

Mayor's Message, Summer 2010

A slow economy and a blustery winter may have put a damper on development in several communities, but here in Canal Winchester we enjoyed a fruitful spring. The Diley Ridge Medical Center opened its doors in mid March and is now serving the area through its full service emergency center and 46,000 square-foot medical office building. Canal Winchester's skate park also opened in March to a crowd of anxious skaters. This group has already logged many hours enjoying the ramps and obstacles the new park offers.

Requests for residential and commercial building permits were up during the first quarter of 2010, hopefully showing a sign of economic turnaround. While I remain cautiously optimistic that we are on the road to financial recovery, we will continue to pay close attention to revenue and expenditures. You may have noticed that we have less seasonal staff helping to maintain our community this year, a direct result of necessary cuts to this year's budget to keep us in a positive financial standing. As we now have less hands to do many of the extras residents have grown accustomed to, I ask that as a citizen you do your part by helping to keep our community looking its best.

Speaking of maintaining the community, I'm happy to report that Canal Winchester was named a Tree City USA® community for the 17th consecutive year. We have more than 20 percent tree canopy coverage in the village, with the goal of 25 percent in the future. These trees in bloom and the hanging flower baskets around town are always a clear indication to me that summer is arriving. I've also begun to see another telltale sign of summer: construction.

Many of the road improvements outlined in our 2010 Street Program are already underway. The 2010 Street Program includes updates on Old Creek Road between Dietz Drive and Gender Road, E. Hocking Street between High Street and the Fairfield County line, Washington Street between W. Waterloo Street and the Walnut Creek bridge, section 3 of the Villages at Westchester (Fox Hill Drive, Hemmingford Drive, Braeswick Court, Eddelston Court and Stretton Place), and section 2 of Winchester Village (Sarwil Drive N., Chesterville Court and Windward Court).

More information about the 2010 Street Program, including details on road closures and dates, can be found on the village's website. In addition to the village's 2010 Street Program, the Ohio Department of Transportation has started minor pavement repairs and resurfacing of Gender Road from the overpass at State Route 33 to Lithopolis Road. This project is expected to be complete this summer, with traffic maintained in both directions throughout the improvement process.

Along with construction, summer also brings attention to ordinances such as the village's leash law, in place to help keep residents safe. More information about this and other ordinances can be found in the article on page 3. Please review this carefully to make sure you are not unintentionally violating one of these laws.

It's sure to be another fun and interesting summer in Canal Winchester. I hope you'll take the time to enjoy it with me!

Sincerely,

Michael Ebert
Mayor of Canal Winchester

