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New Website Launched

The City of Clayton has launched a new website to enhance communications with our citizens. The old site was seven years old and didn't meet the needs of today's audience. The new website has been designed to increase the amount of information available for residents and is much more user-friendly.

In addition to options like online bill payment, the website provides the ability to report concerns (i.e. potholes), access permits and forms, receive email alerts on things like road closures or police notifications. Future website improvements include:

- Videos of facilities and services that will be linked via YouTube
- Provide practical information on green initiatives for residents
- Forms that residents can submit online (i.e. Vacation Watch Request)

Check out the new site at www.clayton.oh.us and let us know what you think!



2013 Miami Valley Fire/EMS Alliance Customer Service Award



Each year, the Miami Valley Fire/EMS Alliance recognizes outstanding achievement in the fire and emergency medical fields in the Greater Miami Valley region. One of the awards is the Customer Service Award, and it is presented to an individual who has demonstrated exemplary performance and contribution to his/her community and fire service. On April 17, 2013 Assistant Chief Brian Garver was presented as the 2012 recipient of the award.

The selection of Assistant Chief Garver is based on his 18-year dedication to the fire service, the

community and humanitarianism. In particular, he has been instrumental in helping to improve the fire service in the region through his work on the Miami Valley Fire/EMS Alliance Communications Committee. An example of his commitment and concern for the community was his work to help with the "Convoy of Hope", a program that involved several months of planning with many community service organizations that massed to assist those less fortunate.

Assistant Chief Garver resides in the city with his wife Tonya, and their two teenage sons, Zachary and Joshua.

Pre-Sale Inspection Program Reminder

Clayton, like other communities, has a Pre-Sale Inspection Program to protect and preserve property values in our neighborhoods. As a requirement of the program, all residential properties anticipated for sale, rental or lease must be inspected by the city. The scope of the inspection program is limited to the exterior of properties and considers items such as: paint and all related carpentry repairs, roof, chimney, gutter and downspouts, concrete repair or replacement, windows, doors and fences.

At the conclusion of the inspection, if there are no code violations, a certificate of



occupancy will be issued. If there are code violations, they are provided on a report to the property owner. When all violations have been corrected, a re-inspection is conducted. If everything is then in order, a certificate of occupancy will be issued. It is recommended that inspections be scheduled prior to entering into an agreement to sell, rent or lease a property.

If you have any questions about the program, please access the link on the city's web page or call us at 937-836-3500 and we will be happy to help you.

CALENDAR

June		
20	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
24	Planning Commission	7:00 p.m.
July		
4	4th of July Holiday – Gov't Offices Closed <i>Please Note: Trash collection will be delayed one day Thursday and Friday</i>	
16	Board of Zoning Appeals (If Needed)	7:30 p.m.
18	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
22	Planning Commission (If Needed)	7:00 p.m.
August		
1	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
15	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
20	Board of Zoning Appeals (If Needed)	7:30 p.m.
26	Planning Commission (If Needed)	7:00 p.m.
September		
2	Labor Day – Gov't Offices Closed <i>Please Note: Trash collection will be delayed one day this week</i>	
5	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
17	Board of Zoning Appeals (If Needed)	7:30 p.m.
19	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
23	Planning Commission (If Needed)	7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor	Joyce Deitering	jdeitering@aol.com
Council Member	Tim Gorman	johnmgorman@aol.com
Council Member	Robert Peters	pettersbob@aol.com
Council Member	Beverly Smith	bradandbevsmith@gmail.com
Council Member	Greg Merkle	greg.merkle@wright.edu
Council Member	Ray A. Slone, Jr.	cruisenwith@yahoo.com
Council Member	Kenneth Henning	kennethchenning@yahoo.com

CITY STAFF

City Manager	David Rowlands	drowlands@clayton.oh.us
Asst. City Manager	Debbie Manns	dmanns@clayton.oh.us
Director of Public Safety	Richard Rose	rrose@clayton.oh.us
Director of Economic Development and Community Services	Gwen Eberly	geberly@clayton.oh.us
Director of Finance	Kevin Schweitzer	kschweitzer@clayton.oh.us
Clerk of Council	Barbara Seim	bseim@clayton.oh.us

Recycling Program



Recycling is a convenient way to give new life to items that alternatively would be thrown away and end up at a landfill. With the city's recycling program you place all of your recyclables into a single container, and it is taken to a sorting facility by Republic Services where it is processed for reuse at a material recovery facility. Last year over 1,574,000 pounds of material were collected in the city and diverted from a landfill.

In order to aid the collection process, please keep in mind the following guidelines:

- On collection day position your toter within four (4) feet of the street and make sure that there are at least three (3) feet of clearance of any other object i.e.- mailbox, tree, vehicles, guy wires.
- In order to keep our streets clean, please do not overload the recycling container.

If you don't have a toter and would like to obtain one or are interested in having a taller toter (90 gallon), they can be ordered by calling Republic Services at (937) 268-8110.

Spring Cleaning Opportunities

The city provides the following programs to assist you with your cleaning projects:

Bulk Waste Pickup

If you need to dispose of oversized items such as home furnishings, appliances, tires, home construction debris or yard waste and you are the occupant of a single-family home, you are entitled to one bulk waste pickup per month. Bulk waste pickups may be scheduled by calling Republic Services at (937) 268-8110.

Household Hazardous Waste

Household products that are hazardous waste can be disposed of at the following Montgomery County Solid Waste District locations:

North Transfer, 6589 Old Webster Street, Vandalia Ohio
Tuesdays from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

South Transfer, 1001 Encrete Lane, Dayton Ohio
Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Electronic Recycling

The program involves the collection of unwanted televisions, computers and computer accessories. The donated items are either rebuilt for reuse or recycled.

Dates: Saturday June 22 and September 28, 2013

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Englewood Government Center, 333 W. National Road

Tire Disposal and Recycling

Residents may dispose of tires by delivering them to the collection site. The tires that are collected are reprocessed and subsequently used for purposes such as highway resurfacing or playground safety matting.

Dates: Saturday August 17 and October 26, 2013

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: Fire Station 83, 200 Woolery Lane

Sweep Clayton Clean

This program is an occasion to dispose of non-hazardous household solid waste and yard debris. Examples of the types of items which may be delivered to the collection site include: furniture, outdated or broken household belongings, electronic equipment and residential renovation debris.

Date: Saturday, October 12

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Fire Station 83, 200 Woolery Lane

Refrigerators will be accepted if the Freon has been drained from the unit.

Drainage Problems?

Have you ever had standing water in your yard that won't go away. What about toilets that won't flush? For many years now, the Montgomery Soil and Water Conservation District (MSWCD) has been partnering with home and land owners to fix those problems by replacing failing drainage systems in the county. These systems, sometimes installed 100 years ago, allowed people to farm or build houses on areas that would otherwise be too wet. They've lasted a long time, but when they fail they can cause expensive problems. The MSWCD is in a unique position to help because they can work with you on your private land. And they're experienced in working with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) to obtain grant funding, greatly reducing the total bill for the project, and the landowners!



The MSWCD has worked for many years to develop a very successful voluntary drainage program that helps solve the environmental concerns that these failed drainage systems cause, while restoring the original drainage function that these systems once had. When a concern is brought to their attention at the MSWCD, they work with the land and home owners affected to see if a majority of the community is interested in partnering with them to solve the problem. These projects are paid for in part by the residents whose land drains into these systems, but a large portion of the cost is offset with grants awarded to the MSWCD through the OPWC State Capital Improvements Program. They work diligently for Montgomery County residents to obtain funding to offset the cost and to provide a quality drainage project for landowners that will last the next 80 years!

If you have any questions or would like more information, call Stefan Bridenbaugh, District Technician, at (937) 854-7646 ext. 106 or email BridenbaughS@mcOhio.org.

Mayor's Corner



As Mayor, I think it is important for us to take a look from time to time at our fiscal standing (where our condition stands), and how we compare to our neighbors and other cities of similar size and nature.

As I stated in my State of the City Address in November, Clayton has endeavored to be fiscally prudent throughout its' history, enabling us to improve our cash position (or yearly cash reserve) of our general fund from \$507,347 in 2000 to \$3,468,512 in 2012; it was this carry over that sustained us through the downturn in the economy in 2008 and 2009

without cutbacks in services or layoffs. I also reported that in 2012 we rolled back impact fees in Clayton Improvement District No. 1 to virtually half for the first 20 parcels as an incentive to jump start development in that area, most notably the Village of North Clayton, where seven new homes have now been proposed.

According to the statistics compiled in Governments of Ohio 2013 and a report constructed by the author, Greg Michels, per capita taxes paid by

residents of Clayton total approximately \$10.1 million less than those paid by residents of other Ohio cities of similar size and nature.

Other helpful and interesting information provided by Governments of Ohio 2013 is that all five of our major departments (police, fire, streets, financial and general administration) have total operating costs per capita less than the average of comparably sized and similar type governments in Ohio as well as the United States; that the police and general administration have fewer than the average number of employees per 10,000 population; and that for general administration and financial administration the average department wage is less than the U.S. average.

Finally, this information has been substantiated by the recent bond review which was performed by Moody's Investors Services and assigned an Aa2 rating on the city's general obligation tax debt. The Aa2 rating is based upon the city's healthy financial position, solid fiscal management, modestly-sized tax base with an above average socioeconomic profile, and manageable debt burden. With all that being said we sure do have a number of reasons for which to be proud.

Joyce Ostering

Hydrant Flushing

Each year as part of an annual program, the Fire Department opens fire hydrants throughout the city and allows the water to flow through the pipes. The process is referred to as hydrant flushing and it is a maintenance procedure necessary to clean the water mains and to operate and maintain the fire hydrants.

During the hydrant flushing, the water in your home may have an orange or rusty appearance. The discoloration is caused by the iron sediment in the water main being disturbed by the hydrant flushing. It is important to know



that the discoloration does not affect the safety of the water. If you notice discoloration at your home, run your cold water for several minutes to clear your lines. You should also flush your toilets once or twice. The water should run clear in a few minutes. Also, if pressure or volume seems low at faucet locations, check your faucet screens for trapped particles.

If you see the Fire Department working on a hydrant, please drive carefully and provide the same courtesies to them as you would any other road construction crew.

Business Highlight—Meadowbrook Country Club

The Meadowbrook Country Club located at 6001 Salem Avenue is an unquestionable asset to the city. It is a private club with a rich tradition of providing first-rate amenities and services in a family-friendly environment to members and non-members alike.

Meadowbrook made its debut in the city in 1924 and has been in continuous operation since that time. The 18-hole, par 72 golf course was designed by renowned course architect, Alex Nipper Campbell and features four sets of tees to accommodate different skill levels. Some of the other club amenities include: a tennis complex, aquatics facility and several excellent dining options.

According to PGA Professional, Bill Williams, "The current economic time has given us cause to re-evaluate our product. As part of our efforts, adding new members and providing additional non-member services are essential to the future of Meadowbrook, as we, like all other clubs, fight to uphold quality golf, social and dining experiences in these challenging economic times."

With that perspective in mind, for 2013 the management of Meadowbrook has decided to offer the following membership incentives and non-membership opportunities:

Membership

- No Initiation Fee Membership Program
- No Monthly Food and Beverage Minimums
- Reduced Membership Rates

Unlimited Golf

Full Family Club Membership - \$229 per month
Individual Club Membership - \$179 per month
Includes golf, tennis, pool and dining

Premier Golf

Full Family Club Membership - \$291 per month
Individual Club Membership - \$232 per month
Includes golf, tennis, pool, dining, locker room, bag storage, driving range and carts



Non-Membership Opportunities

- Limited open Tee Times
- Dining at the Sports Grille and Laveris Room

If you are a non-member and wish to establish a tee time, make dining reservations or arrange a tour of the facility, call (937) 836-5186.

Meadowbrook Country Club also makes a great venue for weddings, class reunions and other special occasions. Private rooms are available for any size group from 20-300. From formal to informal, indoor or outdoor, buffet or dining service, their expert staff will coordinate your occasion to meet your individual needs.



Business Highlight—The Green Nature Cafe



A new cafe has opened at 8941 Anneliese Way in the Village of North Clayton next to Destiny Salon and Spa. Curt New, one of the restaurant's owners, explained, "The Green Nature Cafe fills a need for healthy, all natural food in the Northmont area. My family has spent several years developing a vegan and mostly gluten-free menu that appeals to a wide variety of tastes. We strive to offer only the freshest, highest quality ingredients we can find."

The restaurant, as its name implies, serves a menu of offerings made with fresh, healthful and organic local produce. In addition to the obvious health benefits of avoiding processed foods, the restaurant provides options to satisfy a number of dietary concerns, including gluten-free, dairy-free, soy-free, non-genetically modified organisms, vegetarian, vegan and raw food options.

The creativity of menu items as well as the food presentation is very unique and delicious. Some of the more popular dishes are Bibimbap, Veggie Pizza on Buckwheat Crust, Baked Falafel Pita Sandwich with tasty Kale Chips, and the Thai-style Collard Wrap with Mango Chutney Sauce. Prices range from \$5.95 for an Eggless Egg Salad Sandwich to \$7.95 for the popular and filling Nachos. The desserts are amazing, but most incredible of all are the nine variations of freshly made smoothies. The cafe also offers freshly squeezed organic juices, including a Green Power Juice that will awaken your senses.

The Green Nature Cafe is currently open from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and from 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday. They are closed Sunday and Monday. For additional information the restaurant website can be accessed at <http://www.thegreennaturecafe.com>.

Bicycle Safety

The fun of summer is just around the corner, and soon it will be time to dust off those bicycles. Here are some tips for safe riding:

Safe riding tips

- 1) Wear a properly fitted bicycle helmet; protect your brain and save your life.
- 2) Adjust your bicycle to fit. The height of your bicycle should be adjusted to allow a slight bend at the knee when your leg is fully extended on the pedal; the handlebar level should be at the same level as your seat.
- 3) Check your equipment before riding, inflate tires and check your brakes.
- 4) Control your bicycle. Always ride with at least one hand on the handlebars and carry books and other items in a backpack or bicycle carrier.
- 5) Watch for and avoid road hazards. Be on the lookout for hazards such as pot holes, broken glass and gravel. All of these hazards can cause a crash.
- 6) Avoid riding at night. It's far more dangerous to ride at night and it's harder for others to see you. If you ride at night, wear something that makes you easily seen by others. Make sure you have red reflectors on the rear of your bicycle and white light on the front. It's the law.

Rules of the road

- 1) Go with the traffic flow – ride on the right side of the roadway with the traffic flow.

- 2) Obey all traffic laws – a bicycle is a vehicle and you are the driver.
- 3) Be predictable – ride in a straight line, not in and out of cars, and signal your moves to others.
- 4) Stay alert at all times
- 5) Look before turning – when turning left or right, always look behind you for a break in traffic, then signal when making the turn.
- 6) Watch for parked cars – ride far enough out from the curb to avoid the unexpected from parked cars (like doors opening and cars pulling out).

Sidewalk versus street riding

The safest place for bicycle riding is on the street, where bicycles are expected to follow the same rules of the road as motorists and ride in the same direction.

Children less than 10 years old, however, are not mature enough to make all the decisions necessary to safely ride in the street. They are better off riding on the sidewalk

For anyone riding on a sidewalk, watch for vehicles coming in and out of driveways. Stop at corners of sidewalks and streets to look for cars and make sure drivers see you before crossing. Enter a street at a corner and not between parked cars. Alert pedestrians that you are near by saying "excuse me" or "passing on your left".

Seasonal Reminders

The city has in place a number of property maintenance requirements through its City Code to preserve and enhance the value of your home and the aesthetic quality of your neighborhood. The purpose of this article is to promote a better understanding of the property maintenance code and additionally to illustrate some of the more common property maintenance violations found within the city.

As a courtesy to your neighbors and in the interest of the appearance of our neighborhoods, please be reminded of the following standards:

Outdoor Storage

Exterior property areas should be kept in a clean, safe and sanitary condition so as not to pose a threat to public health.

Trash and Recycling Receptacles

When not at the curb for pickup all receptacles should be located in an enclosed building or placed behind the front building line of your home.

Grass and Weeds

Tall grass and weeds are unsightly and detrimental to health due to their attraction of vermin. Grass must be maintained below eight inches in height and weeds must be removed.

Maintenance of Plantings

All plant materials afflicted with decay or disease or insect infestation must be removed or properly treated. All sound plant materials shall be properly maintained and trimmed and not show signs of neglect or unsightliness.

Inoperable Vehicles

All vehicles which are inoperable are required to be stored in an enclosed building.

After proper notification, a property owner whose property does not meet these standards could be issued a violation notice and be subject to fines and/or other penalties imposed by the courts.

If you have any questions about property maintenance or would like to report a property maintenance issue, call us at (937) 836-3500 or use our online report form at www.clayton.oh.us.

