



# Collins Corner

*“Connecting with the Constituents of District 2”*

*Volume 3, Issue 2 - August 2010*

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### **A Message from Councilman Collins**

Dear Neighbors,

Welcome to my quarterly edition of Collins Corner. It is hard to believe that we are now at the end of summer, where did the time go? As I reflect upon the last 8 months of 2010, I am truly thankful for the many opportunities to talk with constituents, listening to thoughts and concerns and most of all, representing your voice on City Council. I take great pride in the privilege of representing the residents of District 2, and consistent with my military and police service, respect the trust and confidence that you have placed with me.

We will soon be entering a new budget cycle. In November, Mayor Bell will deliver his proposed 2011 budget to Council. I am concerned that we will be challenged; however, I am confident that we will rise to the challenge and continue to move our great city in a positive direction.



## **Back to School Safety Reminders**

This week marks the return to school for many children in our community. As you may know, due to severe budget constraints, TPS has changed several policies which are worthy of mentioning in this newsletter as a reminder.

First of all, several schools have new starting times and dismissal times. With the closing of some schools, there are new school boundaries. Also, there is no longer transportation provided for high school students or students living less than two miles from his/her elementary or middle school.

Though you may not have a child in school I feel this is important information for all to know as I truly believe that we, as a community, need to be mindful when driving on the roads. There will be an increased number of children who will be walking to and from school, and in a lot of cases, without crossing guards to assist.

As you drive, I ask that you also remember to adhere to posted speed limit signs while traveling in school zones. Also, if you encounter a school bus stopped, with flashing lights and the stop warning sign extended, you must stop ten feet from the front / rear of the school bus and shall not proceed until such school bus resumes motion, or until signaled by the bus driver to proceed.

## **Intermodal**

Toledo's role as a freight distribution point for the Midwest soon will be strengthened. A \$12.3M project at the Norfolk Southern's Airline Yard will begin in September 2010. Westwood will close permanently on August 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Updated Refuse Collection Rules

Beginning August 24, 2010, residents may call for bulky pick-up once per quarter. If you require additional bulky pick-up, the service will still be available, for a \$50.00 fee.

If you wish to purchase an additional refuse or recycling container, you may do so at the Hoffman Landfill, 3962 Hoffman Road, (off of Manhattan Blvd.) M-F, between 8:00 am -2:00 pm. There is a fee of \$75.00 per container and only cash or checks are accepted.

For more details, please feel free to contact me at 419-245-1050.

### S.W.A.P.

The Solid Waste Assistance Program (S.W.A.P.) is now available to individuals who, due to a medical condition, are unable to take their refuse containers to the curb.

The program requires medical documentation from a physician to qualify.

If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact my office at 419-245-1050.

### Don't Forget to "Leap Forward" After the Labor Day

Just a reminder....refuse and recycling collection will "Leap Forward" one day after Labor Day. The September calendar is below for added convenience.

#### September 2010 - City of Toledo Refuse & Recycling Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> B1	<b>2</b> R1	<b>3</b> Y2	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Labor Day	<b>7</b> G2	<b>8</b> O2	<b>9</b> B2	<b>10</b> R2	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Y1	<b>14</b> G1	<b>15</b> O1	<b>16</b> B1	<b>17</b> R1	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Y2	<b>21</b> G2	<b>22</b> O2	<b>23</b> B2	<b>24</b> R2	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Y1	<b>28</b> G1	<b>29</b> O1	<b>30</b> B1		

## **Hong Kong Buffet Opens in District 2**

August 12, 2010 marked a very special day for the four owners of Hong Kong Buffet and for the neighbors in District 2. A total of 21 jobs created and a wonderful new business means great things for our district! Congratulations!



**3015 Glendale Avenue  
(419) 389-1888**

## **South Toledo YMCA to be Demolished**

Recently, the YMCA announced plans to demolish the vacant building turn the land into green space and donate the land to the City of Toledo. This plan has already been approved by the YMCA Board and last Friday, the Bell Administration introduced legislation to City Council to approve the donation of the land.

Council discussed this proposed legislation at the Agenda Review Meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup> and will vote on this at the August 31<sup>st</sup> City Council meeting. It is important to note that NO tax dollars will be spent on this project and it is expected to be complete by the end of 2010. Personally, I am in favor of this project and will be voting to support this legislation.

## **Toledo-Lucas County Housing Fund**

The Bell Administration announced recently that they will continue to meet with members of the Toledo-Lucas County Housing Fund to determine a recommended funding proposal. I am of the understanding that Lucas County will not be funding this project in 2010 and further, any funding beyond this year is problematic. Both the Administration and Councilman McNamara have returned their respective pieces of legislation to the Neighborhood Committee, pending further negotiations.

## Upcoming City Council Meetings

August 31, 2010 | September 14, 2010 | September 28, 2010

*All City Council Meetings are broadcast live on Buckeye Cable Channel 69, beginning at 4:00 PM.*

## Proposed Dog Ordinance

As many people know, the Lucas County Dog Warden Advisory Committee has been working extremely hard to create legislation that would replace current laws on the books. The Bell Administration has formally proposed this legislation to Council, and I referred it to the Public Safety, Law & Criminal Justice Committee (which I chair.) We had a productive committee meeting earlier this month and will discuss this again at the next Public Safety, Law & Criminal Justice meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm.

## Street Project Updates

There are several street projects going on in District 2. While I realize that construction and orange barrels can be a huge inconvenience, the long-term result of the improvements, I believe, is well worth it.

The Glendale project has been completed. Cheyenne, Brownstone, Townley, Burroughs, Darlene and Lynbrook will all be completely rebuilt.

I fully realize that there are many more streets within District 2 that are in dire need of resurfacing or rebuilding. The unfortunate circumstance is that we have a limited amount of money in our Capital Improvement Plan budget.

I will continue my efforts to ensure that District 2 is appropriately funded in 2011. Your suggestions are always welcome.

## District 2 Neighbors Step Up to the Plate

District 2 is very fortunate to have many active neighborhood groups which play a very important role in supporting community activism. In the Ragan Woods area Dave Lemon is doing a phenomenal job leading his neighborhood block watch. Dave and his neighbors saw a need for beautification efforts and banded together and raised funds through private and business donations to hire a private landscaping company to address the issues needed and beautify the area.

The neighbors of Walbridge Park, Pickford Park and Crossgates Park have all stepped up and taken pride and ownership in their parks. They continually sponsor park clean-ups and community events, in addition to working closely with my office and representatives from the Parks, Forestry & Recreation Departments for park improvements.

The Reynolds Corners area is well-represented by Rocleen & Dan Reihing, who lead the neighborhood organization in their area. As a husband-wife team, they have volunteered countless hours dealing with issues from zoning, commercial development and nuisance abatement.

On the border which comprises neighbors of District 2 & 3, Carol Scheiber and her team of volunteers work tirelessly as the Highland Heights Neighborhood Association, to maintain the integrity of Highland Park as well as their beautification project at the triangle of Airport and South.

The Burroughs Neighborhood Association, led by Ramon Perez, is another neighborhood group who remains dedicated to stabilization and quality of life issues.

Sue Shanahan, Janet Burtch, Judith Ehram, Cheryl Dilbone, Jeff Johnston, Sally Prentis, Barb Kornacki, Sherry and Jay Gilchrist, Bob Blodgett and Tricia Dzierwa are also to be commended for their volunteer leadership efforts. I would be lost without the support and assistance of all of the above mentioned individuals and I thank you ALL very much for stepping up to the plate!