



City of Willoughby Hills

E-NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 100 FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 2023

Welcome to our new E-newsletter subscribers!

Please encourage others to join by sending an email request to:

NEWSLETTER@WILLOUGHBYHILLS-OH.GOV

MAYOR GARDNER'S REPORT

It is hard to believe, but this is the City's **100th electronic newsletter!** I hope that you have found it to be a great tool to keep informed about news and events in the City. We have had a lot of fun preparing it for you. Please take a moment this week and mention the newsletter to one of your Willoughby Hills friends and neighbors. We are always trying to reach more of our residents and businesses. Thanks to all of the City team that has made this possible. I hope that it will continue to be a resource for many years into the future.

Winter weather continues to keep our service department busy keeping our streets cleared. We heard yesterday that our newest plow truck will be ready for delivery to us shortly. After some work here in the City, we will send it out for upfitting. We estimate that it will be ready to take on storms in the City starting at the end of next month. As always, please give our plow crews as much room to work as possible if you pass them while they are plowing.

The Police Department continues to work with Kia and Hyundai to try to obtain steering wheel locks to distribute to our residents. We will keep you posted on our progress and will make them available to residents upon receipt (you will need to show proof of residency and ownership of the vehicle).

Thanks to the many people who came out last night to last night's Council meeting to help the City celebrate a number of milestones. As you will see later in this newsletter, we were honored to swear-in three new part-time firefighters, Matt Tibjash, Liam Kessler and Nick Hollerbach and full time a police officer, Garrett Leonbruno. We swore in Ron Parmertor as our Police Department's newest Sergeant (more about Sgt. Parmertor below). We honored the accomplishments of former Recreation Coordinator/Service Department Clerk Denise Edwards. Denise served the City for many years and was a great help to many residents. Finally, we honored the career of retired Police Officer Jim Vitale. Jim was a tremendous asset to our community during his career here serving the Department and our residents in many capacities. Please welcome Matt, Liam, Nick and Garrett and congratulate Ron, Denise and Jim if you see them.

Finally, I want to congratulate our 2022 Police Officer of the Year, Sergeant Ron Parmertor. Ron has been a key part of the Willoughby Hills Police Department for many years. As a detective, he has solved many difficult cases. His efforts were recognized by the Department with this honor and with his promotion to Sergeant. I am very grateful to Ron for all he does for our residents and for making the commitment to help become part of the Department's leadership team.

Have a wonderful week everybody!

CITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

7:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

Thursday, February 2, 2023

PLANNING COMMISSION/ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW

7:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

Friday, February 3, 2023

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING

4:00—Council Chambers

Monday, February 6, 2023

WORKING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING

6:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

Thursday, February 9, 2023

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

BZA MEETING

8:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

Thursday, February 16, 2023

MASTER PLAN MEETING

PLANNING COMMISSION/ARCHITECTURAL BOARD OF REVIEW

7:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

Monday, February 20, 2023

WORKING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEETING

6:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

SENIOR LUNCHEON

11:30 A.M.—Senior Room at the Community Center

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

TRIVIA NIGHT

7:00 P.M.—Community Center

Thursday, February 23, 2023

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

7:00 P.M.—Council Chambers

POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

A HUGE **CONGRATULATIONS!** GOES OUT TO THOSE WHO WERE HONORED OR SWORN-IN AT LAST NIGHT'S COUNCIL MEETING! OUR CITY DEFINITELY HAS A LOT TO BE PROUD OF WITH FOLKS LIKE THESE AMONG US!



Congratulations Officer Jim Vitale on your Mayoral Proclamation & Council Resolution! Best to you in your future endeavors!



Congratulations to long-time Police Detective, Ron Parmertor, as he embarks on his new position as Sergeant!



Congratulations and welcome to the City's new Full-Time Police Officer, Garrett Leonbruno!



Congratulations and welcome to three new Part-Time Firefighters: Liam Kessler, Matt Tibjash, and Nicholas Hollerbach!

FIRE & POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

This past Saturday marked the 64th anniversary of the tragic flooding that occurred here in Willoughby Hills that claimed the lives of five people. On January 21, 1959, heavy rains along with melting snow combined to create significant flooding of the Chagrin River warranting the Fire Department and Civil Defense to issue a warning to residents living in the flood-prone areas of the City. In an attempt to rescue a family that chose to remain in their home on Milann Drive, a boat overturned and dumped the family and their would-be rescuers into the raging icy river. While able to cling to trees for some time, one by one they were swept away to their deaths; their bodies found the next day along the riverbank. Perishing that night were three members of the Peterson Family (Douglas, Virginia, and Dorothy Peterson) along with two rescuers: Raymond Kifer and Hamilton Schweitzer, both Willoughby Hills residents and members of the Civil Defense. The sixth occupant of the rescue boat, Carl Hardee, a member of the US Coast Guard from Fairport Station, survived.

A memorial marker remains to this day outside the Fire Department honoring the sacrifice made by Mr. Kifer & Mr. Schweitzer that night and stands as a constant reminder of our duty to protect the community from not just fire but all hazards.



SERVICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

ALSO AT LAST NIGHT'S COUNCIL MEETING, FORMER RECREATION
COORDINATOR / BUILDING & SERVICE DEPARTMENT CLERK,

DENISE EDWARDS

WAS RECOGNIZED FOR HER MANY YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE
TO THE CITY AND ITS' RESIDENTS! BEST OF LUCK TO YOU IN ALL
YOUR FUTURE ENDEAVORS, DENISE! YOU WILL BE MISSED.



SNOW SHOVELING SAFETY TIPS:

- **Be heart conscious.** If you have a history of heart problems and are currently inactive, it's best to speak with your health care provider before shoveling. Additionally, don't shovel while smoking, eating or after consuming caffeine; this may place extra stress on your heart.
- **Dress Warm.** Wear several layers of clothing. You can always remove a layer if needed.
- **Drink plenty of water.** Remaining hydrated during cold-weather months is just as important as during warm-weather months.
- **Warm up your arms and legs.** Stretch your arms and legs before beginning to shovel. You are less likely to injure muscles when they are warm.
- **Take it slow.** Pace yourself and take breaks if you need to. Safety is more important than speed.
- **Protect your back.** Bend at the knees, not the back. Lift with your legs bent, stand with your feet hip-width apart for balance and keep the shovel close to your body. Also, don't pick up too much snow at once; use a small shovel or fill up a large shovel no more than half way.
- **Shovel while snow is fresh.** Freshly fallen snow is lighter than snow that has started melting.
- **Listen to your body.** This is the most important snow shoveling tip. If something feels abnormal, or if you're tired, it's time to stop.

NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

**BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
FEBRUARY 2, 2023 AT 7:00 PM.**

THE MASTER PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION WILL BE HAVING A MEETING IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS FOR A FINAL REVIEW OF THE MASTER PLAN AND WILL BE JOINED BY DAVID RADACHY OF THE LAKE COUNTY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

Radon Awareness Week: January 23 - 27, 2023 in Retrospect

Radon is an odorless, invisible radioactive gas released by rocks, soil, and water. It can get into homes or buildings through cracks or holes and build up to higher levels over time. Breathing in high levels of radon can cause lung cancer. To learn more about radon (who is affected, stories from survivors, etc.), please click [here](#).

WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

The Board of Education invites you to share the qualifications and characteristics you desire in the next Willoughby-Eastlake Superintendent. The Board is committed to a comprehensive search and recognizes the importance of community engagement in the process. Your perspective will play an essential role in developing the candidate profile for our next leader.

Finding Leaders, a local firm selected by the Board to assist with the Superintendent search, is hosting and administering Focus Groups at **7pm on Tuesday, January 31** at the Board of Education building. To encourage candid feedback, board members will not be in attendance. All District residents and W-E staff are encouraged to participate and no advance registration is required to attend.



Please keep in mind that Cleveland Metroparks will be continuing their deer management program this winter to establish and maintain a balanced ecosystem. From noon to 6:00 a.m. the following morning, portions or all of North Chagrin Reservation will be closed to the public on several days from now through March 16th, 2023.

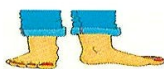
Specific closures will be posted on [Cleveland Metroparks Alerts and Closures](#) page by 6 p.m. on the evening prior to an area's closure. This announcement will give details about reservations and sections of the parkway that will be closed between noon and 6 a.m. the following morning.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

February 2023, Willoughby Hills Senior Center
1-440-975-3540

FEBRUARY 2023 SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Willoughby Hills Senior Center
35400 Chardon Rd.
Lower Level



Podiatrist Dr. Kelley Whaley will be in the Senior Room on Thursday, February 2ND From 9:00am-11:30am in the Senior Room. Please schedule any future appointments with her.

Senior Luncheons: Potluck or Brown Bag

Save the Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 11:30am. Bring a dish to share, or bring your own brown bag lunch.

Senior Center Membership Dues Per calendar year

\$7.00 for individuals
\$10.00 for individuals and spouse/companion

Recreation Coordinator: Diana Parker
Staff Monitor: Sylvia Carter-Naylor

Joke of the Month:

Q: What gets wetter the more it dries?

A: A towel.



In February there is everything to hope for and nothing to regret.
Patience Strong

Activities:

BRIDGE: Every Wednesday
12:30pm until 3PM Bring your cards

Pinochle Group: First 2 Fridays
And every Saturday at 6PM

Mahjongg: Every Friday at 1PM

Yoga: Every Wednesday at 11AM

Exercise Class: Friday at 11AM



Happy
Birthday

To everyone born in February!!!

RECREATION COMMISSION



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, March 5th - Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 18th - Spring Craft Show

March 24th – April 7th - Hoppy Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, April 29th - Spring Garage Sale Day

~Stay tuned for more events to be added!~



BASEBALL & SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS ARE HAPPENING NOW!

**CHECK OUT THE YOUTH SPORTS LEAGUE'S WEBSITE AND GET
REGISTERED TODAY!**

- THERE ARE NO RESIDENT RESTRICTIONS! -

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION

EMPLOYMENT / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City is seeking to fill both the Finance Director position as well as the Part-time Clerk of Council position. If you or someone you know would like to begin 2023 working with an amazing group of people here at City Hall, this is your chance!

Click [here](#) for more details on the Part-time Clerk of Council position. If interested, please email your resume and [application](#) to: chrishallum@willoughbyhills-oh.gov and council@willoughbyhills-oh.gov



COMMISSION MEMBERS NEEDED FOR 2023

The **Recreation Commission** is seeking new members to assist with the planning and implementation of City recreation events including: Pancake Breakfasts, the Easter Scavenger Hunt, Fall and Spring Craft Shows, the City Halloween Party, Winterfest, Christmas Card Lane, the Holiday Lights Contest, the City Photo Contest and Breakfast with Santa. The Commission is also evaluating a potential all day City event (similar to Rock and Roll Day in 2022). Anyone who is interested in becoming a part of the Commission can fill out an application and deliver it to City Hall.

The **Board of Building and Zoning Appeals** is seeking a new member for a five (5) year term beginning on January 1, 2023. If there is an appeal, the Board of Zoning Appeals currently meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 8:00 P.M. in City Council Chambers. For more information about the BZA, on the City's Website simply select the "Government" Tab, then drop down to "Boards and Commissions" and select "Board of Building and Zoning Appeals."

Applications for both positions are available on the City's Website. Simply select the "Government" Tab, then drop down to "Boards and Commissions" and select "Become a Member of a Board or Commission" from the menu on the left. From the Boards and Commissions Page, you can also review minutes of the BZA and Recreation Commission's past meetings.

ceramics · fiber arts · quilted items · soaps · candles · and much more!



BRING A
♥ FRIEND!


RAFFLES AND REFRESHMENTS!

WILLOUGHBY HILLS

2023 Spring Craft Show

Saturday
MARCH 18
9 AM to 3 PM

← SAVE
THE
DATE!

Stop by and visit our crafters with handmade
items on both levels of the Community Center.
(35400 Chardon Road)



Follow us on Facebook for
updates and more details!



Great gifts & goodies from local artisans

FREE ADMISSION

2023 Willoughby Hills Recreation Photo Contest

PHOTOS DUE: November 4 | RECEPTION: November 10

2023 CATEGORIES:

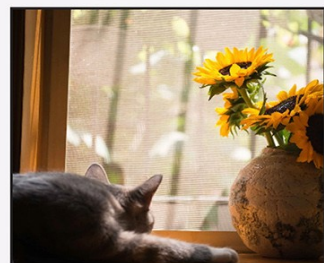
- . **Working in Willoughby Hills**
A business, a worker; abstract, literal; Your call.
Your only restriction: must be taken in Willoughby Hills.
- . **Go Green**
Send us your interpretation.
(Note: Lots of green space in Willoughby Hills!)
- . **Windows and Glass**
Shiny, reflective. Portals and openings.
- . **Fundamentally Family**
Show us what makes a family special.

Start taking your photos now!

Entry forms will become available sometime in October.

Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WilloughbyHillsREC>



RESIDENT REMINDERS:



Please remember that the Republic Services magnet is incorrect for recycle weeks in January only.

The remainder of the year is correct (with pick up every other week).

The remaining recycle pickup week in January will be:

January 29th – February 4th

Finally, because they were so well received last year, the City is also working to add a couple of Paper Shredding Days and Electronic Recycling Days into the 2023 schedule.

We will publish those dates once they're set!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out:
City of Willoughby Hills, 35405 Chardon Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
440-946-1234 and ask for Mayor Gardner's Office.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK!

**WHAT DO YOU CALL
A BOOMERANG THAT
WON'T COME BACK?**

A stick.