

Mayor's
Corner
Page 3



2017 Road
Resurfacing
Program
Page 2

THE

clayton CONNECTION

Volume 21

No. 1

Spring 2017

FD Improves ISO Rating: New rating provides financial benefit to residents



Clayton FD during live fire training

Every five to ten years, the Clayton Fire Department is evaluated by the ISO (Insurance Service Office), an organization that provides statistical data on risk. In 2016, the fire department lowered its ISO rating from a 5 to a 3 by improving in multiple areas (lower number = better rating). There are over 46,000 fire departments in the United States, and the Clayton Fire Department now ranks in the top 10% of fire departments in the nation.

Not only does the latest rating show the FD's commitment to excellent service, it also has a tangible benefit to Clayton residents. Insurance companies use the ISO rating to establish appropriate fire insurance premiums for residential and commercial properties, and a lower ISO class can save a home owner an average of \$200 per year.

Clayton Named One of Ohio's Safest Cities: Two years running!

For the second year in a row, Clayton has been designated as one of Ohio's safest cities. This year the City scored in the top 25% of Ohio safest cities included in an analysis by ValuePenguin. Also, according to FBI Uniform Crime Reporting data, Clayton has the 2nd lowest crime rate per capita in Montgomery County for cities with a population over 10,000.

Thirteen full-time and six part-time Clayton police officers work 365 days a year, 24 hours a day to maintain these designations year after year. In 2016, Clayton officers responded to over 9,000 calls for service, a 9% increase from 2015.

Clayton PD is always working to provide the best service to our community. To further this goal, the PD applied for and received certification from the Ohio Collaborative Law Enforcement Certification Program. Out of 983 policing jurisdictions in the state, only 37% have achieved this certification.



2017 Road Resurfacing Program:

Year 2

2016 spending: \$1.2 million - Est. 2017 spending: \$2.9 million

Phase I of the Clayton Road Resurfacing Program was completed in 2016. The first year of the program brought significant improvement to the City's streets. The second year begins spring 2017. During this time contractors will be busy resurfacing neighborhood roads and renovating some residents' curb and gutter. We understand this process can cause some inconvenience and thank you all for your patience and cooperation!

For a map of the 2017 program, visit the City's website. For questions or concerns, please contact Randy Sanders at dsanders@clayton.oh.us or call the Clayton Government Center.



Full-depth repair and full curb replacement (Savina)



Mill and fill, no curb replacement (Priscilla)



Mill and fill, new storm sewer drain (Shell)

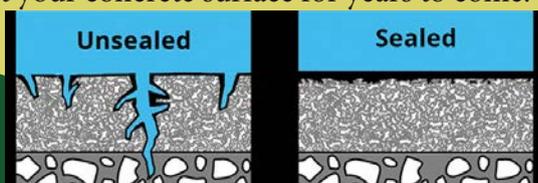


Extending the Life of Your Curb, Gutter and Driveway:

Clayton is starting the second year of a three-year curb, gutter, and driveway approach program, and property owners may want to consider a concrete sealant to protect their new concrete. Concrete is porous, allowing water to penetrate the surface. In freeze-thaw climates, the expansion of frozen liquids can destroy the surface of unsealed concrete, and household chemicals can discolor and damage it.

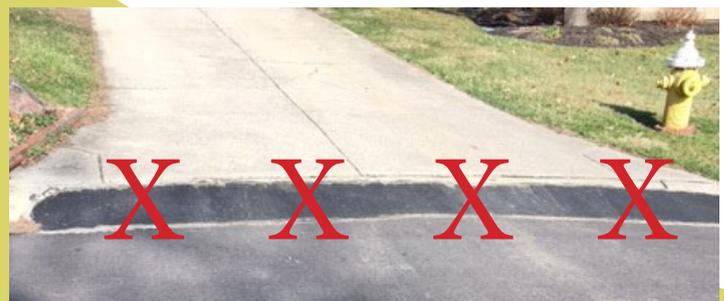
Sealants are virtually invisible and generally cost \$0.15 to \$2.50 per square foot depending on the type selected. In most cases, the investment in a sealer is well worth the expense, considering it can cost \$7 to \$8 per square foot to replace deteriorated concrete.

With the cost of concrete rising every year, an investment in a good concrete sealer every few years can protect your concrete surface for years to come.



Prevent Street Erosion:

Do not block gutter or driveway apron



Clayton ordinance does not permit the gutter plate or apron to be covered with any asphalt material. Obstruction of the gutter displaces water onto the pavement, which can cause erosion of the road surface. If the gutter plate or apron is filled in with asphalt, or any other material, the property owner may be required to remove and replace it.

If you wish to install a lower profile curb at the end of your driveway during the 2017 or 2018 Road Resurfacing Program, please talk to the contractor or contact Clayton Public Service Director Randy Sanders at dsanders@clayton.oh.us or 937-836-3500 ext. 123 prior to the curb being replaced.

MAYOR'S CORNER



In January Ohio Auditor David Yost released his report entitled “Financial Health Indicators Report for Cities and Counties”. The goal, according to Yost, was to identify cities and counties that may be experiencing fiscal stress and to provide support to

these entities in a proactive manner. The indicators must be considered together to obtain insight as to whether an entity is experiencing the early signs of fiscal stress; however, individual indicators identify specific areas for review by the city or county.

The city of Clayton scored a “Positive Outlook” in 14 of the 15 categories. Clayton received a Cautionary Outlook, or “yellow light” in the one area of “Decline in General Fund Property Tax Revenue”. This is no surprise – the aftermath of the Great Recession saw real estate appraisals plummet. Although most of that value has been regained by homeowners, an idiosyncrasy of Ohio tax law prohibits property taxes from returning to the pre-recession revenues without a new ballot issue.

Clayton performed well compared to other cities in our region. Oakwood, Brookville and Beavercreek each scored the same as Clayton. Englewood, Union, Trotwood, Huber Heights and Riverside all had a greater number of financial concerns and only Vandalia and

Centerville scored higher. No cities in the region outside Montgomery County fared better including Tipp City and Springboro.

All of these Financial Health Indicators are based on financial trends for the jurisdictions and help identify an outlook for the future. Clayton scrutinizes these trends carefully and council demands a high level of accountability from staff to assure continued fiscal health.

Soon staff will commence making presentations, revenue predictions, and recommendations to council on future treatment of the safety services levies which will expire this year. Council will be making important decisions on the future financial health of the city. Residents are encouraged to attend council meetings and/or watch them on cable television to stay apprised of developments and to provide input at the meetings, by email or telephone. Contact information for every council member is contained in this newsletter. We value your opinion!

See you around town,



View the Auditor’s report at:

<https://www.ohioauditor.gov/fhi/search>

Resident Boards and Commissions: Volunteers needed

The City is always accepting letters of interest from residents wishing to serve on volunteer boards and commissions. Currently, we are requesting members for the Clayton Parks Advisory Commission. Each member serves a three-year term and serves until his or her successor is appointed. Members meet once per month to discuss current issues pertaining to our parks and recreation facilities or to plan community events such as the Labor Day Fireworks and Breakfast with Santa.

Take an active role in providing the best parks and recreation amenities to our community by applying for membership on the Parks Advisory Commission today! If you have any questions or to submit a letter of interest, please contact Lisa Brown, Assistant to the City Manager, at 937-836-3500 ext. 113 or lbrown@clayton.oh.us.



Financial Transparency

In order to be more transparent and accountable to the public we serve, the City of Clayton participates in the State of Ohio Open Check Book. Using this website, anyone can view a breakdown of the City’s expenditures by fund, department, vendor and many other options. Go to www.OhioCheckbook.com and click on the Local Gov & Schools tab to start searching today! Also, copies of the City’s financial documents, such as the municipal budget and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), can be found on the City’s website www.clayton.oh.us.

Did you Know?

What public safety personnel does for you

When you think of police and fire services, what do you think of? Responding to 911 calls? Fighting crime? Extinguishing fires? These are essential parts of the job for police officers and firefighters, but this is not all they do. They also have daily tasks and work hard to collaborate and build trust with residents. Here are just a few of the things our public safety staff do that may not fit with what you think of as “typical” duties.



Shop with a Cop: During the 2016 holiday season the Police Dept. partnered with Northmont FISH to sponsor three area families. They secured funds to purchase gifts and items for a holiday meal.



Pink Ribbon Girls: The Fire Department works with the PRG to raise money for local families battling breast and reproductive cancers. In 2016, \$7,000 was raised to benefit families in the Northmont community.



Public Safety Open House: In October 2016, the PD and FD invited residents to interact with department members in a fun and festive atmosphere. There was a drunk goggle obstacle course, ladder rides and other interactive activities.



R.A.N.G.E. Task Force: Clayton and other jurisdictions team up to battle the heroin epidemic. This is a widespread issue that affects every community. Two Clayton officers currently participate on the Task Force in addition to their regular duties.



Ohio Task Force 1: This taskforce acts as a local, state and national resource for disaster relief. FF/P Matt Maurer has been a member since 2004 and was deployed to numerous disasters including hurricanes Sandy and Katrina. Matt is a Logistics Team Manager and serves on a national committee to help improve and manage Task Force teams across the US.

Welcome to Our New Full-time Staff: Fire Department full-time staff is growing!

As the City continues to grow and progress, the FD is growing with it. In the early days, the Fire Department predominately relied on volunteer firefighters and EMS staff. When this model no longer worked for a growing city, the FD moved to a mostly part-time crew in 2004 and then expanded to 7 full-time and numerous part-time staff members in 2007. This staffing structure was maintained for 10 years.

Experienced part-timers are now harder to find and even harder to keep. In the last two years we hired 25 part-time personnel, and we lost all of them to career jobs! In order to provide the highest level of service to our community, the Fire Department hired three full-time firefighter/paramedics at the end of 2016.

Hiring three new full-time firefighter/paramedics is an essential investment in Clayton's future. The new staff members bring years of experience and specialized training. They also support the full-time staffing of Station 84, a previously volunteer staffed station in the northern part of our community. If you see them around town, please give a warm welcome to Firefighters Gilson, Stevens and Bakan!



From left: FF/P Stevens, Fire Chief Garver, FF/P Gilson, and FF/P Bakan

School Resource Officers: Connecting students and public safety

Clayton Police Department works in conjunction with Northmont City Schools to provide two full-time School Resource Officers serving at Northmont High School and Middle School. An additional officer fills in at Northwood Elementary School when a School Resource Officer is needed. SRO's provide many services to the schools they serve including mentoring, providing security services at sporting events and directing traffic before and after school. But, more importantly they help build a positive relationship between youth and the Police Department.

Officer Jack Daugherty



- Serves in Northmont High School
- SRO for over 11 years
- Clayton Police Officer for over 25 years
- 2015 Ohio SRO Officer of the Year
- 2016 received Master SRO designation by State of Ohio

Officer Randy Monnin



- Serves in Northmont Middle School
- SRO for over two years
- Clayton Police Officer for over eight years
- Served as firefighter and lieutenant for Clayton Fire Department 1995-2008

For more information about these topics or any questions please contact the City of Clayton at (937) 836-3500 or visit our website at www.clayton.oh.us

Meadowbrook at Clayton: Third year open to the public



Golf season officially opened mid-March, but Premier and Limited passes are still available. Stop in the Pro Shop to join a league, inquire about a golf outing or request information about our ladies clinics starting in April. We will also be holding several golf tournaments and scrambles throughout the season. For more information about the golf course, contact PGA Professional Bill Williams at bwilliams@clayton.oh.us or call the Pro Shop at 937-836-6353.

The event facility calendar is starting to fill up, but there are still dates available in late 2017. Meadowbrook provides a beautiful backdrop for any event, especially during the fall when the leaves are changing. We have also added an outdoor venue, the Brookside Patio, which will be available for rent in late summer. For more information about the banquet facility contact The Grill by Heritage, Adrian Jaqua at adrian@hecyes.com or 937-540-9685.

Community Events:

Meadowbrook provides gathering place



Easter Egg Hunt

Not only is Meadowbrook a great recreational amenity for the City, it also provides a gathering place for community events. The events held in 2016 were a huge success, from the Easter Egg Hunt in early spring to Breakfast with Santa during the holiday season.

There were over 500 people in attendance for the first annual Labor Day Fireworks and more than 200 adults and children were served at Breakfast with Santa. The City will continue these events this year and may add a couple more, so look for more information in future editions of the newsletter and on the City and Meadowbrook websites and social media!



Labor Day Fireworks



Tri-city Anniversary



Breakfast with Santa



Carving and Costumes

Scheduled Events:

Date	Time	Event
Sat., 4/8	9 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt: rain or shine! Egg hunt inside in case of bad weather (Meadowbrook)
Sat., 5/13	TBD	Two-man best ball golf tournament (Meadowbrook)
Sun., 5/14	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.	Mother's Day Brunch: more information to come on City website (Meadowbrook)
Sat., 5/20	8 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Sweep Clayton Clean: Disposal of non-hazardous household waste (Woolery Lane)
Sat., 7/1	TBD	ABCD golf scramble (Meadowbrook)

Code Enforcement Reminders: Making Clayton the beautiful city we call home

Code enforcement is a necessary outreach to ensure property maintenance and zoning codes are being followed by all property owners. Starting last spring, Clayton adopted a proactive approach to enforcing these rules to ensure property values remain stable and the aesthetic appeal of our City continues to be high.

Our Code Enforcement Officer works with property owners to achieve voluntary compliance.

Much of this program is simply educating property owners of what is permitted and what needs to be addressed. Things such as high grass, junk and debris, unlicensed and inoperable vehicles and exterior maintenance of structures are some of the things addressed as part of this program.

If you see a concern or want to speak with the code enforcement officer, please contact Darryl Swafford at 836-3500 or dswafford@clayton.oh.us.



Darryl Swafford,
Code Enforcement Officer



VIP Beautification Program Recognizing Clayton's most charming residential properties

Clayton has always been known for its picturesque and beautifully maintained properties. This year we want to recognize the best of the best with a VIP Beautification Program. This program aims to recognize residents and their efforts in beautifying their homes and properties.

All nominated properties will be recognized with a letter of appreciation from the City, and winners will be recognized at a City Council meeting. Residents can nominate their own property, a neighbor's or a friend's property. City staff will also nominate properties as they are out in the community during the spring and summer months.

To nominate a property, contact Jack Kuntz at 836-3500 or jkuntz@clayton.oh.us



For more information about these topics or any questions please contact the City of Clayton at (937) 836-3500 or visit our website at www.clayton.oh.us



P.O. Box 280
Clayton, OH 45315-0280
(937) 836-3500
www.clayton.oh.us

Joyce Deitering, Mayor
jdeitering@clayton.oh.us

Tim Gorman, Council Member
tgorman@clayton.oh.us

Greg Merkle, Council Member
gmerkle@clayton.oh.us

Michael Stevens, Council Member
mstevens@clayton.oh.us

Kenneth Henning, Council Member
khenning@clayton.oh.us

Dennis Lieberman, Council Member
dlieberman@clayton.oh.us

Tina Kelly, Council Member
tkelly@clayton.oh.us

CITY STAFF

Richard C. Rose, City Manager
rrose@clayton.oh.us

Jack Kuntz, Director of Development
jkuntz@clayton.oh.us

Brian Garver, Fire Chief
bgarver@clayton.oh.us

Matt Hamlin, Chief of Police
mhamlin@clayton.oh.us

Randy Sanders, Director of Public Service
dsanders@clayton.oh.us

Kevin Schweitzer CPA, Finance Director
kschweitzer@clayton.oh.us

Barbara Seim, Clerk of Council
bseim@clayton.oh.us

Participate in Local Government:

Residents can participate in local government by attending meetings of the Clayton City Council. Time is set aside at the end

Upcoming Meetings

April 20
May 4
May 18
June 1
June 15

of each meeting to ask questions and voice concerns. Meetings take place the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Clayton Government Center, 6996 Taywood Rd. The meeting schedule may change due to special presentations or other events. If you have a comment about City services and prefer more immediate attention, please email askclayton@clayton.oh.us or call 937-836-3500.



Hydrant Flushing:

Annual hydrant flushing begins in April. If you see a crew flushing a hydrant on your street please avoid running tap water until flushing is completed. Visit our website for more information.