

PIQUA Spirit



SPRING 2010

It's Tee Time --

It's 1974 and at age twelve I am faced with a decision that could affect me for the rest of my life. You wouldn't think at such an early age that I would have such a dilemma. I had paper route, money in my pocket, and I was ready to buy a dirt bike that my neighbor had for sale. I even bought points and plugs to tune it up and get it ready to ride that summer. You see, a couple of my friends had bikes and I wanted one for myself. I didn't want to ride the back of that Honda 50 any longer. I was all ready to buy the Honda SL 70 when my older brother opened his mouth and changed how my summers were spent for the rest of my life. He told me I should buy a new set of golf clubs with my money. I started playing golf the previous two years but was using old hand me downs. The thought of me having my own set of clubs was very exciting to me so I took his advice and my money and saw Dick Kerns at Echo Hills G.C. Dixie, as everyone called him, was an old school golf pro. He worked every day but Mondays. He took that day off to play in tournaments or just rest. Dick retired at the end of 1975 after spending twenty-five years at the golf course. After he retired, I started to play a lot of golf with him and his brother Preach. He quickly became one of my favorites to play golf with and listen to about life and what was ahead of me. He always told me to get my sheepskin (college diploma) and use golf as a tool. Now I'm working six days a week and taking Mondays off. I miss Dixie.

Ray Carr, Rick Ramer and Gene Bayman were the names of the best players in Piqua when I was growing up. Ray is responsible for encouraging my brothers, best friend, and me to play golf. He was our next-door neighbor when I was younger, and I used to caddie for him on the weekends. Ray was a great player and an even better friend. Rick Ramer was the best player out of Echo Hills at the time I was getting into golf seriously. Gene Bayman was a legend back then and always will be. Gene won everything when I was growing up and he continued winning as time went on. I was just a young man learning how to play tournament golf when I first met Gene. He treated me like we had known each other forever. Gene was more than a golfing buddy, he was a friend and I miss talking golf with him.

On February 24, 2010, I started my seventh season as the golf pro at Echo Hills. It's like I never left Echo Hills or grew up. I am still here watching all the golfers and wondering when I can get out for my next round of golf. As a youngster growing up, it was waiting for Spring break and getting a membership for Easter. Waiting for the snow to melt and riding your bike to the course. Playing 36 holes and practicing on the putting green for hours. We didn't

have computers or game systems to take away the time we spent at the course. All we had to worry about was if we had enough golf balls to play with. To solve that problem we hunted for balls in the creeks along #6 and #8 as we rode our bikes home. As I look out at the course today, I see my past, present and future staring me in the face. I have had a lot of good times as a junior golfer growing up here at Echo Hills and as an adult working here having the same amount of fun. The hours are long but being able to watch old friends and children of friends play golf and enjoy what the game of golf has brought me for so long is a great reward. It won't be long until the course dries up and another season begins. I think this year I might even work on my game a little more and maybe play a few more tournaments. See you all on the links.

Submitted by Chip Fox
PGA Professional, Echo Hills G. C.

Echo Hills Golf Course 2010 Fees & Memberships

Specials

Weekday Package

Weekday Special (18 holes with cart):

\$24 per person with tee time before 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday & Holiday Package

Weekend and Holiday Special (18 holes with cart):

\$27 per person with tee time after 11:00 a.m.

Junior Golfer - Saturday, Sunday & Holiday Package

On Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays after 3:00 p.m, junior golfers can play for free with a full-paying adult.

Season Memberships

Two types of memberships are available:

Unlimited - No limit on rounds played for 10-month season.

Limited - Requires add-on fee for each round played.

Adult - Limited	\$415.00 Plus \$6.00 per day
Senior - Limited	\$365.00 Plus \$6.00 per day
Young Adult - Limited	\$210.00 Plus \$6.00 per day
Junior - Limited	\$115.00 Plus \$5.00 per day

Adult - Unlimited	\$825.00
Senior - Unlimited	\$775.00
Junior - Unlimited	\$330.00

Husband and Wife	\$1,350.00
Senior Husband & Wife	\$1,290.00

Unlimited Membership Fees shall be discounted \$25.00 if paid prior to April 15. For additional information concerning rates contact Echo Hills Golf Course at 778-2086.

Meet.....

Assistant Street Superintendent Don Seeberger

Don Seeberger began his career with the City of Piqua on April 13, 2009 as Assistant Street Superintendent.

Don was born and raised in Albany, NY, graduating from Albany High School and then attending Hudson Valley Community College. On June 26, 1984 Don enlisted in the United State Air Force. From 1985 through 2008, Don was involved in the Desert Shield/Desert Storm and the Iraq conflicts.

In May of 2008, Don retired achieving the rank of E-7 Master Sergeant, commanding the Horizontal Heavy Repair section at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina.

Don has been married to his wife Dana for nineteen years. Don and Dana are proud parents of Christopher and Amber.

Throughout the years, Don has been involved in many community activities such as tee-ball, youth talent shows, Habitat for Humanity and Meals on Wheels. He has also volunteered to bring lunch meals to the elderly throughout the community and he assisted Engineering students in constructing a playground in Boston Massachusetts for the Home of the Wanders; which is a shelter that looks after abused and abandoned children.

During his military career, Don supported many events at the Child Development Center at Pope Air Force Base in North Carolina.

Don stated he hopes while working for the City of Piqua that he will be able to assist in making positive improvements in our community.



INCOME TAX RETURNS DUE BY THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH ALL RESIDENTS REQUIRED TO FILE

Due Dates & Extensions

Returns are due on or before Thursday, April 15, 2010. If additional time is required to file the Piqua tax return, an extension may be granted provided an extension has been filed for your Federal return. A copy of the Federal extension form or a written request from your tax preparer must be received by the Piqua Income Tax Office on or before April 15, 2010. Failure to submit the extension request in a timely manner will result in the non-recognition of the request and assessment of a late filing penalty.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

The three most common mistakes made on tax returns are:

- ① Supporting documentation is not attached, such as:
 - Copy of Federal 1040 & required schedules
 - W2's and 1099's for miscellaneous income
 - Self-employment (schedule C)
 - Rental income (schedule E)
 - Employment expenses (schedule A & form 2106)
- ② Taxpayers do not indicate their "move-in / move-out" dates on the return so proper pro-rating of income can be calculated.
- ③ Taxpayer(s) did not sign the tax return

Assistance & Hours

For assistance with any income tax questions or for help filing a return, please contact the City of Piqua Tax Department at (937) 778-2009, located at 201 W. Water St., Piqua, OH 45356. This is a free service and no appointments are necessary, but please come prepared with all documents. Our regular office hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00a.m. to 5:00p.m.

CITY COMMISSION

John Martin

Commissioner, 1st Ward
Home: 773-2778
Ward1comm@piquaoh.org

William Vogt

Commissioner, 2nd Ward
Home: 773-8217
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Joseph Wilson

Commissioner, 3rd Ward
Home: 778-0390
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Julia (Judy) Terry

Commissioner, 4th Ward
Home: 773-3189
Ward4comm@piquaoh.org

Lucinda L. (Lucy) Fess

Mayor & Commissioner,
5th Ward
Home: 773-7929
Ward5comm@piquaoh.org

Events & Dates

Taste of the Arts - Friday, May 21 ~ 5:00 – 9:00 PM (Downtown)

Piqua Community Farmers Market
Each Thursday from May 27 – September 30 ~ 2:30 – 6:30 PM

Downtown Brown Bag Series
Municipal Government Complex
Thursday, July 8, 15, 22 and 29 ~ 11:45 – 1:00 PM

July 25th – Piqua Triathlon - Call 778-2085 for more information

July 31 – Parks and Recreation Car Show
Call 778-2085 for more information

July 31 – Van Dells Concert - Call 778-2085 for more information

UPDATING THE PIQUA CITY EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN

The City of Piqua has an Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) that is reviewed and updated on an annual basis. In the past several years we have seen only minor updates to the EOP. Major changes have taken place at the federal government level in regards to how agencies, like the City of Piqua, will handle management of emergency scenes and incidents. These changes are prompting a major overhaul of the City EOP. The updated EOP will allow us to receive any reimbursement money in the event of an incident like the windstorm in September of 2008.

The federal government has mandated that all levels of government adopt and use the National Incident Management System (NIMS), as a basis for all emergency operations. NIMS is based on the Incident Command System (ICS) which was developed in California, during the 1970's, after a series of catastrophic fires involving wild land and urban communities that interfaced with each other. The failure of not having an organized management system in place to control where resources were sent was the major factor for developing ICS.

The fire service has been utilizing ICS for over 25 years and locally we have seen the benefits of its use. The Incident Command System can be used for almost any situation from a simple automobile accident, a 4-alarm fire, or a Type 4 Hurricane (ex. Katrina). It also can be used for non-emergency events such as the Heritage Festival, the 4th of July Celebration, or Presidential visits. Using this system on a wide scale basis helps to increase communications and procedures across a wide spectrum of disciplines no matter where you are in the United States. The benefit of this system is that you can understand how the system works and where you will fit into that system across the United States.

The basic concept is that every person reports to only one supervisor thus eliminating any confusion. All job related tasks are assigned through the chain of command similar to the military.

NIMS works on large-scale Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) operations like hurricanes, high profile official visits, and gatherings of national significance. The management team controls thousands of people and tons of equipment with this basic concept that is used and understood by all, but confusion and damage can happen when people go outside of the flow or chain of command.

The new version of the City's EOP is in process and should be completed in the near future. Every department is updating their own rosters and emergency procedures, which will be added as an appendix of the EOP. The final outcome will result in an EOP that will coordinate and comply with county, state and federal standards to ensure that the City qualifies for federal grants and reimbursements.

Stormwater Runoff

Little changes to our everyday life can and will make big changes to the stormwater system, and to the environment.

Stormwater runoff occurs when water from rain, snowmelt, or even when washing your car flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces such as streets, and driveways don't allow for natural filtration to the ground, and cause the water to flow to the streets and our storm sewers. The excess runoff can pick up pollutants such as oil, grease, household chemicals, yard care products, and pet waste. Anything that enters our storm sewers here in Piqua, is discharged untreated to our waterways.

Here are some good housekeeping tips:

Lawn Care – Use sparingly products such as pesticides and fertilizers. Try to use non-toxic pesticides and fertilizers as directed, and keep them away from gutters and storm drains.

Pet Waste – Pick up pet waste and dispose of it in the trash.

Auto Care – Repair leaks and dispose of used fluids at designated drop-offs. Avoid hosing down your garage floor and driveway. Instead sweep regularly.

United States Census 2010

During the month of March the US Census Bureau mailed out census questionnaires to every household in America. Upon receipt, households were to complete and mail back their questionnaires. Households that did not respond may receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census takers will visit households that did not return questionnaires to take a count in person.

It is important that every person in our community be counted. Every year, the federal government allocates more that \$400 billion to states and communities based in part, on census data. Census data is used to determine boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts, and to conduct a variety of socioeconomic analyses that provide important information to businesses and communities.

For more information, please visit
<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/index.php>

Commission Meetings

On January 19, 2010 Piqua City Commission passed Resolution No. R-14-10, establishing the dates for the 2010 Regular City Commission meetings. The Commission meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month beginning at 7:30 PM. The meetings are held in the Commission Chamber located on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Government Complex.

BillPayer 2000

Fifth Third Bank has advised us that the BillPayer 2000 program will end as of June 1, 2010. The Utility Office is currently working with Fifth/Third to provide our customers with a compatible service to this program. As soon as additional information is available we will inform all of our customers.

Thank you, The Utility Business Office

In Memory of Terry Peake

Terry Peake passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, February 20, 2010. Terry was a Lineman in the Power Department and served as AFSCME Union President for the past year.

Terry began his career with the city in December 1997 as a refuse collector. In March 2000, he was given the opportunity to become an Apprentice Lineworker. He successfully completed the program and became a Journeyman Lineworker in 2004.

Terry was a quiet man who loved his family, the outdoors, motorcycles, and his job. He is survived by his wife, Jodi and their children, Shelbi and Jared. Terry was a dedicated employee who will be greatly missed by his fellow co-workers.



Piqua Spirit is a quarterly newsletter from the City of Piqua. The purpose is to keep you informed about what is happening in your City.

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Fred Enderle

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Your comments and questions
are welcomed.

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