nevertheless, local governments are trying their best to make up for these losses and continually work towards providing their constituents with necessary services at a lower cost. They have responded by tightening their fiscal belts, sharing services with other communities and, unfortunately, raising taxes and fees.

Moreland Hills, for example, has placed a levy on the November ballot to increase the fire and police

operating funds to continue providing necessary safety services to the village.

During my time in the legislature, my colleagues and I have been focused on recovering some of the lost funds to our municipalities. One of the major pieces I worked on was providing relief to county governments and public transit associations in the wake of the loss of a federally funded Medicaid grant. We were able to secure \$50 million up front and up to \$30 million in budget surplus, which I can happily report will be funded in full. The state also provided crucial capital dollars to public agencies/local governments in Cuyahoga County for community based projects, totaling more than \$58 million.

My goal moving forward is to rebuild the partnership between the local governments and the state with the next Governor's administration. I am working with counties and local governments to develop a list of solutions on how to better this relationship not only through short term fiscal relief, but long term policy solutions.

## Historical Society Events

**September 2, 5 p.m.** – Crafts at Orange Village Hall. We will be making James Garfield crafts with the kids at the annual **Salute to Orange** event.

**September 5, 1929** Happy Birthday Moreland Hills! You're 89 years old!

**September 6, 7 p.m.** – Meeting at Orange Library, **Healthy Living for Your Brain**. Register at [cuyahogalibrary.org/events](http://cuyahogalibrary.org/events). This lecture will be a Pep Rally for the **October 13 Walk to end Alzheimer's**. We hope you will join our team!

**September 27, 6:30 p.m.** – Orange Library discussion about **This Old Home in Moreland Hills**. We have a new **Heritage Home and Century Plaque project** designed to recognize homes in our community that are over 50 years old and reward those that have hit that **Century** mark.

### Village Offices Closed Labor Day

Village Offices will be closed Monday, September 3, in observance of Labor Day. Senior pick-ups will be done on Tuesday that week; regular rubbish/recycling pick-up days will not be affected. Yard waste and special pick-ups will **not** be done that week.

## Blue Tip: Fall Lawn Care

- Aerate your lawn to introduce oxygen and reduce the incidence of thatch in the lawn.
- Lawn seeding can be done until the end of the month. Be sure seed is in direct contact with the soil for best germination.
- If you are not seeding your lawn this fall, apply corn gluten meal to thwart fall weed seeds.
- Continue to mow high at 3-4 inches.
- Monitor for grubs and animal activity; skunks dig to find grubs.
- Be a friend to the birds and use less chemicals. Up to 6 million birds each year as a direct result of exposure to lawn care chemicals.

### Correction to Last Month's Environmental Corner:

*"Willey" Creek was misspelled in the August Newsletter's Environmental Corner. Willey Creek was named after John W. Willey, Cleveland's first mayor serving for two terms (1836-37 and 1837-38).*

## Service Department Reminder: Ditch Maintenance

Homeowners should clean leaves and other debris from the ditches along the roadway as part of routine landscape maintenance, so that it does not wash into their drive culvert pipes.

Homeowners are also responsible for maintaining the grass that is within the ditch line in front of their property in accordance with the Property Maintenance Code.

### Mayor

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### 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 August:

**Ordinance 2018-32** – authorizes the Mayor to enter into a sanitary sewer development agreement for sanitary sewer service to the Chagrin Bluffs Subdivision.

**Ordinance 2018-33** – accepts the bid of and authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with, C.A. Agresta Construction Co. for the reconstruction of Twin Acre Court, in the amount of \$249,725.

**Ordinance 2018-34** – accepts the bid of and authorizes the Mayor to enter into a contract with, Trafftech, Inc. for the 2018 pavement striping program in the amount of \$18,732.75.

**Ordinance 2018-35** – amends Subsection (a) of Section 131.01, "Authority to Purchase," of the Codified Ordinances to permit the use of blanket purchase orders. The State Auditor and the Ohio Revised Code requires the adoption of legislation to allow the Village to use blanket purchase orders.

**Ordinance 2018-36** – an appropriations ordinance which is a monthly financial housekeeping item.

## Service Dept. Reminders

### Chipping

**The last two chipping weeks for the year will be September 17-21 and October 15-19.** Please make sure your materials are placed curbside the Sunday prior to the scheduled pick up date and are bundled and tied with branches cut no longer than 4 feet in length. No logs or tree stumps, please. The Service Department will work their way through the Village throughout the week, weather permitting.

### Scrap Tire Drop-Off

Scrap Tire Drop-off will be September 24-October 5 (Monday-Friday) from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. behind the service garage.

### Senior Snow Plow Program

Please call the Service Department to obtain an application for the 2018-2019 winter season. Deadline for returning the completed form will be October 12, 2018.

### Block Party Information

If you and your neighbors are planning a Block Party, please notify the Police and Service Departments so that they can determine if road blocks and/or barricades are needed. If you have the need for extra rubbish cans for the party, please let the Service Department know.

## Safety Town

More than 95 students entering kindergarten participated in the Orange Early Childhood's Safety Town program July 30-August 3 at the Pepper Pike Learning Center. Topics included safety issues regarding fire, water, guns, walking, biking, buses and poison.

Orange Early Childhood's Safety Town program would like to thank the following local police officers, preschool teachers, and high school volunteers for their efforts and commitment to making this program possible: Officer Todd Bennett (Pepper Pike), Officer Scott Bennett, Thomas Pate, and Josh White (Moreland Hills), Officer Amy Mengay (Woodmere); Instructors Gayle Moore, Diane Avery, Maggie Lang, Shelbi Guy, Dana Severn, Cathy Bobeck, Jordan Stephens; and high school students Ally Bennett, Sadie Begam, Jane Iskandar, Claire Fallon, Emily Ciuprinskas, Maggie Lang, Emily Braverman, Mathew Sigel, Alexa Cooper, Max Sigel, Joshua Geller and Clay Fallon.

### Village of Moreland Hills

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## Join us for *Greening the Hills* Oct. 6, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Village Hall

- Light Refreshments, Conversation and Clutter Removal
- Proper Paint Disposal – Latex (water-based) paint is not a hazardous waste and WILL NOT be accepted at Greening the Hills. Latex/water-based paint should be thrown out with your regular trash, as long as it has been dried up first.
- The Service Department is sponsoring a Food-Drive to benefit the Cleveland Food Bank, so please bring non-perishable food items to donate. They also will be collecting clothing and household items for Goodwill.
- Confidential Paper Shredding
- Hazardous Waste Drop-Off – oil-based paints (Alkyd)\*, varnish, harsh cleaning supplies, herbicides and pesticides, etc.
- Rx Drug Drop Box – unused, unwanted, or expired prescription drugs can be placed in the secure drop box that is located in the Police Department lobby.
- Recycle, Recycle, Recycle – Bring old cell phones, computers, electronics, car and lawn mower batteries, heavy scrap metal, aluminum and tires