

City of Milford News

A publication produced exclusively by the City of Milford.



Volume XVI, Issue 3

Edited by Susan Ellerhorst, Assistant to the City Manager

Fall Edition, 2006

Greenlawn Cemetery

Milford's Greenlawn Cemetery, located at 687 Rt. 50, is an expansion of the Gatch family burial ground. The first burial in the cemetery was Reverend Gatch's wife, Elizabeth, who died July 12, 1811. In fact, on June 13, 1831, within his last will and testament, Philip Gatch included an unusual provision, the acre of land that was the family cemetery, together with a "convenient way to and from it", he gave to his sons "jointly and severally as a burying ground never to be sold or possessed by any person as personal property." Family cemetery records show Miami Township Trustees purchased its first parcel of the land from the Gatch heirs in 1867, with further purchases made in 1869 and 1874. The last purchase, which was made in 1895, brought the cemetery to its present size of 37.41 acres. The cemetery remained under the ownership of Miami Township until January 2, 1982 when the ownership was transferred to the City of Milford.



Gatch Circle

As the cemetery grew in size, it also grew in historical value. John W. Pattison, Ohio's forty-third Governor, would later be interred only a few yards away from the Gatch family gravestones. The plaque honoring Governor Pattison was dedicated with a flag ceremony on October 5, 2005 and is in Section 7. There are two cannon memorials on the cemetery property. One is inscribed "Erected by S.R.S. Post 544 Grand Army of the Republic (the Civil War veterans' organization) In Memory of the Soldiers of Miami Township, 1909." The inscription on the other reads, "Grateful Remembrance of Henry Clark Corbin, Lieutenant General, U.S.A. A Soldier of Clermont County". Lt. General Henry Corbin was President McKinley's chief military advisor during the Spanish-American War. These cannons are located in Sections 17 and 18 near the flagpole. There are veterans from all major United States conflicts interred in Greenlawn Cemetery. Reds Hall of Fame Pitcher, Eppa Rixey, Jr., who was voted Cincinnati's best left-hander, died in 1963 and is interred in Section 22. Every year we get letters and phone calls from all over the U.S. in reference to his burial site location.

The grounds are open daily until dusk. Why not plan a visit? Walk the grounds; you might be surprised at the quiet serenity and history waiting to be discovered. The Cemetery office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and the phone number is 831-4013. Our clerk, Myrt Allen, will be able to help you with any questions you might have about our Cemetery or its history and genealogy.

New Cemetery Rates

Milford City Council approved the new Cemetery rates for the Greenlawn Cemetery on June 20th, 2006.

Basic charges for any foundation up to 26" x 12" will be \$125.00.

Foundations over 26" x 12" will be \$.40 per square inch.

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Vote on November 7th,



Effective June 1st, all Ohio voters must provide proof of their identity at the polls on Election Day. Identification may include a current and valid photo id, a military id that shows the voter's name and current address, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the voter's name and current address. A reminder or voter registration notice will not be accepted as identification. Any voter who does not provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by providing the last four digits of the voter's social security number and by casting a provisional ballot.

Please remember the polls are open from 6:30am to 7:30 pm on Tuesday, November 7th.

Message from Mayor Lou Bishop

Milford City Council has approved a contract with the Regional Income Tax Agency (R.I.T.A.) to administer our municipal income tax effective January 1, 2007. Their staff will enforce our local income tax ordinance and provide enhanced services such as the ability to electronically file your tax returns. RITA will also provide residents with the ability to calculate their tax liability, pay electronically using major credit or debit cards, paperless returns, and faster refunds along with a self-service 24-hour automated telephone line.

R.I.T.A. is a non-profit government agency established almost 35 years ago under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code. Their goal is to enhance cooperation between municipalities through the sharing of facilities. R.I.T.A. currently serves 120 municipalities in 38 counties throughout the State of Ohio.

The City will retain a Milford staff member in the event taxpayers require local assistance. Taxpayers will receive a letter from R.I.T.A. that will provide general tax instructions as well as additional information regarding this transition.

In addition to all the benefits stated, another key benefit is that this change should save our taxpayers approximately \$100, 000 per year.

If you have any questions regarding our new contract with RITA, please contact Loretta Rokey, City Manager at 513-831-4192.

City of Milford Taxes

All NEW residents and businesses of Milford are required to register with the Milford Income Tax Office. If you have any questions please contact the Income Tax Office at 513-248-5082 weekdays from 8:30am to 4:30pm or stop by. The Tax Department is located at the Municipal Building, 745 Center Street, Suite 220.

Got Parking?

The City of Milford has made off street parking spaces on Water Street longer to accommodate larger vehicles. Most of our Main Street parking spaces are 18 feet but these parking spaces are 22 feet long.

StormWater Utility Non-Residential Credit Program

Non-residential properties (industries, businesses, churches, schools, governments, etc.) containing three units or more, pay a fee based on the amount of impervious area contained on the property. Impervious area includes pavement, rooftops, driveways, parking lots, private sidewalks, and other hard surfaces that prevent rain water from soaking into the soil. The monthly storm water rate is \$5.50 per ERU. For example, if a property contains 24,000 square feet of impervious surface, this would equate to 10 ERUs. This non-residential property owner would pay a monthly fee of \$55.00. Non-residential properties may reduce their monthly storm water fee through the implementation of storm water controls on their properties that reduce the impact on the overall storm water system. For additional information about the non-residential credits program, please visit our website at www.milfordohio.org.

Orpha Gatch Citizenship Award

The League of Women Voters will be presenting the 10th Annual Orpha Gatch Citizenship Award during the Suffragist dinner at 5:30pm on Tuesday, August 22, 2006 at Receptions in Eastgate. The award is given to a Clermont County woman who exhibits the spirit of exemplary community volunteerism.

The City of Milford City Council has nominated Margaret Ruanne Terwilligar. Margaret has tutored in the "Who Said So" program, was a board member of the Milford Miami Ministries, worked with the Clermont County Suicide Prevention Coalition, the National Alliance for the Mentally ill, Neighbor-to-Neighbor and the Clermont County League of Women Voter's Kid's Voting.

Clermont County Commissioners will hold the Milford and Miami Township Town Meeting on August 22nd

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners invites citizens living in Milford and Miami Township to a town meeting that will be held on Tuesday, August 22, at 7 p.m. in the Leming House, located at 5951 Buckwheat Road. We encourage citizens to attend the town meeting and learn about the plans for their communities and county. For additional information about this or other planned town meetings, contact Clermont County Communications Director Kathy Lehr at (513) 732-7597.

Fire Department Emergency Medical Service Levy

From Chief John E. Cooper Sr.

Every five years the Milford Community Fire Department and the City of Milford ask the voters to continue their support for our Emergency Medical Service (EMS) levy. We are asking that the current 5.4 mill levy be replaced with a 5.2 mill levy. We feel that the reduction in millage and capture of new values, even though small, will provide sufficient funds to operate the EMS service for over the next five years. All costs of providing services are paid for from the funds generated by the levy including building, apparatus, salaries, training, maintenance, and capital improvements.

This is also a way for the people of Milford to show us how we are doing in providing EMS service. We welcome any comments on the service so that we can better serve you the residents and our community in Emergency Medical Service.

Please vote on Tuesday, November 7 to Support the Emergency Medical Service Levy. Thank You.

Smoke Detector Reminder: Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery

Hopefully everyone remembered to change all smoke detector batteries. If you haven't, there is still time— get out your step ladder, and get to work. If you need a 9-volt for your detector, just bring your old battery to the firehouse and we will exchange it for a new one, free of charge. A happy smoke detector is a quiet one, full of energy.

Slow Down for Safety!

Milford children will return to school on August 28th. The Milford Police Department urges drivers to slow down in school zones. The speed limit in those areas is 20 mph, and officers are strictly enforcing this speed limit.

Each year in the U.S. there are about 200-300 abductions of children by non-family members. We encourage parents to check out the following website to keep kids safe: www.missingkids.com. Parents who have questions for the Police Department should call 248-5084.

Weather Changes

It is time to prepare for fall and winter. Please remember to change your furnace filters and open your fireplace flue for the winter. Remember to have chimneys cleaned and readied for winter. Inspect your portable heaters before filling the fuel tanks and keep heaters away from other appliances in the house.

The Milford Community Fire Department Is Online: Check us out at www.milfordcommunityfd.org

Milford Police Reach Accreditation Status a Third Time

Chief Machan and his staff accepted the internationally recognized Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) at the annual conference in Lexington, Kentucky on Saturday, July 29, 2006. This continues to exemplify the City of Milford and the Milford Police Department’s commitment to excellence and a tradition of service.

The overall purpose of the accreditation program is to improve delivery of law enforcement service by offering a body of standards which were developed by law enforcement practitioners and cover a wide range of up-to-date law enforcement topics. It recognizes professional achievements by offering an orderly process for addressing and complying with applicable standards.

Successful completion of the accreditation program requires commitment from all levels of the organization, starting with the chief executive officer. To foster commitment, a decision to participate should be voluntary.

Besides the recognition of obtaining international excellence, the primary benefits to the Citizens of Milford are that the accreditation provides a management model. The model offers better service orientation such as: assists in controlling liability insurance costs; presents administrative improvements; establishes a greater accountability for supervisors and police personnel; and increases governmental and community support.

Proceed with Caution!



Traffic lights are there to control the flow of traffic. Theoretically, we use them to maximize use of the available roads and get the most cars to their destinations as quickly and efficiently as possible. Traffic lights can be used to deliberately slow and minimize traffic, say around a school or in a shopping district with lots of pedestrians. All sides of an intersection can be stopped at once to allow pedestrians to pass safely. Flashing yellows can be employed to warn of a school zone. Lights can be placed at dangerous intersections (or ones where children are known to be about) even though drivers should be able to self-regulate.

Once a traffic light is placed at an intersection, what happens when the power fails to the traffic light? Who has the right of way? In most US states, if the traffic lights at a road junction are malfunctioning, or not functioning at all, and there is no police officer controlling the traffic, then the intersection should be treated as a four-way stop. At a four-way stop every vehicle must come to a complete halt before proceeding one at a time across the intersection, regardless of whether there is any other traffic in sight or not, and also regardless of whether the vehicle is making a turn at the intersection or not. If two vehicles arrive at one of these intersections at precisely the same time, then in theory the vehicle on the right has precedence to exercise care while proceeding through the intersection.

Recently on Milford Parkway, the traffic signal displayed a yellow flashing light one way and a red flashing light the other direction. In this type of situation, please remember the yellow flashing light mean slow down and proceed with caution. The red flashing light signals that you must come to a full stop and may proceed only if there is no crossing traffic that normally would have priority.

New Cemetery Rates

(Continued from page 1)

Adult Section Residents Non-Residents

*1-Grave Lot	\$ 500.00	+	\$ 55.00	+	\$10.00 =	\$ 565.00		*\$ 600.00	+	\$ 55.00	+
*2-Grave Lot	\$1,000.00	+	\$110.00	+	\$10.00 =	\$1,120.00		*\$1,200.00	+	\$110.00	+
*3-Grave Lot	\$1,925.00	+	\$110.00	+	\$10.00 =	\$2,045.00		*\$2,325.00	+	\$110.00	+
*4-Grave Lot	\$2,400.00	+	\$110.00	+	\$10.00 =	\$2,520.00		*\$2,900.00	+	\$110.00	+
*6-Grave Lot	\$3,350.00	+	\$110.00	+	\$10.00 =	\$3,470.00		*\$4,050.00	+	\$110.00	+
*12-Grave Lot	\$6,200.00	+	\$110.00	+	\$10.00 =	\$6,320.00		*\$7,500.00	+	\$110.00	+

*A 10% Cemetery Closure Maintenance Fund Fee is included on all grave lots as of June 1, 2003. The Cemetery Closure Maintenance Fund required fee is to provide maintenance for the Greenlawn Cemetery when the cemetery becomes full.

Maintenance of Leaves and Brush

- Property owners who have trees, plants, or shrubbery overhanging a public street or sidewalk must conform to the following code requirements: maintain a height of eight feet above the sidewalk surface and twelve feet above the street surface, trim or remove dead, decaying, or broken limbs, and maintain a clear and unobstructed view of traffic from all directions. Please insure that your property is in compliance.
- Leaf collection will begin in late October or early November on a daily basis. Please rake leaves to the curb without blocking storm drains. Brush collection will continue every Wednesday until November 1st, after which this service will be provided on a call-in basis only. Tree limbs and branches should be shorter than 8 feet, small bundles should be secured with twine, and all cut ends should face the curb. Any questions should be directed to the Service Department at (513) 831-7018.

City-wide Yard Sale

The City of Milford will hold its biannual city-wide yard sale Friday, October 13th through Sunday, October 15th. During this weekend, Milford residents may host a yard sale at their homes without purchasing a permit. Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Signs cannot be placed within the City’s right-of-way or on utility poles
- Signs may be placed on private property with permission of the owner
- All signs must be removed 24 hours after the sale ends
- Violators of these codes may be cited

Fall Litter Collection Day: October 28, 2006

The City of Milford will hold its annual Litter Collection Day on Saturday, October 28th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Gloves, bags, and safety vests will be provided to local cub scouts, girl scouts, high school students, and community volunteers in an effort to beautify Milford. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please call (513) 248-5092.

Junk Days

The City of Milford’s Junk Days will be held Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21, 2006, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.. Milford residents may dispose of unwanted items free of charge by bringing them to the City Service Garage, located at 107 Race Street. Proof of residency (driver’s license, utility bill, etc.) is required at time of disposal.

The City will **not** accept hazardous waste, yard waste, tires, lead batteries, or items of a combustible nature. Appliances containing freon must have a “certification of CFC removal” tag. For more information, please call (513) 248-5092.

Maple Tree Update:

Parks and Recreation Commission would like to remind you to add mulch around your Maple trees due to the extreme heat this summer. The Maple trees are not looking very healthy but we have been informed that there is nothing wrong with the trees except dehydration.

Swimming Pool Zoning Ordinance Update!

A revision to the Milford Zoning Ordinance has required all pools including the new inflatable pools/portable above ground pools, that are twenty-four (24) inches deep, to receive a Zoning Certificate. To apply for a Zoning Certificate, owners need to submit a plot plan indicating the location of the pool and fencing enclosing the pool. Please call 248-5093 should you have any questions.

Milford Community Activities

Promont House Museum

The **Magical World of Fairies July 7-August 27, 2006**. Promont will be transformed into a haven for the flower fairies this summer. "Flower Fairies" were the creation of artist Cicely Mary Barker. Tours are conducted on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30 to 4:30. Arrangements for special group tours can be made by calling (513)248-0324 or by contacting promonthouse@fuse.net.

Founder's Day Dinner Event

Did you know that the town of Milford was originally laid out as Hageman's Mill on January 17, 1806? The event will be held at the **American Legion Victor Stier Post 450 on October 5, 2006 at 6:15 p.m.** Cost is \$20 per person. For reservations, please contact the Milford Miami Township Chamber at 831-2411.

The Junction Trail Festival

The first ever Junction Trail Festival at Milford, Ohio also coincides with the 200th Anniversary of Milford! So come and celebrate **America Long Distance Trails and the 200 Year Anniversary of Milford, Ohio September 8, 9 & 10, 2006!** Hikes, Inspiring Speakers, Cycling, Music, Skill Sessions, Camping on the River, Food, Fun and More! If you have any questions please email info@thejunctiontrailfest.org or call 937-572-2995 for more details. (Continued on page 7)

Sidewalk Repair Program

Each property owner is responsible for maintaining sidewalks abutting his or her property. The Sidewalk Repair Reimbursement program will reimburse a property owner up to 50% of the cost incurred to repair or replace sidewalks located in the public right-of-way, up to a maximum of \$250 per property, based on annual funds available. Each year, the City Engineer or his designee will inspect Milford's sidewalks, and determine which are in greatest need of repair. Notices of repair were sent to some residents in July and need to be completed by the end of August. For more information, or if you have any questions, please call the City of Milford Building Department on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at 513-248-5098.

Little Miami Scenic Trail Dedication & Ribbon Cutting

Mayor Lou Bishop and City Manager Loretta Rokey met Governor Taft in Milford for the ribbon-cutting ceremony, held at Avoca Park on the southern outskirts of Terrace Park on Saturday, June 10, 2006 at 10:30 am. Governor Bob Taft cut the ribbon on 2.65 miles of new paved trailway between Milford and Avoca Park. Before the event, Taft and others bicycled from the trailhead in Milford to Avoca Park, taking advantage of the first weekend the trail has been fully accessible to users.



Mayor Lou Bishop and Governor Taft

Replacement gun locks

Replacement gun locks are now available for those who received gun locks by the Milford Community Fire Department under the Project Homesafe Program last year. Participants in this program must call 1-800-726-6444 or contact Russ Rader at 1-301-504-0580, ext. 1166. The replacement locks have an improved locking mechanism with a thicker-braided steel cable and will be provided for free. If you have any additional questions please call Jim Nickell at 831-7777.

Welcome New Businesses of 2006!

DK Nails
199 Rivers Edge Drive
Cole
975 Lila Ave
United Rentals
755 U.S. Route 50

American Family Insurance
208 Locust Street
Speed Weasels
575 Chamber Drive
Jeray
126 Main Street

Olde Garden Shack
222 Wooster Pike
Salon Nevaeh
749 SR 28 Suite E
Quaker Steak & Lube
590 Chamber Drive

Milford Community Activities Continued...

New in Historic Milford!!!

First Friday (of each month) 5:00-9:00 pm. Enjoy a late evening strolling down Main St. in Historic Downtown Milford. 17 Specialty shops and restaurants will be open to enjoy. Stay even later and listen to live music at Latitudes Cafe and Bar. Receive complimentary discount shopping coupons after eating at one of the local Downtown Restaurants (good only for that night).

Historic Downtown Milford “A Hidden Treasure”! Don’t miss your chance to win the contents of two treasure chests filled with treasures from the specialty shops of historic Downtown Milford (each valued at \$900.00). Raffle tickets are only \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00, what a great deal!!!! Purchase your tickets at participating shops (shops will have a Hidden Treasure logo in their door or window). The Drawing will be held on October 7th during the Busker Festival in Historic Downtown Milford.

Clermont 20/20 Clean and Green

Master Recycler Composter Program will be held weekly at the Cincinnati Nature Center beginning on September 14th-November 2nd, 6:30-9:00pm. For more information please call 513-753-9222.

Valley View Foundation

September 23rd is the Great Outdoors Weekend. Valley View will be running hayrides and nature walks through the 150 acre park. Rides will be leaving on the hour starting at 10:00 a.m. with the last ride leaving at 3:00 p.m. The rides will be coordinated from 5388 South Milford Road. Walking maps and information will also be available.

October 8th is the fifth Annual Fall Feast which will be held at the Park. As always, there will be lots of activities for the kids, including hay rides, horse rides, crafts and pottery from our local artisans. In addition there will be marked trails for hiking and tours of the property. More details on this very exciting event will be coming soon!

Buskerfest

Old Milford Busker Festival & Artisan Show: October 7th, 12:00pm till 9:00pm on Main Street in Historic Downtown Milford. What is a Busker ???? visit www.milfordbuskerfest.com

Fall Classic Golf Outing at the Oasis on Oct 16,2006

Milford Miami Chamber is teaming up with the Literacy Council. If anyone is interested in participating, please call the Chamber office at 831-2411.

C.O.V.E.R. Awards

The C.O.V.E.R Awards will be held Wednesday, November 1st. Corporation Organization & Volunteer of Excellence Recognition Awards Dinner held at RSVP. For more information call 513-831-2411 or visit: www.milfordmiamitownship.com

News from Row House Gallery

August-Row House Gallery presents “Natural Wonders” featuring original works, lithographs, and photography.

September- Row House will feature “Lazy, Hazy River” as the area gears up for Tall Stacks 2006.

October-Row House will present “Far From Ordinary” featuring fantasy and fairytales.

With the mention of any of the gallery’s themes during the featured month, customers will enjoy a 10% framing discount. For more information, call the gallery at 831-7230 or visit www.rowhouse.com.

An AllyBeads’ Update

AllyBeads has recently certified one of its beading instructors to teach classes in Precious Metal Clay (PMC). Classes in early Fall and AllyBeads’ expects them to be a popular addition to the current offerings. Be sure to call for dates and times (831-8300); or visit AllyBeads at www.allybeads.com.



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 www.MilfordOhio.org
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 Milford, OH

Inside this issue:

- Swimming Pool Zoning
- Little Miami Bike Trail Ribbon Cutting
- Junk Days
- Safety tips & More!

Keep up with Milford's current issues in the comfort of your own home! City Council meetings are broadcast every week on Cable Channel 17 on Wednesdays at 10:00 p.m., and on Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.



**Remember to Vote on
 November 7th!**

Milford City Council

- Lou Bishop, Mayor
- Kim McBeath, Vice-Mayor
- Craig Kolb, Council Member
- Charlene Hinners, Council Member
- James Antell, Council Member
- Amy Brewer, Council Member
- David Hunter, Council Member

Michael Minniear, Law Director
 Joanne Trilety, Clerk of Council

Loretta Rokey, City Manager

Council Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of every month at 7:00p.m. in Council Chambers.

- Sept 4 Labor Day
City Offices Closed
- Sept 5 Council Meeting
- Sept 19 Council Meeting
- Oct 3 Council Meeting
- Oct 17 Council Meeting
- Nov 7 **Election Day**
- Nov 8 Council Meeting
- Nov 10 **City Offices Closed**
- Nov 11 Veterans Day
- Nov 21 Council Meeting
- Nov 23 & 24 Thanksgiving Holiday
City Offices Closed

Important Phone Numbers

- Emergency Police/Fire/Life Squad:.....911
- Fire (non-emergency):.....831-7777
- Police (non-emergency):.....248-5084
- General Administration:.....831-4192

City Phone Numbers

- Building Department:.....248-5098
- Greenlawn Cemetery:.....831-4013
- Income Tax Office:.....248-5082
- Mayor's Court:.....248-5085
- Planning and Zoning:.....248-5093
- Recycling/Solid Waste Collection:.....248-5092
- Service/Street Department:.....831-7018
- Utility Billing Information:.....248-5081
- Wastewater Department:.....831-6982
- Water Department.....831-6819

County Phone Numbers

- Health Department:.....732-7499
- Clermont County Board of Elections.....732-7275
- Driver's License/Plates (BMV).....248-0500
- Milford Miami Chamber of Commerce.....831-2411
- Title Office/Clerk of Courts.....831-9474