



# WALBRIDGE

## Newsletter

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### Message from the Mayor

Dear Residents and Businesses,

I have shrunk the type because there is so much to say. As Willy Wonka said in that wonderful movie, “So little to do, but so much time. Reverse that.” We have so much to talk about but so little time and space in this newsletter. Let’s get to the meat.

1. The Walbridge Police Department is alive and well and getting stronger each day. We have had some problems with officers and chiefs leaving but that is a choice they have made. The choice that your Council and I have made is to keep strengthening our department to serve you. Our officers have stepped up to the challenge and I thank them for that. One of the strengths we have shown is the revitalization of our Block Watch program. Our last meeting had nearly 30 residents there thanks in part to the effort of some very dedicated and strong believers in the program. The bottom line to this program is this. If you see something you don’t think is right, call the police number (666-1447) or 911 and let us know so that we can look into it. There is no need to give your name and all calls can remain anonymous if that is what you want. Please help our police help you by serving as a set of eyes for us.
2. We have purchased a new piece of equipment to allow us to camera and clean storm sewer lines that have not been looked at or cleaned since they were built. The piece of equipment that used to do this was built in 1960 and finally gave up the ghost. (By the way, anyone born in 1960 is young by my standards.) Anyway, with this new piece of equipment, Steve Smith and his guys have found and repaired some sewer problems on Pleasant St. and on Martendale. We don’t want any huge rains but we would like to get enough to see that our “fixes” have truly solved the problem. Hats off to Steve and his crew for finding the right piece of equipment and to our Council for working to our budget so that we can afford equipment like this. (Note: This truck was a bargain at \$100,000 when a new one costs upwards of \$160,000.)
3. Hats off again to our Council for supporting the idea to purchase and renovate a building on north Droulliard to keep an existing business in town rather than let them move out of town and therefore lose the income tax revenue that they provide for our village. Your council recognized that existing businesses are just as important as attracting new businesses to town. We operate on a tight budget and to lose existing businesses means we lose revenue (income) and that means we have to cut services or increase other revenues. We strive to not cut services and certainly strive to not increase taxes to you. I recognize there are some in town that think our tax dollars should not be used in the private enterprise world, but my and our Council’s belief is that if there is no cost to the village residents then it is prudent to keep all tax dollars within the village.
4. As spring and summer approach, we are reminded of the importance of keeping our residences and businesses clean so that they do not impact our neighbors and our property values. Our Property Maintenance Officer is on the lookout for issues that we need to stay on top of. Once again, this is not a pleasant job, but it is one that must be done for the good of us all. Please help us out by cleaning up your area. We are blessed by the fact that if we have anything to throw out, Waste Management will take it.
5. We don’t always get the chance to talk so that I can hear what you are thinking and so that I can answer your questions directly. In order to make this work better I invite you to send me an email at [mayor@walbridgeohio.org](mailto:mayor@walbridgeohio.org) and ask me anything you like. I will answer you directly and will even post your question and my answer on our website. (We are working out how to do this efficiently.)

May God bless you and our humble town.

VR,

Dan Wilczynski

Mayor – Walbridge, Ohio



## **Message from the Street Department by Steve Smith**

With warm weather upon us I just want to remind all the residents that home improvement projects like roofs, fences, driveways, garage, decks, sheds, porches and pools require zoning permits. The Street Department staff will begin Spring Brush Pickup Monday May 18<sup>th</sup> through Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> as follows:

### **SPRING BRUSH PICKUP**

Perry St North Monday 05/18 & Tuesday 05/19

Union St South Weds. 05/20 & Thurs. 05/21

Rain dates will be made up Friday 05/22



by Patricia Crawford, Fiscal Officer

All residents I just want to remind you that if you are going to owe more than \$100.00 for Walbridge local income tax you must make estimated payments. We have estimated tax coupons on our website [www.walbridgeohio.org](http://www.walbridgeohio.org) or at the Walbridge Municipal Building. I also want to make you aware of the methods used to collect delinquent taxes: 1) You receive a letter stating the amount owed 2) You have 30 days to either pay in full or sign a payment plan agreement 3) 30 days after the balance due letter is sent if amount owed is not paid in full or a payment plan signed your unpaid taxes are turned over to a private collection agency RBC, Inc 4) Once in the hands of RBC, Inc. we can no longer accept payments or make any payment arrangements with you regardless of the reason for non-payment. 5) RBC, Inc will assess additional fees to your already outstanding balance. In years past we would send numerous letters advising residents & businesses of the amount owed with very little success so we were left with no other alternative than private collection agencies. 6) If you are on a monthly payment plan and miss a payment we will forward your tax debt to RBC, Inc. for collection and no further payment plans will be negotiated.

## **Recreation Committee** “News-U-Need” by Maureen Jacobsen, Council

### **Upcoming Community Events:**

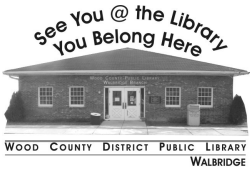
**Rally by the Rails- May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> 2009 (Parade is 11am Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>)**

**Community Wide Garage Sale- May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Camp Loopy begins- June 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Aqua Terrace Opens – Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Fall Community Wide Garage Sale- August 2009**



## Walbridge Branch Library

In order to participate in the Rally-by-the-Rails parade, the Walbridge Branch Library will be closed on Saturday, May 16. Come say good-bye to the old green bookmobile because later this year the Wood County District Public Library will be purchasing a new one with funds from a state grant and from the WCDPL Foundation. The old bookmobile has been on the road for about 25 years. Also coming up soon will be the Summer Reading Program.

The Walbridge Branch Library is open Monday through Thursday 1 pm to 7 pm and Saturday 10 am to 2 pm



### Police Beat by Walt Tylicki, Acting Chief of Police

Soon school will be out for the summer and I just wanted to take the time to remind parents that we do have a curfew in Walbridge (Codified Ordinance 531.01 a,1,2,3,b,1,c,1,2,d,1,2,e) and failure to obey the curfew laws may result in criminal charges against you and your children. Please be aware of where your children are at, who they are with and what they are doing. Until your child turns 18 years of age you are legal responsible for their actions. Childhood pranks that seem harmless like putting "TP" on the trees or egging property but these are actually crimes and they will be treated as such. Please visit our website [www.walbridgeohio.org](http://www.walbridgeohio.org) and click on the government tab and then go to the blue box on the right to view all the Codified Ordinances.



### Helpful Information by Councilmen Ed Kolanko and Ron Liwo



***We would like to remind everyone that you are responsible for cleaning up your dogs waste!!! Please be considerate of your neighbors. Others should not have to clean up after irresponsible, lazy pet owners that let their animals defecate in our parks and on private property and walk away. Remember it's the law, anyone caught violating this will be prosecuted.***

#### 505.16 Removal of Defecation

- (a) No owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog, cat or other animal shall knowingly permit the animal to defecate on the property of another, either public or private, within the Village, without the owner, keeper or harbinger, having in his possession the necessary equipment to remove the defecation.
- (b) The owner, keeper or harbinger shall use the necessary equipment to remove defecation from the property forthwith.
- (c) Any person who shall violate any provision of this section shall be guilty of minor misdemeanor.

ORD 8-90 Passed 5-7-90



## **Grass Clippings**

Once again it's time to mow our lawns please remember that it is illegal in Walbridge to blow, place, put grass clippings in the street. Also remember that putting grass clipping in the streets will clog the storm sewers and cause flooding issues, so be aware of which way the mower is blowing the grass clippings. (Note from Mayor Dan: It is amazing how grass clippings can lead to plugging or slowing down sewers and lead to street flooding. Please help us. If you see it or do it, pick it up.)

### 909.02 Littering

(a) No person shall permit any earth, mud, water, dirt, ashes, paper, garbage, rubbish, or any other substance which litters, or tends to litter the street, to fall from the wheel or body of any vehicle under his control upon any street or alley or other public right of way in the Municipality.

(b) No person shall in any matter place any such substance on any street, alley, or other public right of ways Ord 45-66 Passed 10/24/66



The Flag Code, which formalizes and unifies the traditional ways in which we give respect to the flag, also contains specific instructions on how the flag is not to be used. They are:

- The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. It is flown upside down only as a distress signal.
- The flag should not be used as a drapery, or for covering a speaker's desk, draping a platform, or for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top.
- The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose. It should not be embroidered, printed or otherwise impressed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, boxes, or anything intended to be discarded after temporary use. Advertising signs should not be attached to the staff or halyard
- The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, fireman, policeman and members of patriotic organizations.
- The flag should never have placed on it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind.
- The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.

When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.

The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary.

When a flag is so worn it is no longer fit to serve as a symbol of our country, it should be destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.

## **Displaying the Flag Outdoors**

When the flag is displayed from a staff projecting from a window, balcony, or a building, the union should be at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff. When it is displayed from the same flagpole with another flag - of a state, community, society or Scout unit - the flag of the United States must always be at the top except that the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for Navy personnel when conducted by a Naval chaplain on a ship at sea. When the flag is displayed over a street, it should be hung vertically, with the union to the north or east. If the flag is suspended over a sidewalk, the flag's union should be farthest from the building. When flown with flags of states, communities, or societies on separate flag poles which are of the same height and in a straight line the flag of the United States is always placed in the position of honor - to its own right.

..The other flags may be smaller but none may be larger.

..No other flag ever should be placed above it.

..The flag of the United States is always the first flag raised and the last to be lowered.

When flown with the national banner of other countries, each flag must be displayed from a separate pole of the same height. Each flag should be the same size. They should be raised and lowered simultaneously. The flag of one nation may not be displayed above that of another nation.

## **Raising and Lowering the Flag**

The flag should be raised briskly and lowered slowly and ceremoniously. Ordinarily it should be displayed only between sunrise and sunset. It should be illuminated if displayed at night.

The flag of the United States of America is saluted as it is hoisted and lowered. The salute is held until the flag is unsnapped from the halyard or through the last note of music, whichever is the longest.

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## **Attention Military Families**

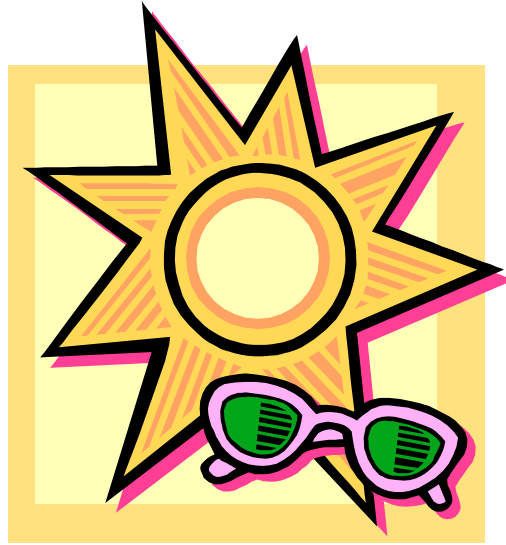
If you have a family member from the Village of Walbridge that is serving or has served in the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan please submit their name(s) and address on the form below. The Mayor and Walbridge Council would like to recognize each brave man and woman for their service and the sacrifices they made for the citizens of the United States of America. Please fill out the information below and return it to: Village of Walbridge 111 N. Main Walbridge, Ohio 43465.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Military Branch:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Currently Serving:** \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No **If Yes, Return Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



*Wishing you and your family  
A safe and enjoyable  
Summer!*

*Look for the next newsletter August 3rd*