



# Walton Hills Journal



Mayor and Council Report

[www.waltonhillsohio.gov](http://www.waltonhillsohio.gov)

August 2013



Kevin Hurst  
Mayor



Denny Linville  
Council President



Mary Brenner  
Councilwoman



Don Kolograf  
Councilman



Paul Rich  
Councilman



Brian Spitznagel  
Councilman



Gloria Terlosky  
Councilwoman



*Council President Pro Tem Denny Linville and Abe Lincoln (AKA Phil Williamson) at Bedford's Forth of July Parade.*

## Index

2. A Message from the Mayor
3. Police Department Information
4. Police Dept. Info/Concerts
5. Fiscal Officer/Standing Ovation
6. Economic Development Update
7. Gas House Propane Corporation
8. August Recreation News
9. Community Day
10. Educ. Alternatives/Homeschooling
11. August Village Calendar

Information Line 24/7  
440.735.5001 - Option 5

Dear Residents,

I recently attended a Manufacturing Alliance of Communities (MAC) conference in Atlanta, Georgia. I was in a large meeting room with approximately 3,000 people in attendance, mostly from federal agencies. I was pleasantly surprised and honored to be acknowledged as the Mayor of Walton Hills, and recognized for the positive things taking place in our community.

One slogan that continued to echo throughout the meeting was the "Walton Hills Way." I had to chuckle because I did not understand what that meant. As the meeting went on and networking occurred, I was told several times that of the approximately 200 conferences that have taken place in the six years that the MAC has been in place, the one held in Walton Hills in July of last year was absolutely the best attended and most professional conference that has taken place. This is now the standard that MAC conferences try to live up to.

The round table discussion that took place last July in our Community Room was situated in a very comfortable, yet very patriot setting. This really made a difference; it made the attendees feel welcomed and resulted in a very positive, productive meeting. The "Walton Hills Way" was touted by Jay Williams, the Auto Tsar for the United States and Mathy Stanislaus, the EPA Chairman appointed by President Obama. I explained to the conference attendees that Walton Hills' goal is to continue to build strong, trusting relationships, respect others, continue to be positive and professional and find ways to enhance the many things that our community has to offer. This is accomplished with the support of dedicated Village employees and Council members working in harmony.

Walton Hills will continue to take the lead with innovative ideas to improve our way of life, while sustaining our past practice of being a positive, caring community. We will continue to live the "Walton Hills Way," where memories are made and where people who come through our community know that they are coming into a place where positive relationships take place and where those elected to serve do not take their responsibility lightly.

*Kevin Hurst*

Mayor/Safety/Economic Development Director

## A Message from the Mayor

Let me try to explain the operations of our Village and all of the many activities that take place within a 30 day period, not to mention a full year. Many times as Mayor I hear both sides of issues and many times I let both sides speak their mind and voice their opinions. Afterwards, I make a logical decision that will be best for all parties involved within the guidelines of the law. Sometimes the requests and the demands are pretty far off base and it gives me a real desire to clarify information.

Please let me illustrate this with a few examples. A resident confronted me and asked me to move the deer crossing sign on the corner of their street. The question was odd, so I asked why they would want that sign removed. Their reply – “it is not a safe place for deer to cross. I think you should designate it somewhere else in our village. This way they won’t be getting hit by cars in front of my house.” At first I chuckled and then I realized how serious that person was. After having much discussion about this simple issue, we moved the sign to a new location about 75’ feet down the road and they were happy.

Another resident came into my office three days after I became Mayor and demanded that I stop all of the fighting in this Village by telling the owner of the building across the street to remove the signs displayed in one of his vacant rental units that they felt contained slanderous statements. So I went to the owner two days later and found a renter for that unit who wanted to open a Christian Book Store. I thought this issue was solved and that I had accomplished a good deed. However, a few months later I was confronted to ask why we need to have a religions bookstore in our Village.

Just when I thought the complaints were over, about four weeks ago I was confronted by a resident who told me that our Council does nothing and that we need a whole new Council. I asked them why they would say something like. The resident said this Council stopped fighting and there are no more questions, complaints or negative attitudes. But now residents have to pay for cable T.V. to get the entertainment that we got five years ago. I asked this resident to explain what they meant by all of these accusations. This person explained that things have gotten too quiet; they do not come to any meetings because everyone seems to agree too much and everyone seems to have way too much knowledge of the workings and operations of our Village. They simply do not agree with everyone getting along and wanted it stopped ASAP!

It is these comments and misstatements of truths that we have to clarify. No one, not me or any other mayor, can operate and accomplish things without a working, governing body of Council. Our Village Council works hand-in-hand alongside me and asks many questions and always receives an answer. Then after discussions about the issues, we come to an agreement and then they support what we are trying to accomplish. Many times we come to the table with many different issues to discuss at our C.O.W. meetings twice a month. Then we decide if we want to put these issues into legislation form or not. Sometimes our discussions lead to the development of policies and procedures for our Village employees. I want to stress that none of our operations can be accomplished or put into action without the help of each individual Council member. They work with me on a daily basis; each of them can attest to the open communication and working relationship we have built **together**. We have eliminated the back-biting, the insults, the attacking and the negativity. We have become positive. We have changed the perception of our community and continue to keep all the oars in the water and move our boat forward.

There are things in life that no one can control. There are incidents and involvement with accidents that every person deals with. Until someone personally faces a tragedy or a challenge in their life or overcomes a major disruption of their everyday living, they sometimes do not take inventory of how blessed they are or how fortunate they have been for the many years that they have been alive. Sometimes as human nature we seem to focus on the here and now and the issue at hand. Make no mistake about it; a safety issue is always the first issue to be addressed. But as I write this article and make these statements, I am absolutely positive that it will still be interpreted the wrong way. But I had to take on the challenge of trying to explain and clarify the many different operations and the different challenges that we face in our daily operations. Please take notice of how our Village has been transformed over the last few years and ask if our Village is better off than before.

For the record, there have been approximately eight residential titles transferred since January and at least 65% of those residents have received above the market value for their home. We have also had one commercial business recently transfer into our Village. So all in all, if you take an inventory and look at the positive side of it, the Village of Walton Hills is in a very good position and continues to grow and get things accomplished. I want to stress that none of this can be accomplished or put into action without the help of each individual Council member. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any issues to discuss. If this letter offends you, I do apologize. That is not my intention. My intention is to dispel the negative attitudes, cast away the hatefulness, bring back the positive and make Walton Hills a great place to work, play, and live!

Sincerely serving you,

*Kevin Hurst*

Mayor ----I.G.I.T.



# Walton Hills Police Department Information



**Kenn Thellmann, Chief of Police / Councilman Don Kolograf, Safety Committee Chair**

## **Walton Hills Police Auxiliary Officers Sworn-in by Mayor Kevin Hurst**

In an attempt to remain proactive with the area's growth, increase in traffic and contemplation of the opening of the Hard Rock Racino at Northfield Park in late fall, the Walton Hills Police Department implemented an Auxiliary Police Officer Unit to help with some of the day to day duties that the Officers are faced with during their tours of duty. The Auxiliary Officers will also be trained as Jailers to assist in booking prisoners and daily correctional duties such as prisoner care (food & showers), transportation of inmates to court, etc. Our new Auxiliaries will also be directing traffic, performing vacation checks, doing funeral escorts, and serving as Mayor's Court Bailiffs and security. This is all in addition to assisting regular officers on patrol. The Auxiliary Police applicants were subjected to background checks, fingerprinted, drug tested and put through a rigorous physical agility test before being offered a position.



Aux. Officer Zack Bryant



Aux. Officer Abby Frejofsky



Aux. Officer Ralph Jaros



Aux. Officer Glenn Lucore



Aux. Officer James Maddamma



Aux. Officer Alexandra Nemeth

## **New Part-time Police Officers Sworn-in**

On June 7th, Mayor Kevin Hurst administered the oath of office to part-time Police Officer Kelsey Allen. She was previously an Officer for Brimfield Township. On July 16th, Mayor Hurst swore in part-time Police Officer Joshua M. Wendl. He is also employed as a Security Officer, with the rank of Sergeant, at a major medical center in Cleveland. The Walton Hills Police Department would like to welcome Kelsey and Joshua and wish them the best of luck in their new position in our fine community.



Part-time Officer Kelsey Allen



Officer Allen's family and fiancé



Part-time Officer Wendl & his wife



# W.H. Police Department Information - continued



## The Walton Hills Police Department Sobriety Checkpoint

A Sobriety Checkpoint was held on July 5th on Northfield Road near Krick Road at the Carr Bros. Cement Co. parking lot. The checkpoint started at 10:00 PM and ran to 2:30 AM. A total of 317 vehicles traveling north-bound passed through the checkpoint. 15 vehicles were diverted for further license checks or were checked for impairment. A total of 16 citations were written, ranging from driving with a suspended license to open container and possession of marijuana. One vehicle was also reported as stolen and detained for confirmation.

The checkpoint was made possible by a grant from University Hospitals of Cleveland in conjunction with the Cuyahoga County OVI Task Force. Bedford and Oakwood Village Police also assisted with the checkpoint. Special thanks to the following for their support and donations: Carr Bros. Cement Co., Reilly Sweeping, Rich’s Towing, Spennato’s Italian Restaurant, Mayor Hurst and the Walton Hills Council.

### June Ticket Summary



Driving Under Suspension	9	OVI/Alcohol/Liquor	6
Expired Plates	7	Speeding	64
Faulty Exhaust	3	Seatbelt Violations	16
Improper Right Turn	3	Traffic Control Lights	3
Loud Stereos	4	Miscellaneous Traffic Offenses	31
Misuse of Credit Cards	6	Total Offenses for May	152

### SUMMER CONCERT SERIES!

We are excited to announce that Walton Hills has built a working relationship with the Mayor of Oakwood and the Mayor of Glenwillow to offer great entertainment for the 2013 summer season! The following free concerts will take place at 7 p.m. in Oakwood Village this summer (don’t forget your lawn chairs!):



Thursday, August 1: **LaFlavour** (Voted Ohio’s #1 Lounge Act) / Hawthorne Valley Shopping Center, 23100 Broadway Ave. in the Levin Furniture parking lot

Thursday, August 8: **Mike Albert’s “Memories of Elvis Show”** / Special tribute to “The Rolling Thunder” / Hawthorne Valley Shopping Center, 23100 Broadway Ave. in the Levin Furniture parking lot

Thursday, August 15: **Stayin’ Alive** (Bee Gees Tribute Band) / Hawthorne Valley Shopping Center, 23100 Broadway Ave. in the Levin Furniture parking lot

Thursday, August 22: **Shout-“Legends of Soul” Show Band & FIREWORKS!** /Oakwood Community Park, 1 Mount Zion Circle, across the street from Petitti Garden Center, 24964 Broadway Ave. With this event only, all Walton Hills adult residents who attend will receive a FREE RIB DINNER! See below!

All Walton Hills adult residents that want their free Rib Dinner must come to the Walton Hills Village Hall by August 20<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 p.m. and sign-up for a free meal ticket for this last concert of the season. Kids receive a free hot dog.

*If it rains or is too hot, concerts will be held in the cool comfort of the Mt. Zion Fine Arts Center.*

# Fiscal Officer's Report

Vic Nogalo, Fiscal Officer

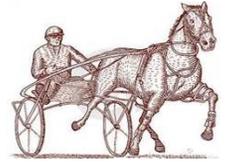
(440) 735-5028

nogalov@waltonhillsohio.gov

Denny Linville, Finance Committee Chairman

---

Both the Village of Walton Hills and the City of Warrensville Heights seem to have received the short-end of the stick recently relating to the "Racino" legislation passed late in June by the State of Ohio General Assembly. The legislation disallows any distribution of wagering tax revenues to Walton Hills because less than half of the track is located in Walton Hills.



There are seven racetracks in Ohio and all seven will build or have built racinos. Two of Ohio's racetracks are not completely located in one municipality. On the northern end of Northfield Park, approximately 1/3 of the harness race track is within the boundaries of Walton Hills along with part of the grandstand, several structures and the parking lot. Thistledown is primarily located in North Randall with part of the track resting in Warrensville Heights.

Over the years, Walton Hills and Northfield shared an equal annual distribution of \$30,000 in harness racing wagering tax distributed by the State of Ohio. This will not be the case with the racino distribution even though the legal existence of the racino is due to the racetrack.

The State law previously read as follows: *"To the extent that sufficient cash is available ... the Director of Budget and Management shall pay one million dollars to the municipal corporation or township in which each commercial racetrack is located ... Additionally, within six months after the first payments made under this section, the Director of Budget and Management shall pay an additional one million dollars to each of these municipal corporations and townships ..."*

**It was amended to:** *"that a municipality or township that is eligible for two \$1 million payments from the Casino Operator Settlement Fund is the municipality or township in which greater than 50% of the real property of a commercial racetrack was located on June 11, 2012 ..."*

The Village is perplexed with this law change especially considering the additional tax dollars it will have to spend with a racino sitting right on its boundary. Northfield Village will receive \$2 million and utilize a good portion of it for its capital and infrastructure needs. The Mayor and Council have made several attempts to find out why this change was made on the eve of the vote in late June. Not once was Walton Hills notified of these changes. The question is where is Walton Hills' representation and how can we stop this from happening again?

---

## Standing Ovation!

On June 27th, the Village Hall courtyard was filled to capacity with residents, family and friends as they enjoyed the second annual Benevolent Fundraiser featuring Mary Beth Ions and her violin solo. She amazed us with her talent as a violinist and charmed us with her humor and stories of other engagements where she has performed. The air was filled with show tunes, gypsy music, Beethoven and everything in between. We learned the history of the violin and how it was constructed. She showed us the strings of the bow, which are made of horse hair, and informed us at today's cost, the bow alone would cost \$15,000. As I have stated before, "Mary Beth Ions plays the violin like it is an extension of her soul." She did not disappoint us. It was a beautiful summer enchanting evening with the proceeds of over \$600 going to help eight families in our village who are currently in need.



My thanks to Dan and our Service Department for setting up the courtyard, to Carol and her staff for serving us a delicious dessert and to the Mayor and Council for their support and encouragement that helped make this a very successful and fun event. And to all of you in attendance who supported the event, it reinforces my feeling that Walton Hills is and always will be the Best Location in the Nation. Hope to see you all next year!

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Paul Rich, Economic Development Committee Chairman

## *Work. Play. Live.*

Few communities offer all three aspects of life the way the Village of Walton Hills does. Walton Hills boasts beautiful residential areas with large plots of land and scenic views. A portion of the stunning Bedford Reservation runs right through our backyard. We are also fortunate to have the Walton Hills Lake and T.G. Young Park in our community. In addition, we have a defined industrial park that helps drive economic sustainability. And it is this economic development that we are working hard to sustain so that our residents can continue to live and play in Walton Hills.

We recognize the benefits businesses bring to our community, and are always proactively looking for ways to drive economic development in Walton Hills. This includes helping our current businesses succeed and grow while attracting new companies to our Village.

The Village of Walton Hills is truly a beautiful community, with many benefits for both residents and businesses alike. So, the next time you are traveling through Walton Hills, take a moment to appreciate everything our little community has to offer.



## EXPANSION OF MANTUA MANUFACTURING

Mayor Kevin Hurst, Council President Pro Tem Denny Linville and Councilman Paul Rich visited Mantua Manufacturing on July 16th to check out the new 20,000 square foot addition to their company's headquarters at 7900 Northfield Road. Owner Edward Weintraub, President David Jaffe and CFO Jeff Weekley were presented with a proclamation honoring their company for investing in Walton Hills for the last 53 years. Mantua Manufacturing manufactures and distributes bedding support systems worldwide. They have two locations in Walton Hills. Their facility at 7055 Krick Road manufactures metal bed bases and trundle beds. The facility at 7900 Northfield Road manufactures metal bed frames. We're so glad that Mantua Manufacturing is a part of our community!



(Left) Council President Denny Linville, Mantua President David Jaffe (holding proclamation), Councilman Paul Rich, Mantua Owner Edward Weintraub, & Mantua CFO Jeff Weekley.

(Right) The Mantua Manufacturing Management Team.



 Please remember to “Like Us” on Facebook! 

# SPOTLIGHT ON GAS HOUSE PROPANE CORPORATION

*One of the many threads in the fabric of our Village  
Paul Rich, Economic Development Committee Chairman*

The Gas House Propane Corporation, located at 7125 Krick Road in Walton Hills, is an independent propane dealer which specializes in all propane applications – for home, industrial and recreational use. They also have another location at 3804 St. Clair Avenue in Cleveland.

Owner Scott Klein is proud of the company which his father Spencer and his grandfather Benjamin started in 1948. The location of their first plant was on Prospect Avenue in downtown Cleveland, which was relocated to St. Clair Avenue in the early 1970s. In 1963, they opened up their plant in Walton Hills, which is the main gas plant where they have two 30,000 gallon propane tanks on site.

The customers of the Gas House range from people who use a gas grill to people who heat their home with propane to companies who rely on clean burning propane for lift truck fuel to roofers who use propane for their kettles and hand torches. The Gas House is doing everything possible to keep the cost of propane down and they will be happy to deliver to any jobsite.

The Gas House fills their customers' tanks with the most amount of propane allowed by law. Scott pointed out that this is the difference between his company and other convenient locations where propane is frequently exchanged. When someone goes to a gas station or a big box store to exchange their propane tank for a new one, they are not receiving a full tank. They are receiving 25% less than they would if they would come to the Gas House. They take pride in filling any size tank and will make sure that you get a full tank every time!

The Gas House also carries a variety of liquid propane and natural gas products and accessories, including vented and vent free heaters, vented and vent free gas logs and fireplaces, garage and shop heaters, portable tank mount heaters, gas grills, gas grill replacement parts, gas lights, commercial overhead heaters, propane torches, construction heaters and many other products. As an added bonus for shoppers, the Gas House's website ([www.gashousepropane.com](http://www.gashousepropane.com)) always has a variety of coupons that can be printed out for additional savings.

Scott stresses that the Gas House is a family operated business, not one of the chain stores that don't care about their customers. If one of his customers ever has a problem, a phone call is all that is needed to straighten it out. The employees of the Gas House take pride in their service. Their prices are always competitive, they are reliable, dependable and an honest dealer that treats their customers as part of their propane family, not just an account number. They have been around since 1948 and they plan to be around for another 50 years!

The Gas House is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. They are closed on Sunday. For more information, call them at 440.439.4474.



*Pictured is the Gas House plant located at 7125 Krick Road in Walton Hills. 12 people are currently employed at this facility.*

# August Recreation News

Carol Stanoszek, Recreation Director

(440) 786-2964

stanoszekc@waltonhillsohio.gov

Mary Brenner, Recreation and Community Life Committee Chairwoman

## Event: MANSFIELD REFORMATORY

**Date:** Monday, August 19th

**Time:** Leave Village Hall at 8:00 a.m.

**Site:** Mansfield, Ohio

**Cost:** \$12 + lunch money

**Note:** Two hour tour. Lots of walking & standing!

TRIP  
IS  
FULL

## Event: SENIOR LUNCH

**Date:** Monday, August 26th

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Site:** Community Room

**Cost:** \$7.00

**Note:** Nancy Papa will present "The Journey Through the Health Care System."



## Event: CAROL'S BOOKWORMS

**Date:** Monday, August 26th

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Site:** Community Room

**Cost:** Please donate an item for our food pantry.

**Note:** Book to be announced. Join book lovers talking about books!



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR FIRST WALTON HILLS HOE-DOWN!

**Saturday, September 28th at T.G. Young Park**

Come eat, drink, dance and holler! Pull out your flannels, overalls and long johns, blacken out a few teeth and call the Recreation Dept. for tickets! Prizes will be given for the best costume! Two Men and a Campfire will be performing!



## Our Food Pantry is in need of some items...

Cereal, peanut butter, jelly, soup, canned fruit (not pie filling), pasta sauce, granola bars, canned veggies, macaroni and cheese, tea, tooth paste, shampoo, soap, tissues and paper towels.



Please drop off these items at the Recreation Department, Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thank you!

## HEALTHY WALTON HILLS

UH Bedford Medical Center will offer low cost preventative health screenings on Saturday, Sept. 21st from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon at UH Bedford Medical Center (main lobby). This special event is exclusively for residents of Walton Hills, 40 years of age and up. Screenings are fast, convenient and affordable. And, they could save your life. Early detection and prompt treatment of the conditions for which we are screening can help prevent stroke, heart attack, osteoporosis, diabetes and many other health problems that often develop in adults 40 and up.

You have a choice of two packages. You may choose one or both.

### Package 1 (\$25.00) includes:

- Blood Test (Comprehensive panel to assess glucose, cholesterol (LDL, HDL, and triglycerides), kidney and liver functions and PSA levels (prostate) for men
- Ultrasound testing of the carotid arteries and abdomen (to look for possible abdominal aortic aneurism)
- Pulmonary Function Test
- Body Mass Index (BMI) calculation
- Peripheral artery circulation exam
- Bone density screening

### Package 2 (\$75.00) includes:

Calcium Scoring - An accurate, non-invasive CT scan to measure the calcium build-up on the walls of your arteries. For more information or to sign up for one or both packages, please call Carol Stanoszek at 440.786.2964.

### Thank You Carol James Florist!



Our most sincere appreciation is extended to Carol James Florist, located at 451 Broadway Avenue in Bedford, for donating a beautiful floral arrangement for display in the Village Hall lobby every week. Please patronize this wonderful florist! Their phone number is 440.786.1811.

# Community Day!

Sunday, August 11, 2013



Noon	<b>Opening ceremonies including flag raising!</b>
Noon to 8:00 p.m.	<b>Photo Booth</b> <b>Rock Climbing Wall</b> - 5 climbers at one time <b>Iron Man Challenge</b> (42" and up) - 2 opponents run an obstacle course <b>Cars Combo</b> (ages 3-12) - bounce, climb and slide! <b>First Down Sports Challenge</b> (ages 10 & up) - one on one tug of war <b>Single Bungy</b> - catapult into the air!
Noon to 2:00 p.m.	<b>Jerry Cole &amp; the High Plains Drifters</b>
Noon to 8:00 p.m.	<b>Kids Carnival Games</b>
12:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	<b>Walton Hills Grand Prix</b> - remote control car/radio control
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<b>Pony Rides</b> (on baseball diamond 1) - for toddlers to age 10
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	<b>Dunk Tank</b> - come and try your luck to dunk Village officials and residents (3 balls for \$1.00)
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<b>Balloon Bender Dave</b> - balloon fun for the kids!
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	<b>Pop Tarts</b> (hit songs of the 60's)
4:00 p.m.	<b>Babes of 1916 Softball Game</b> - (baseball diamond 2)
4:30 p.m.	<b>Citizens League Presentation</b> – <i>Citizen of the Year 2013</i>
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	<b>SEALE, SWAT &amp; Bomb Squad officers and equipment.</b> (Come and meet your Walton Hills officers involved in these special units.)
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	<b>Blue Eyed Soul Band</b> (R & B Band)
7:00 p.m.	<b>Walton Hills Grand Prix Remote Control Car Race</b>
8:30 p.m.	Announcement of <b>Raffle Winners</b>
Dusk	<b>FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA!</b>



Tickets can be purchased at the Recreation Ticket Booth- \$2.00 Individual Ticket, \$12.00 for Individual Pass / Unlimited Usage; \$25.00 Family Pass / Unlimited Usage (family members only - no neighbors or friends accepted with Family Pass!) BRING YOUR CAMERAS, FAMILIES, FRIENDS and ENJOY!



# EDUCATION ALTERNATIVES

## Homeschooling



Homeschooling, or home education, has grown from nearly extinct in the United States in the 1970s to now approximately two million school-age students. Residents David and Cecile Brazytis, who chose to homeschool all of their seven children, never regretted their decision. They were concerned over what was happening in the schools 25 years ago when their oldest son was going into kindergarten. They are Christians who wanted to put their son in a Christian school, but the funds weren't there. Thankfully, that year home schooling became mandated at the state level in Ohio, allowing homeschooling in all districts.

According to Mrs. Brazytis, homeschooling allows parents to foster a relationship with their children, to guide them through the day. She and her husband wanted to be a bigger influence on their children than what they grew up with. She notes that homeschooling is good for parents who want to know firsthand what their children are learning. She points out when children are doing work one on one, they do not have to wait for a whole classroom to finish before they can move on to the next subject. She also wants to dispel a common misconception – a home-educated child does not and should not take the GED. The parents can issue a diploma from their home-school, and also provide transcripts which are accepted proof of graduation.

Homeschooling allows families to create an effective learning environment by having more control over a distraction-free zone for schoolwork and ensuring that the physical environment is healthy. Homeschooling frees children from concerns regarding bullying, and moves the learning environment to any location - to the Metro-parks, downtown, to the beach, the zoo – and no permission slips are needed. The whole world is a classroom, and learning never ends! Mrs. Brazytis teaches her children year round. She keeps them going in the summer with a lighter schedule, learning more of the life skills such as woodworking, cooking, sewing and gardening.

Homeschooling enables kids to get involved in the community. They become comfortable with people of all ages; they are out interacting in the same situations they will find themselves in as adults. Mrs. Brazytis indicated that she was uncomfortable around adults when she was a child. She stresses her children never had a problem talking with adults. She and her husband tried to get them into as many different kinds of situations as possible – to learn to serve and be a help to people around them. Mrs. Brazytis has no doubt that her children's social needs have been fulfilled. From the start, she believed that she was raising her children to be adults. She believes if children are always with children, they are not getting the proper influence they need. Because she feels that socialization is being able to be around people of any age, she takes her children with her wherever she goes – to church, to the park, shopping, etc. Her church has family nights and if her children wanted to play ball, they would do it at that venue.

To begin the homeschooling process, a parent/guardian must notify the superintendent of the public school district of residence of his/her intent to homeschool a child. The parent/guardian selects the curriculum and educational materials. The notification must include assurances that home education will include the core subjects (with the exception that it shall not be required to include any concept, topic or practice that conflicts with sincerely held religious beliefs of the parent). There must be assurance that the child will be provided a minimum of 900 hours of home education each school year and the teacher must have the necessary educational qualifications. A brief outline of the intended curriculum is required as well as a list of the basic teaching materials that the parent/guardian intends to use.

Mrs. Brazytis' advice to a parent who is unhappy with the school their child attends or if their child is not doing well in school – don't be afraid to homeschool; there is a lot of support out there. She stressed that any job she had in the past cannot compare to the job as her children's teacher. She still has two students at home – ages 9 and 16. The past 25 years and the next 9 years have been and will be a very special time in her life. She feels she has really made a positive difference in the lives of her children and her children agree. Homeschooling has made them independent and self-motivated. They have taught themselves instruments or learned the computer by picking up a book and learning on their own. The oldest Brazytis child is now married with 4 children and one on the way. They are all being homeschooled, and that is positive reinforcement for Mrs. Brazytis that she made the right decision 25 years ago!



# AUGUST 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
For the most up-to-date info, call the Village Voice Info Line 440.735.5001 Option 5	Extra copies of the Walton Hills Journal are available at the Village Hall	For more Village info, visit our website: <a href="http://www.waltonhills.ohio.gov">www.waltonhills.ohio.gov</a>		1 LaFlavour in concert, Hawthorne Valley Shopping Ctr. 7 p.m.	2	3
4	5 Women's Club Board Mtg. 7 p.m.	6 Committee of the Whole Mtg. 6 p.m. (if needed)	7	8 Mayor's Court 4 p.m. Memories of Elvis Show, Hawthorne Valley Shopping Ctr. 7 pm	9	10
11 Community Day! 12 p.m. 	12 Historical Center 1-3 p.m. Computer Roundup Svc Ctr. 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	13 Computer Roundup Service Ctr. 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	14 Computer Roundup Service Ctr. 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	15 Computer Roundup Stayin' Alive Concert, Hawthorne Valley Shopping Ctr. 7 pm	16 Computer Roundup Service Ctr. 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	17
18	19 Mansfield Reformatory Trip 8 a.m.	20	21 Antique Auto Club of America Mtg. 7 p.m. 	22 Mayor's Court 4 p.m. Shout concert & Fireworks, Oakwood Comm. Park 7 p.m.	23	24
25	26 Senior Lunch 11:30 a.m. Carol's Bookworms 7 pm	27	28	29 	30 Senior Flu Shot Clinic October 2nd 9:30 am to 12 pm	31 Call for an appt. starting Sept. 3rd.

**Women's Exercise Class** - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room

**Mahjonn** - Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Walton Hills Church of Christ

**Knit-Wits 2 Needles** - Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Walton Hills Church of Christ



## COMPUTER ROUNDUP

August 12th - 16th 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Walton Hills Service Center—6800 Dunham Road



Acceptable home computer equipment includes CPU's, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, terminals, modems, cables, software, and ink printer cartridges. Cell phones and their accessories will also be accepted. Computers turned in will be recycled. All computer hard drives will be erased of all data. Your donation is tax deductible. To obtain a receipt, contact the Solid Waste District at 216.443.3749 or [swdinfo@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:swdinfo@cuyahogacounty.us). For home computers only!