



Collins Corner

Connecting with the constituents in District 2

Volume 4, Issue 2

D. Michael Collins

August 2011

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Message from Councilman Collins

I would like to share with you my deep appreciation to Jenny Gogol, my legislative aide. Thinking back to January 2008, when I took office after voters elected me as the city councilman for District 2, the first thing I did was ask Jenny to stay on with me and she agreed.

This was a blessing because she became my mentor and sounding board. Her keen interest and professional commitment served the constituents in District 2 with the highest degree of “customer service.”

Soon after I took office, Jenny suggested we do an electronic newsletter and thus came the Collins Corner. Her efforts in this paralleled her energy in constituent services.

In June, Jenny was offered a management position with Mayor Bell’s administration. We had numerous discussions and while I know her presence and assistance was invaluable, I also wanted what was best for her professional career – Jenny is now with the Department of Public Utilities as the manager of Customer Service.



My new legislative aide is Lisa Renee Ward. Lisa brings to my office the same qualities as Jenny and I know that the level of professional service will be as they say “seamless.”

To close, I have been blessed twice with professional and committed partners and I am sure our office will always be there for “you” as “you” are the reason we are here!

Did you know?

- TOLEDO OFFERS A BASEMENT FLOODING GRANT PROGRAM
- TOLEDO HAS 145 CITY PARKS
- TOLEDO MAINTAINS FIVE FOUNTAINS
- TOLEDO OWNS AND MAINTAINS FIVE CEMETERIES
- TOLEDO HAS 90,000 TREES IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-AWAYS

Important numbers:

City Council: 419-245-1050

Streets: 419-245-1526

Trash Collection: 419-936-2510

Nuisance Issues: 419-245-1400

Alleys: 419-245-1526

Public Trees: 419-936-2988

Sewer Issues: 419-936-2924

Sidewalk Issues: 419-936-2710

Potholes: 419-936-BUMP

Trash Transition to Republic Services

As of August 15 Toledo is being serviced by Republic Services (formerly Allied Waste). As you will recall, in the Spring of 2011, Mayor Bell proposed that the core service of refuse/recycling collection be transferred to Lucas County. The City of Toledo would no longer consider this core service as a municipal responsibility.

While I have pointed out prior to and during this transition process that Toledo will be subsidizing the program at \$1.5 million dollars annually, the actual contract holder for this service is the Lucas County Solid Waste Management District. For all practical purposes; the constituent service responsibility now belongs to the Lucas County Commissioners.

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A public meeting for residents of District 2 and representatives of Republic is being planned for late September.

My Republic Rewards offers:

Discounts at local and national reward partners, including Imagination Station, Toledo Zoo, The Oliver House, Olga's Kitchen, Stanley's Market, Ziploc®, McDonald's®, Macy's, Coca-Cola® and many more.



The Toledo Block Watch Program is looking for leaders. Contact a community service officer or visit www.toledopolice.com/BlockWatch

Trash Transition ... continued

I have many questions still unanswered as to the expectations for quality performance and troubleshooting. I do realize that this service is the expertise of the private vendor, therefore I am hopeful that the transition will be seamless. Below is some of the information that was distributed at the press conference when Mayor Bell and the County Commissioners signed the contract:

- Same trucks—with added images of popular Toledo scenes
- Same collection carts you have now for waste and recyclables
- Same pick up of waste every week and recyclables every other week
- Same billing through your water bill
- Same customer service phone number for questions and information (419-936-2511)
- Same end destination for trash using the Hoffman Road Landfill

What is new with Solid Waste services?

There are some changes to Toledo's solid waste services:

- The LEAP Forward program has ended, your trash pick up day will not change.
- Major holidays will push collection back one day only for that week
- Residents will no longer be charged extra if they do not recycle. A recycling reward program, "My Republic Rewards" managed by Recyclebank is being put into operation.
- Residents must opt in to the reward program, each household will receive information with a unique pin number for registration between now and September 1.
- Waste collection costs increase 45 cents to \$8.95 per month; qualified Homestead Exemption households will still pay \$5.00 per month.

Southwyck still continues to be a challenge in District 2

The Southwyck complex is privately owned and while I have been doing my best to work with one of the owners, progress has been stagnant. According to one major owner redevelopment of the property is not an option at this time due to financing.

Recent media reports speculating there was a possible foreign owner interested in developing Southwyck were not based on factual information.

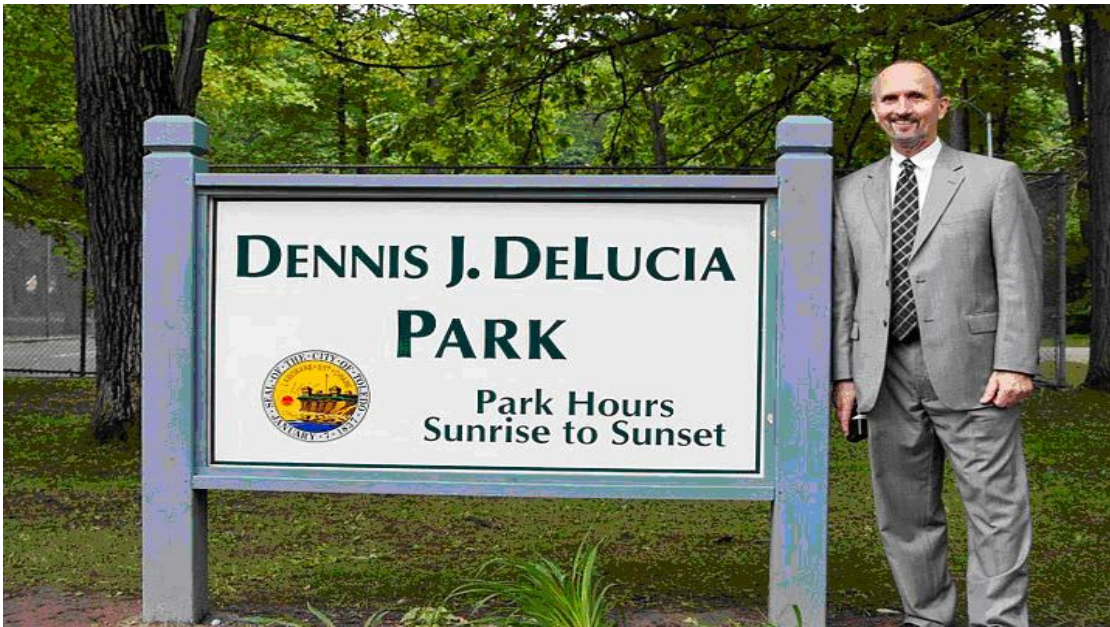
The demographics of Southwyck are far superior when it comes to developmental potential to any other location in Toledo, in my opinion. I feel certain that we will see a positive outcome for Southwyck, but it will take that spark of light to bring a developer in who has the financial ability to complete the vision!

Crossgates Park renamed to Dennis J. DeLucia Park

I had the privilege of joining Councilman Rob Ludeman in cosponsoring legislation to rename Crossgates Park to honor Dennis J. DeLucia. Mr. DeLucia and his wife, Becky, moved to the Crossgates neighborhood 21 years ago, during which time Mr. DeLucia served as the principal of Crossgates Elementary School.

He served as a positive role model, mentor and leader to numerous children, teachers and staff in addition to devoting countless hours to beautification efforts and improvements to Crossgates Park.

When members of our Crossgates community learned Mr. DeLucia was retiring, they approached Councilman Ludeman and myself to seek a way to find a permanent tribute to honor him. Renaming the park after him was perfect!



Back to school safety tips

Here are some simple reminders for drivers:

- Slow down and be especially alert in the residential neighborhoods and school zones
- Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully
- Watch for children on and near the road in the morning and after school hours
- Reduce any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road
- Remember it is illegal to text and drive in the City of Toledo
- Follow designated pickup and drop-off locations at schools



Watch out for children exiting and boarding our public schools buses and TARTA buses.
Remember traffic laws when it comes to stopping for school buses.



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Resolution encouraging display of POW/MIA Flag

My office was contacted by Mr. Nick Haupricht, a veteran and constituent, who asked for assistance in seeking greater awareness and recognition for members of our Armed Forces with POW or MIA status. Councilmen Tom Waniewski and Adam Martinez joined me in introducing a resolution that was passed unanimously by Council on May 17.

The resolution encouraged the display of the POW/MIA on all municipal properties.

Nick Haupricht donated a number of POW/MIA flags to the City of Toledo to be displayed.

Share your event!

Do you have a community event or Block Watch meeting in District 2 that you'd like us to share in our next Collins Corner?

Call Lisa at: 419-245-1064

Or email the information about your event to:

lisa.ward@toledo.oh.gov

Bulky Refuse & Recycling Drop-off Day huge success

In June District 2 and District 3 held a joint "Bulky Refuse & Recycling Drop-off Day" in South Toledo.

Approximately 700 vehicles came through to drop off refuse and recyclable materials.

This huge community service success was thanks to the City of Toledo professionals who volunteered their time to make this possible for residents of our district.



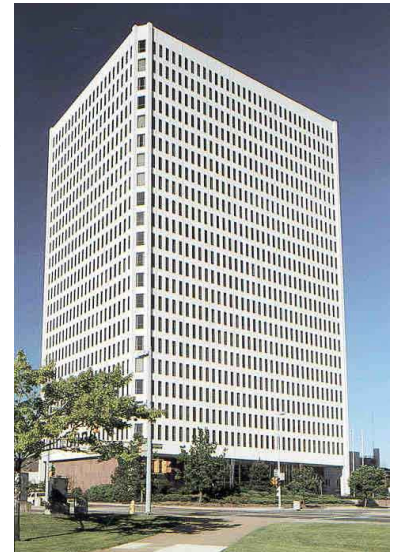
Upcoming Toledo City Council meetings

September 6 September 20 October 4 October 18

Toledo City Council meets on Tuesdays in Council Chambers, which is located on the 1st floor of One Government Center. Meetings begin at 4 p.m. and are open to the public. I encourage anyone who has the time and opportunity to attend to do so. The meetings are also aired live on Buckeye Cable channel 69 or can be viewed several days later through WGTE's Knowledgestream.

The link to videos can be found on the City Council page of the City of Toledo website at Toledo.oh.gov.

The Council webpage also contains links to other useful information such as committee hearing dates, agendas and the Toledo City Journal which records the outcome of legislation before Council.



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