

MACEDONIA MESSENGER

E-Bulletin Update of the City of Macedonia



Mayor

Don Kuchta

Economic Development

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Diana Johnson 468-8322

Administrative Executive

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Mayor's Court 468-8379

Mary Ellen Foster, Clerk

Council 468-8341

Shane Barker

Dave Engle, President

Ken Martin

Nick Molnar

Peggy Spraggins, VP

Jan Tulley

Josephine Arceci, Clerk

Departments

Building 468-8360

Mike Hlad, Commissioner

Finance 468-8352

Loren Sengstock,

Interim Finance Director

Fire 468-8339

Tim Black, Chief

HR/Personnel 468-8353

Denise Mulhollen

Personnel Administrator

Police 468-1234

Jon Golden, Chief

Recreation 468-8370

Angela Gmerek, Director

Service 468-8324

Jim Crevar, Director



Mayor's Office

Route 8 is nearing completion.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Eric Czetli, District Deputy Director of ODOT, District 4, for his cooperation in working with Macedonia to overcome hurdles with this job. **Someday soon, Route 8 will be entirely new from our south border to our north border!**



While on the subject of roads, I would like to talk to you about the mess that develops under the I-271 bridge (eastbound on Rt. 82) with traffic backing up to make left turns to go north on I-271. Now that there is a ramp to go north on I-271 right next to Bob Evans, we must do away with the left turns on Rt. 82 (north to I-271) for obvious safety reasons. It is anticipated that cars will be traveling at a higher speed at that area and we will have 2 lanes going under the new railroad bridge heading west. By closing the left turn to the I-271 ramp, we will also be able to extend the left turn lane (heading west) waiting to go into the Commons. This will create better traffic flow and have little effect on our residents. Those who live east of the new bridge will still access I-271 north the way they did. Those who live west of I-271 will simply go south on Route 8 and pick up I-271 north next to Bob Evans. The resulting improved traffic flow at the entrance to I-271 next to Speedway will save time, and most importantly... lives. We will make every attempt to have signage in place before this happens to heighten awareness of this change. However, if people still go to the ramp and find their access blocked, they simply take South Bedford to Highland and get on next to Bob Evans.



I can understand if I have confused you, but this is one advantage to getting the Messenger. *The earlier you know about things....the easier they are to grasp.* There will be many more notifications over the coming weeks. **Addressing traffic problems has always been a top priority!**

Draw your own facts and then draw your own conclusions. (I do it all the time.)

Mayor Don Kuchta

***Message from Diana Johnson
Mayor's Administrative Executive***



NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL

July 24, 2009

Dear NOPEC Member Communities:

There has been some confusion regarding mailings that you are getting soliciting your municipalities to sell electricity to you at a reduced rate outside of NOPEC. To clarify: If you have building accounts that use less than 700,000 kilowatt hours per year, you should have already received opt-out notices from NOPEC for those buildings and we hope for the sake of our mutual interests that you will not opt-out of the NOPEC program eligible buildings.

As a NOPEC customer your eligible accounts will automatically be enrolled in our electric savings program unless you either 1) return the opt-out postcard or 2) enroll with a different supplier. We ask that you do neither of these so you receive the savings we have negotiated for you. If you do nothing, your eligible buildings will be enrolled and your community will get a discount on the electric bills for these accounts.

NOPEC is a public non-profit entity and you are a member. We charge no dues or fees to any member community for the good work we do. The future of our ability to offer good rates depends upon keeping our load as large as possible and we are offering an excellent deal for you and your facilities. Regarding the building accounts that you have that use more than 700,000 kilowatt hours per year, our supplier has indicated that it would consider supplying you electricity for those building accounts on an opt-in basis at the same rate we are offering you in the opt-out program.

We are working on the final details of this offer and will be back to you next week. In the meantime, if you could determine if you have an interest, I would appreciate knowing of your interest and which of these larger accounts you are interested in getting served by NOPEC's supplier at a discount.

Thank you for your continued support of NOPEC.

NOPEC works!

**Leigh Herington,
Executive Director
NOPEC
31320 Solon Road, Suite 20
Solon, Ohio 44139
440.248.1992
440.248.1986 (fax)**



City Council



Changes to Macedonia's Floodplain Map

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently re-examined flood zones and developed detailed, digital flood hazard maps for Summit County. As a result, FEMA has revised the location of the identified special flood hazard area in Macedonia, the area that was once referred to as the 100-year floodplain. The changes in Macedonia's floodplain map affect about 100 property owners. ***Those affected received a letter about the changes. If you did not receive a letter, your property has not been affected by the changes.*** The full text of new Ordinance No. 30-2009 relating to flood regulations and entitled "Special Purpose Flood Damage Reduction" is on file in the office of the Clerk of Council. The map may be obtained from the City Engineer.

Section 909.04 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Macedonia is hereby amended June 11, 2009 to read as follows:

909.04 Noxious Weeds.



(a) It is hereby determined that noxious and/or uncultivated weeds and grass growing at a height in excess of eight inches or higher, upon any improved property within the City after the first day of May of each year are a public nuisance. For purposes herein, property which has constructed upon it, or in proximity to it, any building or similar structure used or intended to be used as the domicile of persons or as a place of business where persons reside during working hours, or any property in a residential subdivision to which is extended any improvement required by the Subdivision Regulations, shall be considered improved property.

(b) The Clerk, no later than the first of June of each year, shall cause notice on the City's webpage and cable station of this regulation that requires that all owners of improved property, in the City, to regularly remove the weeds and cut the grass growing upon their properties during the ensuing months of the year, by maintaining the grass and any cultivated weeds below a height of eight inches on the entirety of any improved property and removing any and all large piles or accumulations of cut grass and weeds from said property.

(c) Should any weeds or grass defined above be found on any improved property within the City, after the foregoing notice has been made, the Building Commissioner shall cause a written notice to be served by regular mail or personal delivery upon the owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of such land, notifying him that the weeds and grass are growing on such lands and that they must be cut or destroyed within seven (7) days after the service of such notice. If the address of such owner lessee, agent or tenant having charge of the lands is unknown, it shall be sufficient to publish such notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the City, and/or on the City's webpage. If the owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of the lands fails to comply with the above notice, the Building Commissioner shall cause all weeds herein and grass to be removed and/or cut Thereupon, the expense of all necessary work, including but not limited to cutting, mowing, raking and applying weed killer, shall be billed to the property owner by regular mail or personal delivery and, upon his failure to reimburse the City this amount within thirty days thereafter, written notice shall may be made to the County Fiscal Officer advising of the City's action with a statement of the charges for the services, including all services referred to above, the fees of the officers who made the service, the notice and return, and a proper description of the premises, and a request that all such costs and fees be entered upon the tax duplicate and a lien upon such lands from and after the date of the entry which shall be collected as other taxes and be returned to the Municipality according to law. In the alternative, direct legal action may be taken by the Director of Law to recover these expenses.

(d) After two such written notices within the same calendar year are served by the Zoning Inspector upon the owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of such land, the City will assess a \$100.00 fine upon the owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of such land for each subsequent infraction. Each day that the improved property is not brought in compliance with

this section following the issuance of the requisite notices to the owner, lessee, agent or tenant, shall constitute a separate infraction.

(e) If the property owner does not pay these fines within a period of thirty (30) days, the City may file a lien against the subject property with the County Fiscal Auditor. Such amount shall be a debt of the person to who assessed until paid and, in case of delinquency, may be enforced as delinquent City property taxes or by a suit against such person by the City, County, or subsequent property owner who paid off such lien.

Building Department



Road Construction Updates

STATE ROUTE 82 - UPDATES

Finishing touches are being done on the south side of the road. Soon, the traffic will be switched over to the south side in order to repave the north side. ***Please note the following changes:***

- ***Westbound traffic is not permitted to turn left on Valley View Road***
- ***Westbound traffic is not permitted to turn left on South Bedford Road***
- ***Eastbound traffic is not permitted to turn left on North Bedford Road***

Please use alternative routes. ***These closures are only temporary*** and will reopen as soon as possible. ***Feel free to contact the Building Department for any alternate routes, 330-468-8360.***

Zoning Issues

If you have not read in the newspaper or heard by word of mouth, the Noxious Weed Ordinance (909.04) has been amended by City Council. ***There is now a \$100 fine for high grass once you have been cited twice for Noxious Weeds.*** The Building Department asks that you please be a responsible homeowner and maintain your property.



Fire Department

Summer Health and Safety Tips



Insect Bites and Stings

Not only are insect bites and stings annoying and sometimes painful, they may also pose serious health risks. In some areas, **mosquitos can transmit diseases** such as encephalitis and West Nile virus, and ticks can carry serious illnesses like Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Lyme Disease. The best way to deal with bites and stings is to prevent them whenever possible. Repellants, while easy and effective, should be used with care. The EPA recommends:

- ✚ **Apply repellants only to exposed skin and/or clothing – not under clothing.**
- ✚ **Don't use on cuts, wounds or irritated skin.**
- ✚ **Do not let children handle replants, and don't apply to their hands.**
- ✚ **Apply to hands and then apply on face – don't apply or spray directly on face.**
- ✚ **Don't spray repellent in enclosed areas, or around food. Avoid breathing sprays.**



Insect bites and stings can also pose threats to those who become allergic to them. In the most serious cases, a sting or bite can cause anaphylaxis, a life-threatening condition that requires immediate medical attention. Its symptoms can include localized swelling, dizziness, shortness of breath, a drop in blood pressure, and loss of consciousness. Fortunately, most bites and stings result in much less serious and more localized reactions, like pain, itching and swelling. Warning signs of impending allergic reactions may include some wheezing and swelling of the tongue.



To avoid any of the above reactions, it is important to avoid stings and bites whenever possible. Stinging insects like honeybees, wasps and hornets, are more active during the summer. Unfortunately, repellents don't work against them. Be cautious when working or playing in areas where their nests are likely to be located, such as near bushes, trees and buildings. Some additional precautions you can take include:

- ✚ **Wear shoes – not sandals – when walking outside, and don't go barefoot.**
- ✚ **Never swat at flying insects.**
- ✚ **Keep food covered as much as possible when outdoors.**
- ✚ **Keep garbage in tightly closed containers.**
- ✚ **Avoid perfumes, hairsprays, and sweet smelling fragrances when outdoors.**
- ✚ **Avoid brightly colored clothing.**
- ✚ **Drive with the car windows closed.**
- ✚ **If stung by a honeybee, scrape the stinger out – don't squeeze more venom into the skin.**



The Silverdonian Connection

The Silverdonians of Macedonia are a group of senior citizens that meet the first Monday of each month at Macedonia City Hall. They gather in the Community Room to share an afternoon of good friends, good food and hopefully some good speakers or a movie!!

Macedonia Seniors that would like to join us are welcome, *but we do ask that you call us for reservations the Wednesday before our luncheon.* The Village Restaurant in Oakwood is our wonderful caterer, and we need to give Sharon a total count. *The luncheon starts at 12 noon and the speaker begins at 1:00 pm.*

The cost is only \$3.00 and worth every penny! If you are interested in more information about our luncheon, please feel free to call *Dianne at 330-468-8339 or Denise at 330-468-8300.*

Events coming up include...

Monday - August 3, 2009

“Dr.’s Black Bag – Home Remedies and Folk Lore”
Presented by the Summit County Historical Society
(If attending, please call by July 29th)

Monday - September 4, 2009

“Grandma’s Attic/Grandpa’s Garage”
Presented by the Summit County Historical Society

Hope you can join us!!

For more information, check our web site:

www.macedonia.oh.us



Police Department



WWW.MIKE-SNOOK.COM

Macedonia Police Needs Your Help!



We've had numerous burglaries lately and are looking for your help. Any suspicious activity should be reported IMMEDIATELY to the Police Department. If you see a strange vehicle in your neighbors' driveway or see strangers knocking on their door, call IMMEDIATELY! Also, if you see kids walking down the street with a suitcase or a pillow case full of stuff, call IMMEDIATELY!

In almost every case, someone saw something out of the ordinary. With the economy the way it is we will see more of this. **Be a good neighbor. Look out for your neighborhood.**

Call the police right away when something isn't right and you may end up helping us catch a burglar!



Parks & Recreation Department



A Fun Free Family Event!

Movie in the Park

****Presenting Kung Fu Panda****

Time: 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Date: Friday, August 7th

Location: Longwood Park Field D

Free Popcorn, Pop & Sno-cones as well 2 chances to win Chick-fil-A for a year!



Upcoming Program Dates to remember!



August 7th: Second Annual Movie in the Park

August 23rd: 3rd Annual Dog Swim & Parade

August 23rd – 31st: Pool Closing for Maintenance

Service Department



Now Recycling Cardboard



PHONEBOOKS & CARDBOARD NOW ACCEPTED

NEW!!! There is now PAPER RECYCLING AVAILABLE AT 1494 E. AURORA ROAD at the Macedonia Family Recreation Center. PLEASE RECYCLE NEWSPAPERS IN THE RIVER VALLEY PAPER COMPANY GREEN BINS WITH/FLOWERS ALL AT ONE CONVENIENT LOCATION!!

Please collapse and flatten all boxes and cardboard before putting contents into the recycle bin. The bin fills up quickly and space is limited when there is so much bulk!

Thank you for your cooperation!

Any questions, please contact the Macedonia Service Department at 330-468-8324.





State Route 8 - Updates

State Route 8 Changes in the City of Macedonia and Northfield Center Twp.

Beginning late Friday night, July 24, through early Saturday morning, July 25, (from approximately 12 midnight until 6 a.m.), the newly constructed SR 8 entrance ramp to I-271 northbound *will open*. This will result in:

- SR 8 northbound traffic entering I-271 northbound while by-passing the SR 8/Highland Rd. intersection.
- SR 8 southbound traffic now having access I-271 northbound. Prior to this, SR 8 southbound traffic could only access I-271 northbound via SR 82.
- Highland Rd. traffic now entering I-271 northbound from SR 8 southbound.
- The existing SR 8 northbound entrance ramp to I-271 northbound (north of the SR 8/Highland Rd. intersection) being permanently closed. Please note: **This work is weather dependent.**

SR 8 from just south of Twinsburg Rd. to just north of I-271 will have various lane restrictions in either or both directions during non-peak hours for roadway work. I-271 northbound and southbound at the I-271/SR 8 interchange is reduced to one 11' through lane with the right lanes in each direction being an exit-only lane to SR 8. In addition, the I-271 southbound exit ramp to SR 8 is reduced to 11' as well. This work is part of a \$109.7 million project for the reconstruction of SR 8 from just south of Twinsburg Rd. to just north of I-271. New ramps will be built to access I-271 from SR 8 northbound and SR 8 southbound from I-271 southbound. SR 8 has been separated from Twinsburg Rd. and Highland Rd. has been widened with additional turn lanes and new signalization. The entire project is scheduled to be complete by mid-summer 2010.

August – 2009
City of Macedonia Public Notice of Meetings
Calendar of Events & Dates of Interest

Mayor's Court	Wednesday	Aug 5	9:30 am
Finance Meeting	Thursday	Aug 6	6:30 pm
Planning Commission	Monday	Aug 10	5:30 pm
Mayor's Court	Wednesday	Aug 12	9:30 am
Regular Council	Thursday	Aug 13	CANCELLED
Mayor's Court	Wednesday	Aug 19	9:30 am
Planning Commission	Monday	Aug 24	5:30 pm
Mayor's Court	Wednesday	Aug 26	9:30 am
Regular Council	Thursday	Aug 27	7:30 pm (Work Session at 6:30 pm, unless other posted)