

PIQUA Spirit



FALL 2011

FORMER HOSPITAL SITE – PATH TO REDEVELOPMENT - PROJECT UPDATE

A little over two years ago city officials conceived the Path to Redevelopment Plan for the former Piqua hospital site. The Plan outlined an aggressive strategy for taking the hospital property from a state of blight, to a site prime for redevelopment. While it was clear from the onset that there would be many obstacles to overcome, city officials steadfastly moved forward with executing the Plan to rid the community of this long standing nuisance property. At long last it appears that day has arrived!

In July of 2011 the City received word that the City's Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund application requesting \$2 million to clean up the hospital site had been approved. This approval set into motion the process of closing on the purchase of the property and preparing the final bid documents for the remediation and demolition work to be completed. It is anticipated that bids will be received and a contractor will be selected in November, and that a contractor could be mobilized on to the site and prepared to begin remediation and demolition work possibly by December of 2011. The entire clean-up project is expected to take approximately 10 to 14 months to complete once underway.

PIQUA POOL...A SUMMER OF CHANGE

The 2011 swim season at the Piqua Municipal Pool saw many changes from previous years. Not only were the hours extended to make attending the pool more flexible to patrons; new management, a new food vendor, and Teen Night were positive changes/additions. With these new changes, the pool saw an increase in pool memberships sold in 2011.

One of the most rewarding events of the swim season was the return of daycares to the Piqua Pool. Greene Street Daycare made the return, making Monday's their day at the pool, bringing over 50 children on average. They were provided a tent to help organize their group, and an extra guard was stationed in the shallow end to help ensure safety. Early Beginnings Daycares were also weekly attendees, bringing kids from their Troy, Tipp City, and Vandalia locations. The City wishes to thank these facilities for their patronage.

With the close of the 2011 swim season, we can look back and say without a doubt that it was a very successful summer. As nobody can predict the future and what it holds for the Piqua Municipal Pool; we would be remiss if we didn't take this opportunity to

thank the group that made it all possible...you the patrons! You are the ones that bought the memberships or paid the daily admissions, bought our food, and most importantly supported us in our efforts. For this, we are sincerely thankful.

CITY MANAGER FRED ENDERLE RETIRES FROM CITY OF PIQUA

Piqua City Manager Frederick E. Enderle retired on July 31, 2011 following nearly six years of service to the City of Piqua. A reception was held in his honor on July 27, 2011.

Mr. Enderle earned a bachelor's in Urban Planning from Wright State University, and also earned a master's in Public Administration from Governor's State University in Illinois.

Fred had more than 35 years of Municipal Government experience having worked for Loveland, Ohio; Green Bay, Wisconsin; Jackson, Michigan; Champaign, Illinois and Concord, New Hampshire.

We wish to thank Mr. Enderle for his dedicated service to the City of Piqua and wish he and his wife Rita much happiness in their retirement.

WOTVC UPDATE – CHANNEL 5

In January 2011 the Western Ohio TV Consortium ("WOTVC") was introduced as the new community partnership of the City, Edison Community College, Upper Valley Career Center, Piqua City Schools and the Piqua Public Library for the purpose of providing quality educational programming through public access. In the Spring, a new Channel 5 was launched with a noticeable difference in the quality of the programming and the graphics. In mid-summer, Jennifer Welker was hired as the Executive Director of WOTVC. Jennifer and her family reside in Piqua. Jennifer has been directly involved with public access since 2004 and brings a wealth of knowledge and skills to WOTVC. The Board of Directors is extremely pleased with the excitement and experience Jennifer offers. Another welcome change is a permanent home for the studio at Edison. Lastly, due to a grant received from the Piqua Community Foundation, state-of-the-art equipment was purchased and has been in operation since mid-August. Leightronix is the software and equipment that has allowed Channel 5 to move from analogue to digital, saving time with programming and allowing for the quality to increase immensely. The excitement and progress in WOTVC can be seen by tuning into Channel 5. WOTVC is seeking donations, memberships and volunteers for filming and editing. Anyone interested should contact Jennifer Welker at 381-1546.

Events & Dates

Regional Business Showcase ~ Piqua High School
Thursday, October 13 ~ 4:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Chocolate Walk
Friday, October 14 ~ 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Tickets \$15 per person

Breast Cancer Awareness Walk
Registration at Downtown Gazebo
Saturday, October 15 ~ 8:30 a.m.

Downtown Trick or Treat
Wednesday, October 26 ~ 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Trick or Treat in the City of Piqua
Monday, October 31 ~ 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Piqua Community Holiday Open House
November 18, 19 & 20

Christmas on the Green
Friday, December 2 ~ 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Holly Jolly 5K Run
Saturday, December 3 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Downtown Piqua Holiday Parade
Saturday, December 3 ~ 2:00 p.m.

Festival of Trees
Located at Apple Tree Gallery, 405 N. Main Street
November 30 - December 17 ~ Open 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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

Utility Billing Office Update

The Utility Billing office will now be posting on our website, a list of tenant occupied properties that have been disconnected for non-payment. Property owners will have the ability to visit the website at www.piquaoh.org to view a list of non-pay disconnect dates for 2011 and view a list of properties that were disconnected.

The website will be updated the day after each non-pay shut-off date with a list of properties that were disconnected and have not yet received payment to reconnect as of 5:00 p.m. the day of the shut-off.

Properties owners should contact their tenants to verify if the utility services have been reconnected.

City of Piqua Volunteer Boards & Committee Openings

The City of Piqua provides many opportunities for citizens to become involved in the governing of the City. Volunteers serve on various boards and committees and we welcome applications to the various Boards and Committees. The City currently has the following openings:

Community Diversity Committee
2 openings both with 2-year terms

Energy Board
1 opening to fill an unexpired term

Stormwater Utility Board
2 openings- 1 to fill an unexpired term and a 1-year term

Income Tax Review Board
1 opening to fill an unexpired term

For more information on Boards and Committees, please contact Debbie Stein in the City Manager's office at 778-2051 or visit the City's website at www.piquaoh.org.

Do you know where your Master Water Supply Valve is?



In case of emergency, you may need to know where your master water supply valve is in a hurry. You will need to act fast to prevent your basement from flooding or your carpets being drenched when you have a water leak.

The most likely locations for your master water valve:

- ✓ Where the water supply pipe enters your home
- ✓ Near your clothes washer hook-up
- ✓ Near a water heater

Every home, apartment and business has a master water supply valve. When locating the valve, make sure that you have the right one. Try turning it off briefly and see if all the water faucets in the building are shut off. If they aren't, try to find another valve.

Once you've found the right valve, mark it with a tag or colorful paint to make it easy to see. This will make it easy for everyone to find the valve quickly in case of an emergency.

Charter Amendments

On November 8, 2011, there will be 5 proposed Charter amendments on the ballot. These amendments were recommended by the City Commission to address the recall procedure. After three readings and a public work session, the Commission adopted Ordinance No. 6-11. The ballot language is available at the Board of Elections or from the Law Director's office.

The primary focus was to specify why and when a commissioner could be recalled. It takes a certain period of time after taking office to learn the position and therefore a commissioner should not be subject to recall without having been provided an opportunity to learn the position and serve the public. Critical to the amendments are defining within the Charter what happens in case of a vacancy when a commissioner is recalled. Currently the Charter does not define the filling of a vacancy only as a result of a recall. The Commission evaluated the Recall Charter provisions based on issues during the most recent recall as well as a summary of 154 charters throughout the State of Ohio. The following questions will be on the November ballot:

Section 120: Shall Charter Section 120 be amended to require a recall petition to specify as a reason on the petition for recall

an allegation of inefficiency, neglect of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance in office, incapacity or incompetency?

Section 121: Shall Charter Section 121 be amended to require the recall petition to have 2000 signatures of registered voters of the City of Piqua?

Section 122: Shall Charter Section 122 be amended to define when the Commission needs to set a recall election date upon being notified by the clerk?

Section 125: Shall Charter Section 125 be amended to allow for the Planning Commission to appoint a member to the commission when a commissioner has been recalled and there was no candidate on the ballot to be elected?

Section 127: Shall Charter Section 127 be amended to restrict a recall petition being filed against a commissioner until six months after he takes office?

A yes vote means you are voting FOR the charter change. If you have any questions about the Charter amendments, please contact Law Director Stacy Wall at 778-2042.

Annual Leaf Pick-Up

City crews will begin leaf pick-up the end of October and continue through the beginning of December. Leaf pick-up crews will cover the City in three (3) full rounds, plus additional coverage, as needed in areas with a heavy concentration of leaves.

To help provide efficient pick-up, citizens are asked to rake leaves with regard to the following:

- Rake leaves to the curb line. On streets with no curbs, rake leaves to the edge of the asphalt. We ask that the residents please pile the leaves as far away from stormwater catch basins as possible as the leaves can plug off/reduce the flow of rainwater into the catch basins and cause flooding.
- Keep leaf piles free of stones, cans, trash, sticks, etc. These items can damage the vacuum equipment.
- Do not rake leaves to the alley, or boulevards.
- Make sure leaves are not piled under, between, or around parked cars.

Leaf Pick-up Hotline – 778-2047

A recorded message will be updated each day, describing the location in which crews are working. Please call the hotline to receive schedule information. The city's website www.piquaoh.org will also have the schedule updates.

Those with questions or requiring additional information pertaining to this program are advised to contact the Street Department at 778-2095 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Dispose of Your Leaves at the City Compost Facility...**FREE!**

In an effort to assist residents with their leaf pick-up, the City will allow residents to dispose of their leaves free of charge. Starting on October 17th through December 16th, residents may take their leaves to the City Compost Facility, should residents not wish to wait on their scheduled leaf pick-up date by City crews. Residents may contact the Street Department to schedule a time to take their leaves to the Compost Facility.

Normally, the cost to dispose of leaves is \$10 per truck or trailer load. But in an effort to assist residents as well as City crews, this fee will be waived during this time period. The more residents that participate in this program, the more beneficial it will be for residents and City crews. This will allow residents to remove their leaves at their convenience, which will free up parking spaces in residential areas, keep leaves from collecting in storm sewer systems, and allow City crews more time to work on street related issues.

The City is hoping to get a multitude of residents to participate in this new program, which is a win-win for all involved. All leaves collected will be composted and sold next spring and summer as compost for gardens and flower beds. It is a very nutrient rich product that resembles top soil. The City has been composting leaves, and making mulch at this facility since 2003. All leaves brought to the facility must be free of brush, bushes or any type of wood. Those items may also be taken to the Compost Facility for a nominal fee. The facility is located on Piqua-Troy Road, approximately a mile and a half south of Garnsey Street.

For questions or scheduling please call the Street Department at 778-2095 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Summer 2011 Residence Pride Recipients

The Summer Residence Pride Awards were announced on Tuesday, July 15, 2011 this year. The Residence Pride Committee members met and selected award winners from the nominations received. The recipients were:



John & Linda Brinkman
924 Young Street



Vic & Pam Brockman
903 Washington Avenue



Nicholas & Bonnie Gigandet
932 W. North Street

Please help us select our 2012 recipients! Nominate a home that has been improved, a home with beautiful landscaping or that house that has always been well maintained.



LeAnn & Mark Niblick
720 W. Ash Street



Mr. & Mrs. Fernie Curtis
635 Boone Street

Nomination forms are available on the City's website at www.piquaoh.org or stop by and pick one up at the Municipal Government Complex at the front desk or in the Administration office. Or you may nominate via email at residencepride@piquaoh.org

Other ways to nominate a home is when paying your city utility bill at our drive up deposit box, put a nomination form or a note with a nomination in the box or phone in your nominations to 778-2051. You may also nominate multiple homes!

The Committee looks forward to receiving your nominations for the 2012 awards starting in Spring of next year. We will gladly take nominations all year long!

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.

**INTERIM CITY MANAGER
William P. Murphy**

**Articles and photos by
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**Your comments and
questions are welcomed.**

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