



Collins Corner

*“Connecting with the Constituents of District 2”
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A message from Councilman Collins

Welcome to my first electronic newsletter in 2011. I hope that this year has been one of good health, happiness and peace. Recently, I have had the pleasure of communicating with many constituents who have needed my assistance. Whether it is helping to get you in touch with the correct city representative, making a call to the Department of Public Utilities on your behalf, or helping to get your street plowed, I want you to know that these are the reasons why I am here – to help! Please don't hesitate to contact me either through phone or email. If I can't answer your question or help you, I will do my absolute best to get you to someone who can. I pride myself on connecting with my constituents and fully understand that I work for you.

~ D. Michael Collins

Congratulations Nadia Bibbs!

My heartfelt congratulations to Nadia Bibbs, a freshman at Maritime Academy of Toledo and District 2 resident. She was recently awarded as first place winner in the 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Art, Writing and Multimedia contest, sponsored by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission. I am very proud of her and wanted to share her success.

District 2 "Town Hall Meeting" on Mayor Bell's 2011 Proposed Operating Budget to be held on March 14th at Rogers High School

Frequently, I am asked why the City of Toledo cannot perform services such as police response time, street repair, and park maintenance; just to name a few. Being present at the budget Town Hall Meeting on March 14th will provide the opportunity to experience firsthand, the presentation from Mayor Bell and his team of Directors on the fiscal challenges facing the City of Toledo. In addition, it will provide the chance to have direct input on the future of solid waste and recycling services, police manpower, and the sales of city assets such as the Marina District.

It has been reported that other than District 6, the citizen turnout at these community meetings has been very low. While I realize that we all have busy schedules, this meeting will provide an opportunity to dialog and express your feelings directly to the mayor of the city of Toledo and your district council member. This is the last of the community budget meetings, and by law, Council must pass a balanced budget before April 1st, so these few weeks are critical and will be very challenging. I encourage you to communicate your thoughts to better assist me in your representation.

Wixey Bakery

2017 Glendale
419-382-6684

Click [HERE](#)
to visit their
website



Groundbreaking set for Veteran's Administrations Outpatient Clinic

In late 2009, this project appeared to be a wish with no plan, however with the energy and commitment of Congresswoman Kaptur, UT President Lloyd Jacobs, and Matt Schroeder, plans are moving forward and the groundbreaking date has been set for March 28, 2011. I feel very fortunate that I was requested to join in their efforts and make this vision a reality.

Traffic Concerns in the Beverly Neighborhood

I have been working diligently with the principal of Beverly School, surrounding neighbors and businesses and representatives of Transportation to work together to eliminate any potential traffic problems with the opening of the new Beverly next fall.

Mayor Bell Announces Changes in his Administration

Recently, Deputy Mayor of External Relations, Dean Monske announced that he would be leaving his job with the City of Toledo to become the President/CEO of Regional Growth Partnership (RGP). I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Monske for his professionalism and leadership while serving in the Bell Administration and wish him well in his new endeavor.

Tom Crothers has been promoted to Deputy Mayor of External Relations, Dave Welch now serves as Director Public Utilities, Ed Moore is the Director of Public Service and David Pratt is the Commissioner of Streets, Bridges & Harbor.



Don't forget to "Spring Forward" and move your clocks ahead one hour this Sunday, March 13, 2011 for Daylight Savings Time.

This is a sure sign that spring is on its way!

Department of Public Utilities

In January, Mayor Bell introduced legislation to City Council to increase the rates for water, sanitary and storm sewer. After much debate and negotiations between Council and the Administration, I supported the increased rates for water and sewer. The storm water proposed legislation was referred back to the Administration. I voted in favor of the new rates because I am very concerned and want to ensure that our water delivery system will not be compromised due to past years of neglect. Also, we will maintain our schedule in our federal consent decree known as the Toledo Waterways Initiative (TWI). The failure of either one of these could have been devastating as well as costly.

The city of Toledo does not stand alone with the challenges of an aged infrastructure for these critical services. The steps we are taking now will help to ensure the integrity of the system for the present and future. For more information about the services at the Department of Public Utilities, including the senior discount rate programs, click on the link [HERE](#) to view their homepage of the city website.

Pot Holes 419-936-BUMP (2867)

If you prefer, please don't hesitate to call or email me with pot hole complaints. I will make sure they get reported to the proper representatives for repair.

Toledo Public School Proposed Transformational Plan

Last month, TPS held a series of public meetings regarding plans for transforming TPS. I attended both of the meetings held for the Bowsher and Rogers High School Learning Community. I was very pleased to see the large number of people who took time to attend these meetings and I believe that the response from the community is proof positive of the care and commitment for public education. If you are interested in reading comments from both meetings, click on the links below.

Community Response from the Bowsher Meeting - Click [HERE](#)

Community Response from the Rogers Meeting - Click [HERE](#)

Senate Bill 5

This is a very important issue for the state of Ohio that is very near and dear to my heart. As many people know, I testified before the Senate on this matter, and most recently before the Ohio House of Representatives.

Rather than to explain in great detail as to why I testified, I offer the opportunity to read my comments. If you are interested, please click on the link [HERE](#).



This month Herzing celebrates being open for 2 years in District 2. Congratulations!

City of Toledo continues efforts to collect Ice Storm Debris

With the goal of going through each neighborhood, City of Toledo professionals will be collecting debris from this past ice storm. Residents are asked to move fallen debris to the curb between the street and the sidewalk.

Only fallen tree limbs and branches will be collected as a part of the clean up. No construction or demolition debris will be taken. Additionally, tree trimmings completed by contractors should be removed by the contractor as a part of the service as City crews do not have capacity to remove non-storm related branches and limbs.

This is a one-time service that will be provided only as a result of the extensive natural damage caused by the ice and wind during the weather event.

Upcoming Toledo City Council Meetings

Toledo City Council meetings are public meetings that are held in Council chambers, located on the 1st floor of One Government Center. They begin at 4:00pm. Meetings are also broadcast live on Buckeye Cable channel 69, and available to view via the internet by clicking [HERE](#).

March 22, 2011 - April 5, 2011 - April 19, 2011