

By Mayor Ben Garlich

The past few weekends have had beautiful weather. I spent a lot of time prior to the Memorial Day parade and ceremony looking at the aesthetics of our Village. The baskets have been hung and the planters are planted. Flags are displayed (which always gives me a feeling of pride in what the flag represents) the Village facilities are well maintained and attractive. The splash park is open and packed most of the time and looks excellent. I see tremendous pride in ownership of most residents, and the outside maintenance of most homes is excellent. With 100% pride in ownership the entire Village would look outstanding.

For the few residential properties that do not display these qualities, I encourage you, out of respect for your neighbors and community, to make a sincere effort to reach the standard of the majority. The Village does offer financial assistance with outside maintenance. The majority of issues, which need to be addressed, are: poorly maintained lawns and clutter that needs to be removed. I receive many communications from friends and strangers from outside the area commenting on how nice our Village looks. Again, thanks to all of you who realize this is our home and pride in ownership is important to our neighbors and us.

Our new director of Economic Development will assume her responsibilities on June 9. Village Administrator Dan Weir and I look forward to introducing Leslie Gambosi to the community and are excited about having her as a resource who will bring personal value as well as having someone in the position that will be able to dedicate the time to develop the current goals created by the Economic Development Committee. Leslie is well connected with all pertinent government agencies and has experience in this field. She has an excellent track record in procurement of grants and working through the dynamics of helping new business establish or relocate. Leslie will become a member of the Economic Development Committee that was established in March of 2012.

We are seeing the addition of some new retail businesses. As this sector expands, it becomes more and more important to shop local. For each of these services to remain viable, they need our support. Please make it a focus as you review your household and business requirements to make our local establishments your vendor of choice.

As always I encourage you to be informed, be involved, shop local and visit at www.middlefieldohio.com.