

Community Connection

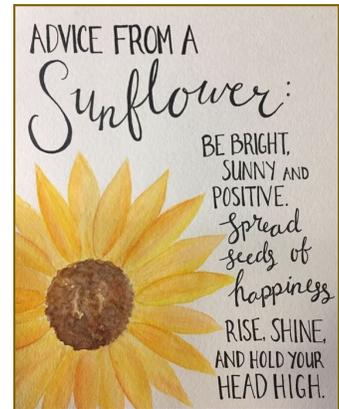
ISSUE #32

AUGUST 2017

The Village of Ottawa * 136 North Oak Street * Ottawa
Phone 419.523.5020 * Fax 419.523.4246 * www.ottawaohio.us

Special Points of Interest:

- Council meetings—8 pm 2nd & 4th Monday of each month—Municipal Building
- Note Change—Shade Tree Commission - 2nd Monday of each month at 7pm
- Planning Commission - 3rd Friday of each month at 8:30 am
- Park Board meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 7 pm
- It's Happening!... Little Nashville will be Friday, August 4th, 2017
- Public meeting (RSVP required) at Putnam County ESC on Putnam Parkway—August 29th between 8:30 am and 3 pm to discuss HMGP properties.



MAYOR'S UPDATE

So, summer is upon us and the weather has been pretty outstanding! We had a little more rain than we bargained for the middle of July, but everything worked out fairly well.



I'm not sure if you'll be reading this in time, but don't forget that *Little Nashville* is downtown on Friday, August 4th! This has been a great event in Ottawa for the last couple of years and I'm praying for some more good weather! Thanks to everyone who had a part in putting this event together. It's going to be a great time!

A couple of projects are coming together and others are still in the planning stages. Bids will be opened on August 3rd for the South Perry Lift Station Project. This Project is important for the Village of Ottawa for several reasons. The Project is the final step towards the elimination of two antiquated river siphons which were installed in the 1950's. The increased flow capacity will accommodate growth and allow regionalization of the south side sewer system. Expansion was hindered in the past by restrictions with the siphons, so this project will allow for future development.

Village Administration has also been meeting with numerous engineers for upcoming projects at the Water Treatment Plant and at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Once an engineer has been chosen, those projects can begin.

The Park Board continues to work to improve our community parks. New lights were recently installed in Memorial Park and they look great. Keep an eye out for replacement of the lighting in Our Lord's Park and in Waterworks Park too!

Village residents have been requesting a standard donation that they could contribute to in "Honor" of or in "Memory" of a loved one or to note a special occasion. At the last meeting, Park Board members set a rate of \$500 for a standard park bench with a plaque. The bench will be installed on a concrete slab that is included in the price. They also set a rate of \$250 for a pin oak or red oak tree. (The tree must meet specifications set by the Shade Tree Commission). And, lastly, a \$50 donation will purchase an engraved brick to be included in the area by the flagpole near Memorial Pool. This area should be started in August after the swimming pool closes. If you are interested in making a donation to be included in one of the Village parks please contact the Clerk's Office at 419-523-5020.

Summer is moving fast...so enjoy! I've been rather busy myself "working" outside between the garden and the golf course... **Go Tribe!** —Dean Meyer, Mayor

Village of Ottawa Council

Dean Meyer—Mayor

Dave Michel, President

Tim Macke

Jo Deskins

Troy Yant

John Salsburey

Jeff Ducey

Planning Commission

Dean Meyer—Chair

Tim Macke

Bill Hanna

Denny Recker

Randy Verhoff

SWIMMING POOL

Ottawa Memorial Pool will be OPEN for the last day on August 13.

Hours for 2017

Sun, Mon, Tues, Thurs & Sat

1 to 6 pm

Wed & Fri—1 to 8 pm

— **SPECIAL** —

Admission on Friday is \$1.00

COUNCIL MEMBERS EMAIL ADDRESSES

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"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken." ~James Dent

COUNCIL UPDATES

Over the past several months, Village Council has been involved with many topics and issues that affect our residents. In order to keep everyone informed, here's a recap of a few of the big hitters.

Earlier this summer, the entire Council along with the Mayor and Department Heads toured both the Water Treatment Plant and the Wastewater (sewer) Treatment Plant. These tours along with another planned for the Municipal Garage help us understand the challenges and opportunities we face. We have work to do at both facilities to keep them running optimally from both a regular maintenance standpoint and from EPA mandates. We will keep residents informed as these projects move forward.

Most of you have heard of or experienced our cat issue within the Village. After much discussion and looking at different options available to us, we are working with Humane Ohio on a trap, neuter and return program. As of the middle of July, twenty one (21) cats had been trapped. Five kittens were also trapped that will eventually be put up for adoption. This program will take some time to work through. If you are having problems or issues with stray or feral cats, let us know.

Well another flood has affected all the residents of Ottawa, whether or not you live in the flood zone. Although the water closed many streets in the Village, we believe the work the Blanchard River Flood Mitigation group has done with the I-9 bridge approach and property mitigation kept it from being far worse.

Since the historic flood in 2007, the Village has acquired many properties in the flood zone with government funding to help alleviate the flooding problem and get residents out of some of these areas. Once we acquire these properties, nothing can be built on them again. The question now becomes what can we do with them going forward. The Environmental Law Institute, through the Ohio EMA (Emergency Management Agency) contacted us offering their help. We have tentatively scheduled a workshop at the ESC building on August 29th from 8:30 am to 3 pm. This workshop is open to the public. If you are interested in attending, please inquire at the Village offices.

Dave Michel - Council Member

Community Idea Workshop

**Putnam County Educational Service Center
124 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa**

August 29, 2017 8:30 am to 3 pm

Lunch Provided

Please RSVP by calling 419.523.5020

The goal of this workshop is to **identify and prioritize potential uses for buyout sites** in Ottawa and **develop a strategy for making it all happen.**

Putnam County Library

The Putnam County Library in Ottawa has a wide variety of services available. At the July 10th Council meeting, Library Director Kelly Ward, attended the meeting to talk about some of the services including:

Books & eBooks
Audiobooks
Large-Print Books
Internet
Copy Machine
Ellison Die Machines
Interlibrary Loan
WiFi Hot Spots
Local History Center

Magazines & Digital Magazines
CD's and DVD's
Area Newspapers
Scanner
Fax Machine
Reference Services
Hoopla
Mobile Print Services
Library deliveries to Care Centers



In 2016, there were 9,831 library card holders and 96,928 visits to the library. Patrons are able to download movies, music, magazines and books through Hoopla, Overdrive and Zinio. So, if you are not one of the 9,831 card holders, stop out to the Library on Putnam Parkway and see what they have to offer!



Ottawa's Memorial Park... A Gem!

Whether it be to attend a child or grandchild's summer league ball game or swim meet, accompany children to enjoy playing on the park's playground equipment, take a casual walk or bike ride through the park, play frisbee golf with friends, or picnic with family, you have undoubtedly felt a sense of pride in our community's Memorial Park and its recent improvements. From the new sidewalks and restroom facility, renovated softball diamond, new baseball scoreboard, installation of park lighting, and beautiful landscaping throughout the park, residents have reason to be proud, and to share this gem with visiting friends and relatives from outside of Ottawa, as well. These efforts are due to the hard work and commitment of the Rotary Club, Park Board members, Village employees, community volunteers and members of the Memorial Park Capital Campaign Committee, who have dedicated themselves to maintaining this source of community pride.

There has been a question of late, as to the status of the Memorial Park Capital Campaign, whose purpose is to establish a fund for future park renovations and improvements; reviewed and prioritized by the Rotary Club and Ottawa Baseball Association in collaboration with the Ottawa Park Board. With the installation of the new scoreboard at Memorial Field completed, the campaign's next priority is to replace the lighting system damaged by the windstorm of 2012. The tradition of lighting for night baseball at Memorial Field and the accompanying family night activities, dates back to 1954. Many a memory has been created over years past, related to either playing ball under the lights as a youth, enjoying the music of the "Village Idiots" or other such bands, gathering with fellow residents and neighbors to watch evening ball, or simply enjoying a hot-dog and a bag of peanuts over conversation with friends. The Fund Sponsors (Rotary Club & Ottawa Baseball Association) intend to return night baseball to Ottawa.

Note: Tax Deductible donations can be made payable to: *Ottawa-Glandorf Area Foundation 501 (c)3* at First Federal Bank - Ottawa or Glandorf locations.

Jo A. Deskins - Council Member