



The City Of Willoughby

Volume 5, July 2008

# Ward 4 Newsletter

## CITY EVENTS

**Farmers Market** open every Saturday through October 25 at 7 am. in City Hall Parking Lot.

**July 4th Fireworks** Friday evening at 9:45 pm at South High School.

**Artsfest** Saturday, July 19th, 10:00am - 5:00pm in Historical Downtown Willoughby.

**Family Fun Night** Park performance free for everyone at Wes Point Park. Kevin the Juggler begins at 6:30 pm on Thursday, July 24.

## TRAFFIC CONTROL

As most of you already know, we were successful this past month in reducing the speed limit on SOM from 40 MPH to 35 MPH. Your continued plea for slowing down traffic or putting up a traffic light did help. With the support of Mayor Anderson, the City Law Director and the City Engineer we were able to determine and justify that the standard speed limit for the type of traffic on SOM should adhere to the 35 MPH standard under OH revised code. With this determination we were able to immediately reduce the speed without having to go thru traffic engineering studies. In addition, the City traffic department installed 8 speed limit signs along this corridor compared to the previous 3. Plus we put up Reduced Speed Ahead signage. I am sure you also noticed the portable sign stationed on the side of the road for a week which flashed your speed along with a sign showing the 35 MPH limit. Our Police Department was very visible this month running radar quite a bit. The comments have been extremely favorable and I believe the speed of traffic is noticeably slower over the last two weeks. I also met this past month with Mayor Anderson, our Traffic Engineering Dept and CT Consultants Traffic Engineer to schedule a formal traffic study along the SOM corridor to determine the proper number and placement of traffic lights. Special attention will be made in the area immediately in front of Big Turtle II where there have been a number of accidents and it is very difficult to maneuver the middle lane during the morning and afternoon rush hours as many parents are going in and out of the Montessori School while residents are also entering and leaving the Condominium complex. Once we have the results of this study, I will schedule a Ward meeting to review and share the findings. Also this month ODOT approved funding over \$800,000 to redo the intersection of Euclid and SOM. The lanes will be aligned better and new traffic signals. No more wires hanging and no more confusing lights not lined up with the lanes as you approach from the North. This project will take place next year - after July 2009.

## 2ND ANNUAL FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

All shows start at 7:00 pm in Downtown Willoughby Wes Point Park Gazebo:

July 8 - Feroza Lebonne, Piano Faculty of the Fine Arts Association

July 10 - University of Akron Steel Drum Band performing a variety of authentic calypso, soca, reggae and island music

July 15 - Ridgeways, Folk Ensemble

July 17 - Cello Celli. A quartet of Cleveland cellists performing an eclectic mix of music from Bach to Brubeck to the Beatles

July 22 - Fine Arts Association Student Flute Choir and Suzuki Violin Ensemble

July 29 - James Mango - voice and Lori Elias - piano

July 31 - Heritage Brass Quintet returning once again to Willoughby with their unique sounds and style.

## WARD 4 HOSPITALITY TEAM

The team has been communicating with our local merchants and should be ready to begin delivering welcome packets to new residents within a couple weeks. Look for Ward 4 Hospitality stickers at our participating merchants and please let them know you appreciate their support. Merchants already committed to participating via discount coupons or merchandise include: Heineken, Dairy Queen, Freshly's Gyros and Corned Beef, United Optical, Quizno's Sub, Fitworks Fitness Center, M&P Bargain Books, Conrad's Total Car Care, The Honeybaked Ham Company, Charter One Bank, Steak and Shake, Denny's, Chik-fil-A, Hollywood Video, Bruegger Bagel, Cafe Europa, For Your Eyes Only, Draperies by Spring Crest. We also have information packets on our area provided by the Chamber of Commerce, Willoughby City Hall and the Willoughby Welcome Center. We are attempting to compile a list of new residents moving into our area since January 1. If you have a friend or neighbor who has recently moved into our City, please let me know so I can add them to our list. Many of you have been asking, "What defines Ward 4?" Attached this month is a Ward Map showing the Ward 4 boundaries. Effectively we are the western edge of Willoughby. Beidler Ave West to Wickliffe and North of Euclid Ave. SOM corridor, including Big Turtle I and II. Hartshire. Oakridge. Halle Estates. Pine Ridge Apartments along Ridge. We have 2000 registered voters equally divided amongst private residents, apartments and condominiums. We have over 100 businesses.



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