

PIQUA Spirit



WINTER 2011

Special Election for Recall

A group of citizens circulated a petition to recall Commission Lucinda L. Fess ("Lucy"), William D. Vogt ("Bill"), Julia A. Terry ("Judy") and Joseph Wilson ("Joe"). Each petition required 1,000 signatures from registered voters of Piqua, which the Board of Elections certified on December 30, 2010. Once the signatures were certified, the commissioners whom are subject to recall had five days to decide whether to resign. None of them resigned, which forces a special election. The election must be held within 40 to 60 days after the Commission was notified of the valid petitions and therefore the Commission set the Special Election date as March 1, 2011, the first Tuesday in March. On the ballot will be the question whether the voter seeks to recall the commissioner. On the same ballot will be listed any names of candidates who submit a valid petition to the Board of Elections who seek office if the commissioner is recalled. A majority of votes is required to recall a commissioner. If a commissioner is recalled, it is effective immediately and the candidate with the highest number of votes then fulfills the remainder of the term. Like in a general election, absentee ballots are available from the Board of Elections. The recall process is governed by the City's Charter.

Piqua Municipal Pool Will Open In 2011

The City of Piqua will open the Municipal Swimming Pool for the summer on Saturday, May 30, 2011 for Memorial Day Weekend and then daily from June 4th through August 21st. Memberships are on sale now in the Street/Parks Department office located at 859 South Main Street or can be purchased at the pool office once open in May.

The pool will be under new management in 2011 and several new changes are in the works. First and foremost will be the extended hours to allow working families the ability to use the pool after a hard day's work. Secondly, we will be extending the time of Family Night to 9:00 p.m. Also in the plans for family night are grilled food and combo meals, along with door prize giveaways. In the works at this time is the addition of a TEEN NIGHT with music, games, door prize giveaways and food specials.

Rentals for private parties are available. For more information call the Parks and Recreation office at (937) 778-2085.

Federal, State, and City filing deadline extended until April 18th

Although April 15th falls on a Friday in 2011, Washington D.C. will observe the Emancipation Day holiday on that day. Therefore, the IRS has extended the 2010 federal income tax filing deadline to Monday, April 18, 2011. Due to this federal change, the State of Ohio and Ohio municipalities, including the City of Piqua, will also extend the due date of tax returns until April 18, 2011. This extended due date of April 18th applies to all returns of any nature having an April 15th deadline.

City of Piqua's Website & Facebook

At www.piquaoh.org you will discover "happenings" in the City of Piqua as well as information concerning our community.

On the opening page of the City web site you will find links to pages such as press releases, current agendas and minutes from various Boards and Committees, a "What's Happening in Piqua" calendar of events, previous Spirit News Articles, the City of Piqua Code of Ordinances and City Charter, and many other informative pages.

The City's website also has a "Quick Link" to the EGOV Services page. On the EGOV Services page you can use the "Action Line" process to report issues of concern that will be directed to the appropriate departments for action. In addition, the EGOV Services page has archived past minutes and agendas from the various boards and committees.

Recently added to the web site are links to enter your utility meter readings and even make your utility bill payments!

Also, if you're interested in volunteering, the web site has a link where you can download an application for any of our openings on Boards and Committees, which is updated on a regular basis.

The City recently joined the Facebook crowd and you can become a "friend" from the link on the front page of the City's web site.

CITY COMMISSION

John Martin

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

William Vogt

Commissioner, 2nd Ward
Home: 773-8217
Ward2comm@piquaoh.org

Joseph Wilson

Commissioner, 3rd Ward
Home: 778-0390
Ward3comm@piquaoh.org

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

Be sure to visit both the web site and the Facebook page to make sure you are up to date with City happenings.

Plaza Restaurant

Toone P's at the Plaza closed its doors on December 23, 2010 due to the economic downturn, which had a significant impact on the restaurant's ability to remain profitable.

Since the closing of Toone P's at the Plaza, the City has organized a Committee seeking their input on the selection criteria for the Request for Proposal for a new Operator/Lessee of the Fort Piqua Plaza Banquet Center and the former Toone P's Restaurant location.

The Banquet Center will continue to operate as normal until a new and permanent facility manager has been named.

All contracts currently in place will be honored and there will be no changes in the fee structure.

Information about the Plaza and the rental rates can be found at www.thefortpiquaplaza.com.



Calendar of Events

"Soup"er Thursdays ~ March 10, 17, 24 and 31
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Lobby of Piqua Public Library
Live music and a soup luncheon
(Contact Lorna Swisher ~ Mainstreet Piqua
773-9355 for more information)

State of the City ~ March 17 ~ 8:00 AM
City Commission Chambers
(Contact Debbie Stein ~ 778-2051 for more information)

State of Economic Development
April 12 ~ 8:00 AM
Fort Piqua Plaza-4th Floor
(Contact Debbie Stein ~ 778-2051 for more information)

Utility Department News

Just in time to beat the cold weather! Beginning the first of November, you can now go on line to pay your City of Piqua Utility Bill!

Simply visit our website at www.piquaoh.org and click "[Pay Your Utility Bill Online](#)". Once you sign up you have 2 options:

Make a single payment from your checking or savings account
-or-

Sign up for EZ Pay... to have your monthly City of Piqua Utility Bill automatically taken out of your checking or savings account each month on the due date!

Thank you,
City of Piqua Utilities

All Ohio Birth Records Available in Piqua

The Piqua City Health Department now has the ability to issue certified birth certificates for anyone born in the State of Ohio. Prior to this enhancement, birth certificates could only be obtained from the Health District where the person was born. This meant all Piqua residents who were born at the Upper Valley Medical Center in Troy or elsewhere had to travel to another Health Department to receive their birth certificate. Now anyone born in Ohio can obtain their certificate in Piqua.

Certified birth certificates are needed for driver's licenses, school registration, passports, social security, and a variety of other things. The "certificate" you receive at the hospital often with footprints on the back is not a legal document. A certified birth certificate can only be obtained from a Health Department.

In addition, the State of Ohio has developed a new format for the birth records. The new birth abstract is more legible, more standardized, and more secure. Ohio birth certificates dating back to 1908 can be obtained at the Piqua Health Department, 201 W. Water St., Piqua, OH, on the second floor at a cost of \$22 each.

Customers may call ahead (778-2060) to have their birth record verified for accuracy. If a record has an error it may take up to 15 minutes to have the record corrected electronically through the State of Ohio electronic records system.

Western Ohio TV Consortium ("WOTVC")

The City and the educational community believe in public access programming while enhancing technology and the current limited programming. To accomplish this endeavor, the City, Edison Community College, Upper Valley JVS, Piqua Public City Schools and the Piqua Public Library created a consortium, legally recognized by the Secretary of State as Western Ohio TV Consortium. WOTVC is served by a Board of Directors consisting of representatives of each of the partnering entities as well as two at large members. WOTVC has named the first executive director to be Guy Fogle. Mr. Fogle has a background with education as well as fundraising and communications. The studio will be located at Edison Community College. WOTVC has been in the planning stages for two years. The partners are very excited to launch such a collaborative endeavor while being able to educate the public, provide enhanced services by moving to all digital equipment, and allowing opportunities for students in the communications programs. WOTVC will continue to run on Channel 5 as the public access station. Watch Channel 5 for further information and developments.



In Memory of Jeffrey S. Wenrick

Jeff Wenrick passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, November 10, 2010. He was a Water Plant Mechanic in the Water Department.

Jeff began his career with the City on August 18, 2003 as a meter reader. He transferred to the Water Department on June 2, 2008.

Jeff was a quiet man who loved his family, the outdoors (especially hunting and fishing), and his job. He is survived by his wife, Sharen, and their two sons, Christopher and Dustin. Jeff was a dedicated employee who rarely missed a day of work. He will be greatly missed by his fellow co-workers.

Fall 2010 Residence Pride Recipients

The Fall Residence Pride Awards were announced on Tuesday, October 19, 2010. The Residence Pride Committee members met and selected award winners from the nominations received. The recipients were:



Lenny & Teresa DeCasseres
527 N. Downing Street



Matthew & Julie Barge
1113 Nicklin Avenue



Sylvester & Judith Cutcher
1532 Garfield Street

Please help us select our Spring 2011 recipients! Nominate a home that has been improved, a home with beautiful landscaping or that house that has always been well maintained.



Amy Robinson
901 Boone Street



Chris & Valerie Lefeld
3229 Cherokee Drive

Nomination forms are avail-

able on the City's website @www.piquaoh.org or stop by and pick one up at the Municipal Government Complex at the front desk or in the Administration office. You may also nominate multiple homes!

The Committee looks forward to receiving your nominations for the Spring 2011 awards!

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.

CITY MANAGER

Fred Enderle

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Your comments and questions
are welcomed.

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