

By Mayor Ben Garlich

Summer has arrived early and it feels good to have some warm days giving us all the opportunity to do outdoor maintenance and clean up from the wear and tear of winter. I encourage each of you to maintain your properties, by taking pride in the appearance your contribution makes in providing an aesthetically attractive Village. We will be resuming our "Neat Streets Program" and Council has requested the zoning inspector notify people of violations that need to be addressed. Your cooperation is appreciated to ensure respect for your neighbors as well as making our community attractive. Again the Village will be offering a financial subsidy for those individuals making external property improvements.

The Village will soon launch the new responsive website. The goal is to have a similar look but be user-friendly on mobile devices. We appreciate any suggestions that would make the website more valuable to residents. If you have suggestions please email the Village as our goal is to keep the website current and constantly improving.

May 25th is Memorial Day and the local VFW will be hosting the annual tribute to those who lost their lives protecting our freedoms. The day will start at 11:30 a.m. with all parade participants meeting at Village Hall. Children are encouraged to decorate their bikes and be parade participants. Each decorated bike participant will receive a Middlefield Dairy Queen certificate. I hope as parents assist in decorating the bikes, they have a discussion with their children about the history of Memorial Day and why there is a parade and the tremendous price that has been paid so we can continue to live in a free country. The parade will start at noon, leaving from Village Hall and ending at the cemetery. The tribute will include three young adults reading their versions of what patriotism means to them. The VFW will be serving refreshments following the ceremony. This is a day for family gatherings but I hope you feel the importance of taking an hour out of your day to pay tribute to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Residents are welcome to walk in the parade and wave a flag.

Please be aware, be involved, shop local and visit www.middlefieldohio.com.