

By Mayor Ben Garlich

It has been another busy month with activities and business. I am pleased with the level of support demonstrated by Village employees, elected officials and residents. We've had numerous inquiries about business opportunities to which we have responded immediately. It is a pleasure to work with a team that shares the goal of looking at opportunities and then commits the energy to address. Everyone has a "can do" attitude, which yields positive results.

Residents are providing suggestions which tells me they care about where they live and the health of our community. Apathy makes our jobs easier, but we prefer residents who are involved and provide input both positive and negative to help guide this Village.

I just received the analytics for our Web site activity and the numbers continue to grow. In the final 3 weeks of July and the first week of August, there were 7,629 visits to our site, compared to 6,078 in the previous 4 weeks. As this activity grows, the Village becomes more transparent which is extremely important for a vibrant community.

The service and safety employees have been asked to aid in all of the social functions as well as supporting the Middlefield Farmers Market. They do this expertly and we all have confidence that everything is addressed and the events will go smoothly. They do this in addition to their normal activities, as they are dedicated and talented.

I spent the day of Aug. 4 at the car show to benefit "Shop With A Cop". Registration was to start at 11 a.m. I arrived at 8:15 to see many cars already in the lot along with Carl Hornung, his wife Donna and their posse of supporters already hard at work. The event was huge and expertly organized. They have my respect and appreciation for the hundreds of hours they donated to make this worthy cause a success. They will all be rewarded some day for their dedication and kindness.

We just completed the Middlefield Village promotional video. The link is on the Web site, www.middlefieldohio.com, and I encourage you to view it, as it depicts the value of this area, which we so often take for granted or fail to realize. Thank you to those involved in the creation of this video from its inception and idea: those from the EDC (Economic Development Committee) and those business leaders and residents that took their time, not for personal benefit, but to help bolster this Village by providing detail of their successes and to encourage others. This is what I call sense of community.

All major construction projects will soon be over. I am sure you have had many frustrating situations and we appreciate your patience. The traffic loops have been reinstalled so you will no longer be sitting at a red light for 5 minutes without another car in sight. Sperry Lane has been extremely challenging for all and especially for the residents on the street. I can't wait until it is complete. They are starting the curbs and sidewalks and it should go quickly from this point forward and be much less of an inconvenience. As always, I encourage you to be informed, be involved and shop local.