

City of Macedonia

 **e-messenger**
august 2011



Mayor

Don Kuchta
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City Council

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City Directory

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Mike Hlad, Commissioner

Finance 330-468-8359
Scott M. Svab, Director

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Tim Black, Chief

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Denise Mulhollen

Police 330-468-1234
Jon Golden, Chief

Recreation 330-468-8370
Angela Gmerek, Director

Service 330-468-8324
Jim Crevar, Director

a MESSAGE *from our Mayor*

Just to update you on recent projects that are, or will be done shortly.

We have inventoried the condition of our sidewalks last year. There were some that were in horrible shape. I would like to thank all of the homeowners that worked with the City to correct that. I tried to get letters out thanking each and every one of you for your cooperation. If I missed someone, please know that I consider you a citizen that cares about Macedonia.

As part of that inventory study we found some crossings that were in need of being made handicap accessible. The Macedonia's Service Department is working to correct that issue as this is written.

As far as roads...we are changing the traffic pattern where Summer Road meets Route 82. There are two lanes there heading South at the light. The left lane as you face South, was and will be for left turns. The right turn lane will be for both right and left turns allowing the traffic to empty on to 82 quicker.

The water main that broke on Highland Road was fixed and it was a horrible traffic experience for us all while broken. It was so bad that we are aggressively looking for ways to make it better. It was assumed that having five lanes and a new bridge was all that would be needed. You could readily see the catastrophe that was prevented by replacing the 82 Railroad Bridge. I don't want to even think of the resulting traffic jam we would have had with the old bridge still there. It is also evident that we experience huge amount of backup because of cars making a left turn onto Macedonia Commons. The "tail" of cars waiting to turn that forms, exceeds the length of the left turn lane, causing a restriction of Route 82 to one lane in that area. We attempted to remove that congestion once to no avail. We were stopped with everything ready to go. A lot of that which we are experiencing could have been prevented.

continued on the next page

Mayor's Message

Don Kuchta, Mayor

august 2011



I am happy to announce that Macedonia will be able to contact residents for emergency notification. We now are ready to request that service from the Summit County Warning Activation Reverse Alert System. In the future those people with registered phones will qualify for notification. This means that this service does not include those phone numbers that do not appear in the phone book, such as cell phones and unregistered numbers. The alerts that can be triggered are... an Amber Alert, Civil Danger, Earthquake, Evacuate immediately, Fire warning, Hazmat Warning, Radioactive Warning, Boil Water Alert and other important vital reasons. We are working toward better emergency notification as requested by one of our residents Rosemary Filitsky. I mention a name because one resident's concerns can make living in Macedonia safer for us all. I encourage our residents to come forward with their concerns especially if they are life threatening. Please visit the Reverse Alert website at www.reversealert.net for further information.

Speaking of registered phones...

The registered telephone ("land line") is slowly giving way to the cell phone. Just 74% of the U.S. households now have a land line phone. 82% of American adults use a cell phone. I would imagine that percentage to be much higher for the youth of our country. It is interesting to see that the American home has more television sets than people! 2.96 according to a Nielsen report, compared to 1.57 in 1975. Of course looking at these statistics shows that the item which is considered a necessity is age related. People 65 or older rate television and "land lands" a necessity compared to younger people who consider computers and cell phones an absolute "must have".

Perhaps getting older is the result of the iron in your blood turning to lead in your rear. Staying at home watching TV sounds better every day, along with not having to recharge anything.

Mayor Don Kuchta

Mayor Don Kuchta



The City of

Macedonia

The Crossroads of Northeast Ohio

Congratulations to Denny Moore July Employee of the Month and on his Retirement



Denny Moore began his employ in 1979 as the City's very first full-time mechanic. Ten years later the City's very first Sign Shop Technician position was posted. Denny applied for it and thus began his tenure in the Sign Shop. Denny has a marketing degree in advertising and design. His other certificates of education are: Work Zone Traffic Control for Supervisors, Basics of Accident Monitoring, Traffic Paints, Traffic Signing/Marketing for Field Personnel, Traffic Engineering and Safety Seminar, and Traffic Signing for Supervisors.

Denny is primarily responsible for design, manufacturing installing and maintaining pedestrian and vehicle regulatory signs for the City as well as for various municipal events. Denny has attended seminar training at OSU for study in the use of vinyl bringing the vinyl sign age to the City. It is worth noting Denny brought the saying 'Crossroads of Northeast Ohio' to our city branding. He also assists the service department crew with fall leaf pickup and snow plowing efforts.

Denny began making signs when he was 9 years old. He made sales signs for a supermarket store thanks to his grandmother. She convinced the owner that he could make signs and they liked what he produced. He also made signs for all school activities as a young student. When asked where did he actually begin his desire for art? Denny stated, as a child "his mother made him draw off of cereal boxes!"

Denny served two years as a century dog handler in a maximum security area in Korea. Denny's roots are from upstate New York. Family is very important to Denny. He enjoys life as he proudly says he played every sport, rides a motorcycle, enjoys his collection of cars and just never stops learning. One of his antique car collections is a 53 Mercury Custom (purple with green flames) and a 57 Ford convertible bought from the original owner. His grandfather once said to him "the only regret you'll ever have is that you didn't do something." So Denny tries to live by that. He and his wife, Dianne, live in a 3-story 100 year old home on an acre of land where they just enjoy sharing their home with family and friends, especially during the holidays! He has virtually re-done every room several times over now. He has built his own barn, shed and workshop and built an addition onto the house. Impressed with his enthusiasm, Denny said he lives by the motto "it is always better to wear out rather than rust out".

Denny will be retiring from his service with the City this September. When asked about 'retirement', Denny said that is not a word in his vocabulary. There is just so much to do. You can get 9 holes of golf in and be back by 9:30 a.m. He has at least 500 started projects at the house. He is a collector of many things. Loves the 50's era. Says it was an era that had a definite impact on our way of life and produced the greatest songs and music ever made. He has a collection of Henry Ford books and even has a 1928 oil painting of him!

We sincerely congratulate Denny on his upcoming retirement and thank him for his contributions and services to the community. We wish him the best...and as Denny said, he will continue to "live life to its fullest and enjoy each and every day".



Congratulations to the Business of the Month...

Bob Evans

The Bob Evans' Restaurant in Macedonia has been a staple of the community for 26 years. Our commitment to the highest quality of food and service is well known to many! Our goal is to treat "strangers like friends" and "friends like family". Recently, as a company we have introduced a new guest service initiative. Best for my Guest is our re-focus on ensuring that the total experience of our guests is second to none. It is our commitment to be friendlier, faster, and have better food quality than any of our competitors. From the time you drive into our parking lot and walk through our doors you will notice the attention to details. From the cleanliness of our dining room to the attentiveness of our serving staff, and the great high quality products that we serve daily, you will feel the difference.

This summer we are featuring our all new "farm fresh" chicken sandwich line up. The line up consists of three specialty sandwiches. The smokehouse grill chicken, the farm favorite grilled chicken, and the grilled chicken club sandwich. All come with the freshest ingredients and made on fresh hand cut ciabatta bread. If your looking for something to cool you down on a hot summer day try our chicken salad plate. Made with chicken salad and surrounded by fresh fruit all topped off with pecans. It goes great with one of our real fruit smoothies. Nothing speaks like summer then these great products. Ask us about our monthly "kid's nights" where you get a great family friendly evening of activities for the kids all the while enjoying dinner! Look for Bob Evans' mascots biscuit and gravy too! The next "kid's night" is August 9th from 6-8 p.m. If you find you don't have the time to dine in, just call ahead and we will have it ready to go when you are. You don't even have to get out of your car. We will bring it out to you. We also feature our catering and family meal menus. Before your next event, call us to satisfy that craving for a home cooked meal with out all the work! We have 10 family meals under \$20 dollars. It's a great way to feed 3-4 people with out breaking the bank. Especially when fast food or pizza just will not do! As a staff it is our pleasure and commitment to ensure your every need is met every time!



Keith Akam, General Manager

We congratulate and appreciate Bob Evans restaurant for being part of our Business Community located at 266 E. Highland Road, Macedonia.



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Seniors

Be on the Alert for Door-to-Door Roofing Contractors

The Office of Consumer Affairs has received several calls from senior homeowners and family members of seniors explaining that they are receiving unexpected visits by home improvement contractors who claim that their home's roof has been damaged by hail. The owners were then convinced that replacement needed to be done and signed contracts which did not include important details such as the price or materials. The salesmen even offered to help negotiate with the homeowner's insurance company. After the consumers had time to think about the solicitation, they called the office to check on the companies and ask about the incomplete contracts.

"Consumers should never sign a contract that is not completely filled out especially if the cost of the job is left blank as in these cases," said Cynthia Sich, Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs. "Homeowners need to be extremely careful when dealing with high-pressure sales that claim damage has been done and if repairs are not made immediately there could be more harm to the home. Do not rely on verbal statements when signing a contract; make sure to get all job duties and costs in writing. Or better yet, tell the salesperson to leave information with you about the job and this will allow you time to check them out and get additional estimates."

If you have storm damage, contact your insurance agent to see if the repairs are covered. Sometimes insurance companies can provide a list of contractors, but cannot steer you toward one in particular. Consumers should ask family, friends and neighbors for suggestions. It is recommended that you not allow your contractor to get involved with negotiations. In Ohio, a Public Insurance Adjustor's license is needed for a third party (other than an attorney) to represent a consumer in any insurance claim.

Homeowners need to be aware of storm chasers who show up after bad weather has passed offering to do repairs. Make sure to get three (3) written estimates before having any major home improvement or repair work performed and check the business out with the Office of Consumer Affairs. For more information on home improvement tips, click on the following link:

<http://www.co.summit.oh.us/ConsumerAffairs/pdfs/Home%20Improvement%20Tips.pdf>

Consumers who have a complaint against a business can contact the office at 330-643-2879 or visit www.co.summit.oh.us/conaffairs.htm to get a consumer complaint form or learn more about consumer help.



Dina Dlugoz Bridge Dedication Ceremony at Highland Road

On Wednesday, July 13th Mayor Don Kuchta and Summit County Council delegate, Nick Kostandaras, presented Mrs. Barb Dlugoz a Resolution Declaring the Highland Road Bridge the “Dina Dlugoz Memorial Bridge”.

Construction on the \$7.85-million bridge over the Highland Road railroad tracks has commenced; estimated completion date is 2013.

**CITY OF MACEDONIA, OHIO
RESOLUTION NO. 76 -2010**

**A RESOLUTION
DECLARING THE HIGHLAND ROAD BRIDGE
THE “DINA DLUGOZ MEMORIAL BRIDGE”**

WHEREAS, a tragic car accident took the life of Dina Dlugoz on Highland Road in 1989; and

WHEREAS, the new Highland Road bridge will play a significant part in the elimination of such fatal accidents occurring again; and

WHEREAS, Dina Dlugoz’s family are residents of the City of Macedonia, and it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to remember their daughter Dina by dedicating the Highland Road bridge in her name.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Macedonia, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the new Highland Road bridge shall be and it is hereby known as the “Dina Dlugoz Memorial Bridge” and appropriate signage shall be placed thereon.

Section 2. That it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of the Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were meeting open to the public and in compliance with the law.

Section 3. WHEREFORE, this Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption by Council and signature by the Mayor or as may otherwise be provided for in law.

PASSED: September 9, 2010

EFFECTIVE: September 10, 2010

POSTED: September 13, 2010

MAYOR: Donald Kuchta
Donald Kuchta

ATTEST: Josephine Arceci
Josephine Arceci, Clerk of Council



GOOD NEWS

We would like to thank our Council members for returning funds into our noxious weed budget. Foreclosed homes with grass and weeds over eight inches will now be cut and maintained by the City. If there is a foreclosure that you are concerned about, please contact us at (330) 468-8630.

THANK YOU COUNCIL!



The City of

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The Crossroads of Northeast Ohio

Issue 3 on the Ballot August 2nd

Residents often ask how can they assist local government and make their City stronger.

On August 2nd , Macedonia residents will have that opportunity, when they vote on Issue #3.

Issue #3 is a rezoning issue that will pave the way for a proposed skilled nursing facility. This facility plans to create 100 new jobs and bring in over \$150,000 a year in payroll taxes and additional property taxes. Many Cities pay over \$100,000 a year to have a fulltime economic development staff whose sole mission is to promote the City and attract new businesses. The City of Macedonia does not have an economic development staff; the Mayor's office currently oversees economic development. This project landed on our doorsteps because the developer has strong ties to our community. The local developer that is spearheading this project has a proven record, and the vision and resources to complete this project.

The developer of this \$10 million dollar project has not requested any tax breaks or incentives from the City, in fact he is bearing all the election costs for this to be on the ballot. This facility will fill a void and offer our residents an option to place their loved ones in a skilled nursing facility close to home. This facility will not create dust, noise, or heavy commercial truck traffic compared to other industries.

This is a clear message to other developers in the future that Macedonia is open for business.

Macedonia residents have a choice to move forward and strengthen our City on August 2nd.

Scott M. Svab MPA, MBA
Finance Director
City of Macedonia



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REVERSE ALERT

We have a new alerting system for Summit County! It is called REVERSE ALERT. It is offered FREE to City residents. This system is vital in times of emergencies. Please take the time to register!

Reverse Alert is a unique component to the County of Summit Emergency Notification and Warning System. The service is capable of warning citizens of severe threats to health and safety by sending emergency messages to email addresses, hearing impaired receiving devices and telephone lines (business lines, cellular phones and home numbers).



REVERSE ALERT F.A.Q.

What is Reverse Alert?

Reverse Alert is a unique component to the County of Summit Emergency Notification and Warning System. The service is capable of warning citizens of severe threats to health and safety by sending emergency messages to email addresses, hearing impaired receiving devices and telephone lines (business lines, cellular phones and home numbers).

When will Reverse Alert be activated?

Reverse Alert will be activated in the event an imminent threat to health and safety occurs in your community, such as: amber alerts, boil alerts, evacuations, etc.

Who receives Reverse Alert emergency messages?

All Summit County citizens with published telephone numbers listed in the white pages (business and residential lines) will receive Reverse Alert emergency messages. Messages will also be dispatched to citizens who register their communication devices for this unique service.

If I am already listed, why register my personal contact information?

The more personal lines of communication you register with Reverse Alert, the more likely you are to receive an emergency message in a timely and efficient manner.

How do I register my personal contact information?

To register for Reverse Alert, visit www.reversealert.net.

What if my personal contact information changes?

If there is a change to your personal contact information, simply access your Reverse Alert profile and update your information.

Will my personal contact information be shared with others?

No. All personal contact information registered in the Reverse Alert system will be protected, kept strictly confidential and will only be used for emergency purposes.



REVERSE ALERT REGISTRATION

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Timothy M. Black
Fire Chief
City of Macedonia
330-468-8339



The City of

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The Crossroads of Northeast Ohio



Department of Commerce

Division of State Fire Marshal

John R. Kasich, Governor
David Goodman, Director

8895 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
1-888-243-0305
TTY/TDD: 1-800-750-0750
www.com.ohio.gov

Fire Safety for Children

The Division of State Fire Marshal urges parents and guardians to take precautionary measures to avoid unnecessary fire fatalities, particularly related to children age five and under. Last year in Ohio, 20 of the 26 children who lost their lives in fires were under the age of five.

In the event of a fire, children age five and below are almost entirely dependent on outside help in order to survive. Since many fatal fires occur at night while families are asleep, parents and guardians must be prepared by establishing a home fire escape plan and teaching their young ones what to do if a fire should occur.

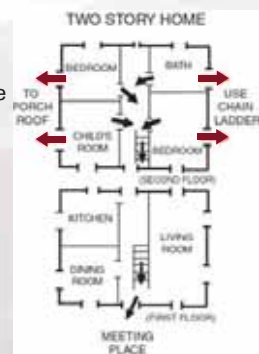


Children and Fire: By the Numbers

- Children age 14 and under make up 10-15% of all fire deaths.
- More than half of all child fire deaths happen to children under the age of 5.
- Fire injuries happen most often to those under age 4. The 10 to 14 age group also experience a significant number of fire injuries.
- Boys are at a higher risk of death from fire than girls.
- African-American children are at an increased risk of death from fire.

Children and Fire: Life Saving Tips

- Keep matches, lighters and other items used for ignition in a secured drawer or cabinet out of the reach of children.
- Teach your children to tell you when they find matches and lighters.
- Always dress children in pajamas that meet Federal flammability standards. Avoid dressing children for sleep in loose-fitting, 100% cotton garments, such as oversized t-shirts.
- Teach children not to hide from firefighters, but to get out quickly and call for help from another location.
- Show children how to crawl low on the floor, below the smoke, to get out of the house and stay out.
- Demonstrate how to stop, drop to the ground, and roll if clothes catch fire.
- Develop and practice a home fire escape plan and designate a meeting place outside. Get out and stay out.
- Familiarize children with the sound of your smoke alarm.
- Replace mattresses made prior to the 2007 Federal Mattress Flammability Standard.
- Check under beds and in closets for burnt matches, clothes, paper and toys. This can be evidence your child may be playing with fire.



An Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider

Ohio Department of Commerce



The City of

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The Crossroads of Northeast Ohio

LOCK YOUR CAR!



The Macedonia Police Department would like to remind you to please secure your car (keep locked!) at all times. Also, it is suggested that valuables such as GPS units, digital cameras, cellular telephones, and the like, be secured out of plain view.

Be a good neighbor. Look out for your neighborhood.

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!

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

Please be sure to read about our Reverse Alert Warning System information found on the Fire Department page.

Chief Jon Golden
Police Department



Fall Soccer

Registration Dates at the Macedonia Rec. Center:

Saturdays, July 23 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Saturdays, July 30 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Saturdays, August 6 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

League play for boys and girls ages 4-14 starts in late August and ends late October. All boys league and all girls league U10 to U14 will travel to area communities. The U6 and U8 leagues will play in house. Most games will be played on Saturdays with practices on the weekdays. Shin guards and socks covering them are required, soccer cleats recommended.

Volunteer coaches needed!

Registration Deadline is August 6. • No drop ins. No coupon.

Non Resident \$60 Resident \$50 • Additional child: Non Resident \$45 Resident \$35

Tot Soccer

Tuesdays, Sept. 13 – Oct. 11

5:30-6:15 PM

Kids ages 3 - 4_ will learn soccer

fundamentals at that a early age in a non competitive, non league environment. Kids will be prepared for U6 soccer by knowing key terminology and skills. Kids will be divided into small groups and will practice once a week

for 45 minutes. Emphasis based on learning skills. Parent participation may be required.

All make up practices held on Saturday at 10:00 am.

Deadline to register is Sept. 7. • No drop ins. No coupon.

\$33 Program / \$28 resident

Flag Football

Registration Dates at the Macedonia Rec. Center:

Saturdays, July 23 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Saturdays, July 30 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Saturdays, August 6 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Season begins week of August 29 – October 22

League play for kids 5 – 11 years old to learn football skills. Divisions will be based on birthdates at time of registration. Volunteer coaches are needed!

Registration deadline is August 6. • No drop ins. No coupon. • Coach Meeting: Tuesday, August 23.

Program \$45 / Resident \$40

League Age grouping Game Times

Rookie (5 & 6 yr olds) 2:00 PM

Pro (7 & 8 yr olds) 12:00 PM

All Star (9, 10, 11 yr olds) 10:00 PM



A Fun Free Family Event

Fourth Annual

MOVIE IN THE PARK

Date: Friday, August 12th

Time: 8:00-10:30 p.m. Movie Begins at Dusk

Location: Longwood Park Field A
1494 E. Aurora Rd. Macedonia



Live Band Starts @ 8:00

Free Popcorn & Sno-Cones

Free Candy

Free Glow Necklaces



www.enjoysundays.com



The City of

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PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT HIGHLAND ROAD EAST OF SR 8 WILL BE CLOSED STARTING MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2011. DETOURS WILL BE POSTED. SCHEDULED TO BE CLOSED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 29, 2011. ODOT PROJECT NO. 11-1110, HIGHLAND ROAD RAILROAD GRADE SEPARATION BRIDGE.

FERTILIZER DO'S & DON'TS:

- Do use the fertilizer according to the instructions on the label!
- Do Not apply fertilizer on a windy day or immediately after a heavy rain.
- Do Not use fertilizer on an area adjacent to a water body.
- NEVER dump fertilizer or grass clippings in a stream, catch basin drain, or storm sewer!

Catching rain is catching on in Northeast Ohio!!

Thousands of businesses and homeowners from Cleveland to Parma to Shaker Heights have already hooked up rain barrels to their downspouts.

And a lesser, but growing, number of others are planting water-absorbing rain gardens in their yards -- or in some cases, even ripping out old pavement in favor of more modern, porous materials.

A rain garden is a shallow, constructed depression that is planted with deep-rooted native plants & grasses. It is located in your landscape to receive runoff from hard surfaces such as a roof, a sidewalk and a driveway. Rain gardens slow down the rush of water from these hard surfaces, holds the water for a short period of time and allows it to naturally infiltrate into the ground.

A rain garden can be thought of as a personal water quality system because it filters the runoff from your roof and lawn and recharges the groundwater. It also conserves municipal water resources by reducing the need for irrigation.

Rain gardens are a beautiful and colorful way for homeowners, businesses and municipalities to help ease stormwater problems. There is a growing trend by municipalities and homeowners to incorporate natural processes to help relieve flooding and pollution

The most enthusiastic among them say that an emergent rain-harvesting movement marks a new era of conservation and pollution control on the shores of Lake Erie and the Great Lakes, the world's largest freshwater system.

Others see a more utilitarian motive -- property owners hoping to catch a minor break on a major new storm water fee looming for Cleveland and more than 60 of its suburbs who are part of a regional sewer system.

"Rain barrels, rain gardens and other smart ways to reduce storm water are only going to become more popular." said Andrew Watterson, sustainability director for the city of Cleveland. "They do make a difference."

See the Service Department Page at www.macedonia.oh.us for info on raingarden construction and the Significance of a RainGarden.



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