

OUR TOWN

CONNEAUT

FACTS AND FIGURES

KEY CONTACTS

**BUSINESSES CELEBRATING
MILESTONES**

NEW AND OLDEST BUSINESSES

WHAT'S IN CONNEAUT'S FUTURE





ACMC Express Care

Four locations to treat you!

The Ashtabula Clinic

2422 Lake Ave.
(440) 994-7550

Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Conneaut Family Health Center

Conneaut Plaza
354 W. Main Road
(440) 599-2262

Mon. – Sat. 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Geneva Family Health Center

1028 S. Broadway
(440) 466-8933

Mon – Sat. 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Jefferson Family Health Center

234 N. Chestnut St.
(440) 576-8933

Mon. – Sat. 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

ACMC Express Care provides fast, convenient care — **without an appointment** — for minor injury and illness, including:

- Ear, upper respiratory, sinus and urinary tract infections
- Minor bumps and cuts
- Seasonal allergies
- Skin rashes
- Cold sores
- Insect bites
- Influenza
- Pink eye and styes
- Ringworm, shingles, impetigo
- Simple sprains and strains

Express Care serves patients age 2 and older. Co-pays are similar to a physician office visit. Most medical insurances are accepted. Check your insurance policy for coverage and co-pay amounts.

You do not have to be a patient of The Ashtabula Clinic, Conneaut Family Health Center, Geneva Family Health Center or Jefferson Family Health Center to utilize Express Care. Hours subject to change without notice. Visit www.acmchealth.org/expresscare to verify hours.

Ashtabula County Medical Center
ACMC Healthcare System

An affiliate of

 **Cleveland Clinic**



DEMOGRAPHICS

ALL INFORMATION FROM LATEST U.S. CENSUS DATA • (AS OF 2010 CENSUS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

CITY OF CONNEAUT POPULATION ESTIMATES July 1, 2015 12,712,	OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNIT RATE 2010-2014 68.5 percent
POPULATION PERCENT CHANGE April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015 -1.0 percent	MEDIAN VALUE OF OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS 2010-2014 \$86,400
PERSONS UNDER 5 YEARS 5.0 percent	HOUSEHOLDS 2010-2014 4,731
PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS 20.2 percent	PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD 2010-2014 2.34
PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER 15.7 percent	HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR HIGHER, PERSONS AGE 25 OR OLDER 2010-2014 86.1 percent
MALE PERSONS 54.4 percent	BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER, PERSONS AGE 25 OR OLDER 2010-2014 10.3 percent
FEMALE PERSONS 45.6 percent	WITH A DISABILITY, UNDER AGE 65 2010-2014 9.5 percent
WHITE ALONE 89.8 percent	IN CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, POPULATION AGE 16 OR OLDER 2010-2014 48.1 percent
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ALONE 7.5 percent	MEAN TRAVEL TIME TO WORK (MINUTES), 2010-2014 22.9
AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE ALONE 0.2 percent	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (IN 2014 DOLLARS) 2010-2014 \$34,230
ASIAN ALONE 0.4 percent	
TWO OR MORE RACES 1.8 percent	
HISPANIC OR LATINO 1.8 percent	
VETERANS 2010-2014 1,312	
FOREIGN BORN PERSONS 2010-2014 1.1 percent	
HOUSING UNITS	

IN PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2014 DOLLARS) 2010-2014 \$16,710	PERSONS IN POVERTY 20.6 percent
NORTH KINGSVILLE VILLAGE	
POPULATION ESTIMATES July 1, 2015 2,839	PERSONS UNDER 5 YEARS 5.5 percent
PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS 23 percent	PERSONS 65 YEARS AND OVER 15.9 percent
MALE PERSONS 48.8 percent	WHITE ALONE 96.5 percent
FEMALE PERSONS 51.2 percent	BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ALONE .7 percent
AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE ALONE 0.1 percent	ASIAN ALONE 1.2 percent
TWO OR MORE RACES 1.1 percent	HISPANIC OR LATINO 1.5 percent
HOUSING UNITS 1,386	

OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNIT RATE 2010-2014 88.4 percent	MEDIAN VALUE OF OWNER-OCCUPIED HOUSING UNITS 2010-2014 \$131,500
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR HIGHER, PERSONS AGE 25 OR OLDER 2010-2014 94.4 percent	BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER, PERSONS AGE 25 OR OLDER 2010-2014 19.5 percent
IN CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, POPULATION 17.6	



WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

The Conneaut Lighthouse has anchored Conneaut Harbor for many years.

AGE 16 OR OLDER 2010-2014 62.6 percent	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME (IN 2014 DOLLARS) 2010-2014 \$59,083
MEAN TRAVEL TIME TO WORK (MINUTES) 2010-2014 17.6	Persons in poverty 6.4 percent

New!



BAKES!

OVEN-HOT





**Chicken Bacon
Ranch Sandwich**



**Triple Chocolate
Brownie**



**Chicken Bacon
BBQ Snack Melt**

*“Serving
the Local
Community
for Over 50
Years!”*

**FAN FOOD
NOT
FAST FOOD**




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at 11:00 am*

**Conneaut
Dairy Queen**

1009 Main St., Conneaut
(440) 593-2765

CITY OF CONNEAUT

City Hall
294 Main St., Conneaut
Website: conneautohio.gov
Offices open
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

CITY MANAGER

James Hockaday
294 Main St.
593-7401
Email: conneautcityhall@conneautoh.org

LAW DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Kyle Smith, law director;
Alexander Heinonen,
assistant law director
294 Main St.
593-7413

CITY COUNCIL

Nic Church, president
593-1045
Email:
nic.church@conneautoh.org

John Roach (at-large)
599-7844
Email:
jroach@conneautoh.org

Jon Arcaro (at-large)
593-4882
Email:
jon.arcaro@conneautoh.org

Doug Hedrick
Ward 1
593-1566
Email:
dhedrick@conneautoh.org

Phil Garcia
Ward 2
599-7611
Email:
pgarcia@conneautoh.org

Deborah Newcomb
Ward 3
593-5366
Email:
d.newcomb@conneautoh.org

Thomas Kozesky
Ward 4
593-1728
Email:
t.kozesky@conneautoh.org

FINANCE OFFICE

John Williams
Director
294 Main St.
593-7416

PLANNING/ZONING DEPARTMENT

Melanie Shubitowski
Manager
294 Main St.
593-7406

PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Joe DiBell
Director
283 16th St.
593-7430 (7 a.m.-3 p.m.)

WATER TREATMENT

Richard Neubauer
Superintendent
770 Lake Road



WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

The Village Green Golf Course is a big part of North Kingsville.

593-7437
Water treatment email:
wfp@conneaut.org
Water distribution email:
waterdost@conneaut.org

WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Brian Bidwell
Superintendent
1206 Broad St. extension
593-7434
Email: ww1@conneautoh.org

WATER/SEWER BILLING

294 Main St.
593-7420

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Colby
Interim chief
294 Main St.
593-7440 (non-emergency)

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Steve Lee
Fire Station 1
294 Main St.
593-7460

Fire Station 3
392 Middle Road
593-7464

CONNEAUT MUNICIPAL COURT

Judge Carl DiFranco
294 Main St.
593-7410

CONNEAUT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Sally Kennedy
Health commissioner
Conneaut Human
Resources Center
327 Mill St.
593-3087
Conneaut Board of Health
meets 8:30 a.m.
on the second Wednesday
of the month

CONNEAUT PORT AUTHORITY

P.O. Box 218
Conneaut OH
593-1300
Website:
conneautportauthority.com

Members:
Joseph Raisian (chairman)
Bill Cooper
Wally Dunne
Luke Gallagher
Patrick Arcaro
Bob Best
Bruce Fleischmann
Meetings are held
at 6:30 p.m. the third
Thursday of each month at
929 Broad St.
Conneaut

Office hours are
(in-season) 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Monday through Saturday,
(off-season) 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Monday through Friday

UTILITIES

Northeast Ohio Public
Energy Council affiliates:
Electricity help line
1-800-292-9284
Natural gas help line
1-888-848-7914
The Illuminating Company
Electricity:
Customer service
1-800-589-3101
Outage report
1-888-544-4877)
**Dominion East Ohio
Natural Gas
Customer service**
1-800-362-7557
Emergency
1-877-542-2630

CONNEAUT AREA CITY SCHOOLS

Administrative/Board of
Education office:
Conneaut Middle School
230 Gateway Ave.
593-7200
Website: cacsck12.org

SUPERINTENDENT

230 Gateway Ave.
593-7201

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

ERIEBANK
A division of CNB Bank

David P. Bogardus
Vice President

(440) 992-5000
(440) 319-0660 cell
(440) 992-5005 fax

dbogardus@eriebank.net
www.eriebank.net

4230 Lake Avenue
PO Box 99
Ashtabula, OH 44005



Conneaut Public Library

304 Buffalo Street
Conneaut, Ohio 44030
440-593-1608 • www.conneaut.lib.oh.us

Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Business Center
Scan * Copy * Fax * Computers * Wi-Fi
* HP Chromebook & Reference

Passport Service Agency
* Homebound Delivery * Notary Public
* Law Library

Monthly programs and events for all
ages, CLEVNET provides patrons with
over ten millions items!

CLEVNET
library cooperation

hoopla

FROM PAGE 4

Joan Norton
Diana McWreath
Suzanne Bernardini
Cris Newcomb
Michael Kennedy

TREASURER

230 Gateway Ave.
593-7221

CONNEAUT HIGH SCHOOL

Grades 9-12

381 Mill St.
593-7210
Tim Neal
principal

CONNEAUT MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6-8

230 Gateway Ave.
Phone: 593-7240
James Kennedy
principal

GATEWAY**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Grades 3-5

229 Gateway Ave.
Phone: 593-7280
Dawn Zappitelli, principal

LAKESHORE**PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Preschool-grade 2

755 Chestnut St.
Phone: 593-7250
Wendy Tisch
principal

CONNEAUT**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Meetings held at 5:30 p.m.
the last Wednesday
of the month at CHS library,
381 Mill St.
Members:
2016 president

**VILLAGE OF
NORTH KINGSVILLE**

Municipal Building
3541 E. Center St.
(Route 20)
Office hours 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Website:
northkingsvilleohio.com

MAYOR**Tim Zee**

3541 E. Center St.
(Route 20)
Phone: 224-0091

FISCAL OFFICER**Lori Mackey**

3541 E. Center St.
(Route 20)
224-0091

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT**Cheryl Cliff**

Administrator
3541 E. Center St.
(Route 20)
224-0091

MAYOR'S COURT**Dora Lira**

Clerk
3541 E. Center St.
224-0091

POLICE DEPARTMENT**Chief Hugh Flanigan**

Phone: 224-1074



WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

The pagoda in the Kingsville Township Park is a landmark along Route 193.

FIRE DEPARTMENT**Chief Kevin Hubbard**

Fire Station 1
6581 Church St.
224-0877
Fire Station 2
7676 Poore Road
224-1140

STREET DEPARTMENT**Thomas Peters**

Superintendent
7100 Municipal Dr.
224-0703

ZONING

3541 E. Center St.
224-0091

Permit fee information avail-
able at the village website,
northkingsvilleohio.com

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Meetings held at 7 p.m.
first Monday and third
Wednesday of each month.
Members:

Dexter Au
Tammy Andrew
Dennis Kortyka
Ron McVoy
Michael Mauro
Timothy Green

UTILITIES

**Northeast Ohio Public
Energy Council affiliates:**

Electricity help line

1-800-292-9284

Natural gas help line

1-888-848-7914

The Illuminating Company**Electricity****Customer service**

1-800-589-3101

Outage report

1-888-544-4877

Dominion East Ohio**Natural Gas****Customer service**

1-800-362-7557)

Emergency

1-877-542-2630

Aqua Ohio (water):

Customer service

1-800-673-5999

RECREATION**Village Green Golf Course**

Publicly owned
Routes 531 and 193
224-0931

Village**Green Campgrounds**

Publicly owned
7100 Leisure Lane
Manager's office:
224-0310

KINGSVILLE TOWNSHIP

Mailing address:
3641 Creek Road, Kingsville
Phone: 224-3594

TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

Karl Brunell 241-1405
Dennis Huey 224-0527
Darrell Ensman 224-2389

Meetings held second and
fourth Wednesday
of the month at the
Kingsville
Fire Department
3130 Creek Road
(routes 84 and 193)

FISCAL OFFICER

Sarah Patterson
224-1366

ZONING INSPECTOR

Jim Branch
224-2491

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Neal Stewart
Superintendent
5890 Cemetery Road
224-2377

• DUSTY & STEVES • SERVICE

2705 E. Center • N. Kingsville, OH
(440) 224-0659

Orlando Brothers Golden Dawn

"Your Hometown Grocery Store"

• Deli & Bakery • Fresh Produce • Beer & Wine • Craft Beer • Meat/Seafood

281-285 Main St. Conneaut

440-593-5039



**Mon.-Sat. 8-9
Sun. 8-5**

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Star Beacon would like to congratulate the following businesses celebrating 10-year anniversaries.

90 Years

ROSE LUMBER AND BUILDING SUPPLY
688 Detroit St. Conneaut
(440) 599-7335
Founded in 1926.
Employs 4.
Lumber and building materials

80 Years

SHELDON, HARRY E. CALVARY CAMP
4411 Lake Road
Conneaut
(440) 593-4381
Founded in 1936.
Camp

70 years

VESUVIUS
110 Maple Ave.
Conneaut
(440) 593-1161
Founded in 1946.
Employs 80.
Chemical manufacturer

60 Years

JOE SIMAK AND SONS TRUCKING
3052 E. Center St.
North Kingsville
(440) 224-1992
Founded in 1956.
Employs 12.
Local trucking operator

R W SIDLEY
3062 E. Center St.
Kingsville
(440) 224-2664
Founded in 1956.
Employs 15.
Concrete products

50 Years
TAX PLANNING CENTER
5969 State Route 193
Kingsville
(440) 224-0945
Founded in 1966
Employs 2.
Tax preparation services

40 Years
STYZEJ BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION
3777 Sheffield Monroe Road, Kingsville
(440) 224-0276
Founded in 1976.
Construction, excavation

RHYMES AND REASONS PRESCHOOL
283 Buffalo St.
Conneaut
(440) 593-3330
Founded in 1976.
Employs 18.
Child day care services

COLE-PAUL REMODELING AND CONSTRUCTION
6816 Hatches Corners Road, Conneaut
(440) 594-7516
Founded in 1976.
Employs 4.
Building construction

MACS TOWING
321 Jefferson St.
Conneaut
(440) 593-1202
Founded in 1976.
Employs 1.
Towing auto services

30 Years
J E S TRUCKING CO.
5231 State Route 193
Kingsville,
(440) 224-0676
Founded in 1986.
Employs 10.
Local trucking operator

BEEF AND BEER



FILE

Hundreds of people attended the Conneaut Area Chamber of Commerce Business Expo each year.

828 Middle Road
Conneaut
(440) 593-3667
Founded in 1986.
Employs 32
Restaurant

BURDICK PLUMBING AND HEATING
228 Harbor St.
Conneaut
(440) 599-8248
Founded in 1986.
Employs 7.
Heating, ventilating, air conditioning

PIFER WELDING
4581 Center Road
Conneaut
(440) 594-3321
Founded in 1986.
Employs 1.
Welding repair

BARTONE'S TV
534 Broad St.
Conneaut
(440) 599-7896
Founded in 1986.
Employs 1.
Electronics repair

DIPOFI'S BARBER SHOP
780 Mill St.
Conneaut
(440) 593-3025
Founded in 1986.
Employs 1.

Barber shop

20 years

ABBA EXPRESS
6209 Lake St.
Kingsville
(440) 224-0070
Founded in 1996.
Employs 10.
Local trucking operator

WEDDING CAKES N COOKIES BY JAN
4814 Hilldom Road
Kingsville
(440) 224-0105
Founded in 1996.
Employs 1. Food service

JOSLIN-LANDIS INSURANCE AGENCY
237 Broad St.
Conneaut
(440) 593-6880
Founded in 1996.
Employs 8.
Insurance agency

SHERMAN'S WELDING
503 Furnace Road
Conneaut
(440) 599-9222
Founded in 1996.
Employs 7.
Contractor

PENNIMAN BROTHERS
Landscaping

577 Creek Road,
Conneaut
(440) 593-6879
Founded in 1996.
Employs 10.
Landscape services

J & M BUSINESS
256 Liberty St., Site 1
Conneaut
(440) 593-5400
Founded in 1996.
Employs 5.
Tax return preparation services

CHINA GARDENS
348 W. Main Road
Site C, Conneaut
(440) 593-6888
Founded in 1996.
Employs 4.
Restaurant

10 years
VILLAGE FOOD MART
6314 S. Main St.
Kingsville
(440) 224-0651
Founded in 2006.
Employs 3.
Grocery store

PARLOR ON THE PARK
5981 State Route 193
Kingsville
(440) 224-1486
Founded in 2006.
Employs 1.
Beauty shop

CBC CONSTRUCTION
990 Main St.
Conneaut
(440) 224-2000
Founded in 2006.
Employs 5.
Building construction

STATE STREET AUTO SALES AND SERVICE CENTER
318 Orange St.
Conneaut
(440) 599-6886
Founded in 2006.

Employs 5.
Automotive repair

B.C. MACHINING
502 E. Main Road
Conneaut
(440) 593-4763
Founded in 2006.
Employs 3.
Industrial machinery

KITCHEN WOODWORKING
92 W. Under Ridge Road
Conneaut
(440) 593-3662
Founded in 2006.
Employs 2.
Lumber and wood products

CHIEFS GARAGE AND RADIATOR SHOP
5035 Center Road
Conneaut
(440) 594-4408
Founded in 2006.
Employs 3.
Automotive repair services

NOVA STAR REAL ESTATE
241 Mill St., Floor 1
Conneaut
(440) 593-4663
Founded in 2006.
Employs 2.
Real estate agency

ROSEBUD KENNELS
3159 Sweet Road
Conneaut
(440) 594-1482;
Founded in 2006.
Employs 2.
Animal services

RANDY STRADERS SEWER CLEANING
659 Main St.
Conneaut
(440) 599-8937
Founded in 2006.
Employs 1.
Septic tank repair services

COMING EVENTS

JULY

17 — Conneaut Summer Concert Series, 6:30 or 7 p.m., the Newcomb Performing Arts Terrace at the Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

30 — 5K Windmill Run/Walk, 8 a.m., 1025 Buffalo St., Conneaut, Ohio. Events begin at Conneaut Arts Center with a Kids' Fun Run at 7:45 a.m., then the 5K Run 8 a.m. with the walk starting a few minutes later. Par-

ticipants in this event will run or walk a 5K course centered around the Port of Conneaut including the giant wind turbine. Call 440-593-2402.

31 — Conneaut Summer Concert Series, 6:30 or 7 p.m., the Newcomb Performing Arts Terrace at the Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

AUGUST

6 — Outdoor Learning Center Discovery Day, 230 Gateway, Conneaut.

Featuring all the Outdoor Learning Center has to offer including marked trails, interpretative signs and wooded trails. Visit www.visitconneautohio.com. Call 440-599-7697.

7 — Conneaut Summer Concert Series, 6:30 or 7 p.m., the Newcomb Performing Arts Terrace at the Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

14 — Conneaut Summer Concert Series, 6:30 or 7 p.m., the Newcomb Performing Arts Terrace at

the Conneaut Arts Center, 1025 Buffalo St. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

19-20 — D-Day Conneaut, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Conneaut Township Park, 480 Lake Road, Conneaut, Ohio. D-Day Ohio comes to Conneaut for a WWII D-Day Re-Enactment featuring re-enactors storming the beach at Normandy with authentic equipment. Explore the encampments and take in concerts, dances and more. Visit www.ddayohio.us. Call 440-599-7697.

SEPTEMBER

9-11 — Annual Rib Burn Off and Chili Cook Off, 4-10 p.m. Friday, 12-10 p.m. Saturday and 1-8 p.m. Sunday, Lakeview Park, 340 Erie Street, Conneaut, Ohio. Event will feature crafters, artisans and entertainment, with proceeds benefitting the Human Resources Center. Visit www.conneauthrc.org. Call 440-593-5273.

4-5 — Conneaut Arts Center Craft Fair, 5-9 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Conneaut Community Center for the Arts, 1025 Buffalo St., Conneaut, Ohio. This two-day event includes two floors of crafters, a perch dinner, lunch and a raffle for a beautiful hand-made quilt. Visit www.conneautartscenter.org. Call 440-593-5888.

25 — Conneaut Christmas Parade, 7 p.m., downtown Conneaut.

NOVEMBER

PARKS AND RECREATION

ON THE LAKE

As befitting its name, the Al Cummings Sunset Park in North Kingsville (Route 531 a short distance east of Route 193) is a popular Lake Erie vantage point.

Picnic tables and a playground are available during the summer season, and eagles have been spotted soaring nearby.

The park is named after the village's late road superintendent.

Conneaut Park Township in Conneaut (Route 531) offers a panorama of the lake that routinely attracts a gaggle of spectators at dusk.

The park also boasts picnic pavilions, playground, an enormous beach and other amenities.

PARKS

CAMP PEET

65 acres, 449 Keefus

Road, Conneaut.

Established in 1928, the park is preserved with a conservation easement to protect Conneaut Creek and the forested riparian, according to the Metroparks. Includes options for birding, canoe/kayaking, fishing, hiking, photography, picnic and cross-country skiing.

CONNENAUT CREEK

Is world-renown for its fishing, particularly steelhead trout. In Conneaut, parking lots that cater to fishermen and women can be found on Old Mill Road (at Welton Road), Creek Road (at the Creek Road covered bridge) and Center Street (opposite the Skippon Park ball field complex).

VILLAGE GREEN PARK

Adjoins the Village Green Golf Course and Campground 7100 Leisure Lane, Kingsville. The park is open daily and has both large and small pavilions equipped with picnic tables and a playground area. Call 440-224-0310 April 15 to Oct. 15.

EVERGREEN LAKE PARK

703 Center Road, Conneaut More than 250 campsites, open May 1-Oct. 15. Call 440-599-8802.

SHELDON CALVARY CAMP

4411 Lake Road, Conneaut Established in 1936, is an Episcopal overnight and day summer program for children and families.

Visit www.calvarycamp.org or call 440-593-4381 for more information.

GOLF

Windy Hill, 6231 Weaver Road, Conneaut,

(440) 594-5251 Village Green, state routes 193 and 531, 440-224-0931

The world's leading global supplier of pressure cylinders, tanks and related products for Alternative Fuels, Energy, Industrial and Consumer Products.



Celebrating 25 Years In Ashtabula County!



WORTHINGTON
INDUSTRIES

863 ROUTE 307 EAST | JEFFERSON, OHIO | 440.576.5847
WWW.WORTHINGTONCYLINDERS.COM

Manager: Conneaut in a good spot halfway through 2016

BY MARK TODD

mtodd@starbeacon.com

CONNEAUT — Infrastructure work, personnel matters, economic development — it's been a busy six months in the city of Conneaut, according to the town's chief executive.

"We like to stay busy here," City Manager James Hockaday said, smiling.

Hockaday and his administrative team set an ambitious agenda for 2016, and at the turn he is pleased with progress to date.

"I'm happy where we're at," he said.

Some projects have already wrapped, including a replanting of public property in the Port of Conneaut district, work done in conjunction with the Conneaut Port Authority. The result is a clearer picture of the parcels the city can market to potential developers, Hockaday said.

"It was a stumbling block to any development that could occur down there," he said. "No growth can occur without these building block pieces."

Meanwhile, the city's annual street paving/

'We want to make sure we're moving forward on the big-picture items. We've had to appoint a lot of people to a lot of positions. We've set up procedures and people have responded in a good way'

James Hockaday
Conneaut City Manager

repair program is about 50 percent complete, Hockaday said. The city began the year with \$420,000 to spend, money generated from a tax issue. More than a dozen streets will receive asphalt or a chip/seal process.

July was also scheduled to see the start of a sanitary sewer improvement project in the area of Russell and Sandusky streets, where a stretch of line is in danger of collapsing. In the fall, work is set to begin on a water line upgrade in an Orange Street neighborhood.

Also slated to begin this summer is a \$29,000 feasibility study aimed at a Harbor Street commercial building the city acquired in lieu of property taxes. The study, to be conducted by CT Consultants, will determine whether the

long-vacant building can be repurposed for a municipal use. Depending on the results of the study, the building could be reborn as a garage or fire station. It's also possible the city and Conneaut Board of Education could partner on a shared use of the structure.

Another big building, the Gateway Plaza shopping center near Interstate 90, made news in late May when the 35-year-old property was purchased by Ideal Ohio Holdings LLC. Repairs to the building began almost immediately.

City officials worked hard on the transaction, Hockaday said.

"Time was spent finding new owners and working with new owners," he said.

The police department has also

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Massive paving project on North Kingsville village's to-do list

BY MARK TODD

mtodd@starbeacon.com

NORTH KINGSVILLE — Repairs to Gore Road, one of North Kingsville's busiest side streets, tops the village's must-do list for 2016, according to Mayor Timothy Zee.

Contracts and agreements are in the works and final approval could come this week, clearing the way for a start that could come in a few weeks, Zee said.

The entire stretch of Gore Road, more than a mile in length, will benefit from a \$200,000-repair program made possible by a state grant and a voter-endorsed tax increase.

A \$99,500 Ohio Public Works Commission grant, confirmed in March, will finance repairs to a 3,000-foot section of the road, with municipal revenue paying to fix the rest of the thoroughfare. The village's share comes in the form of in-kind services and money raised from a .3 percent increase to North Kingsville's income tax approved by voters in 2014.

The tax raises an estimated \$150,000

'For a small village we're lucky to have the employees we have. We're lucky everyone works together. Everyone pulls their weight, and that makes my job pretty easy.'

Timothy Zee
North Kingsville Mayor

yearly for the street department.

Repairs to a stretch of Poore Road are also ahead this year, as well as some guardrail and culvert work, resulting in one of the most ambitious road programs in recent memory, Zee said.

"Residents haven't seen a lot of action yet, but a lot has to be done first (before resurfacing can begin)," Zee said. "We will put down some \$320,000 in asphalt," he said.

Koski Construction is the apparent low bidder on the project, Zee said.

Gore Road suffered terribly during the recently-concluded construction of a new bridge on Route 20 at the Conneaut-North Kingsville line. For more than nine months, many drivers used the side street as a detour around the work site.

The OPWC grant, secured by Thomas Peters, North Kingsville's street commissioner, was critical to the project, Zee said earlier this year.

"This is the big one," he said in March. "We were going to have to do this regardless of how it was funded."

The road kicks off an annual road repair/maintenance program in the village, Zee said.

"We will continue paving for years to come, probably two or three streets a year," he said.

Work on Gore Road dwarfs other village capital improvement projects slated for 2016, Zee said.

"It's our main ticket item, by far," he said.

The fire department received a \$15,000 grant from the state fire marshal's office for the purchase of small

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Here's the scoop:

Ice cream business sees ups, downs

BY MARK TODD

mtodd@starbeacon.com

CONNEAUT — Starting an ice cream business inside a former church took a lot of faith — and no shortage of capital, said owner Joseph Ericksen.

One year ago, Ericksen and his wife, Christine, opened the doors to Heavenly Creamery, an ice cream manufacturing/retail operation housed inside a former, century-old church in downtown Conneaut.

The endeavor has been an undertaking that is still evolving, Ericksen said. There was, and continues to be, much to absorb as an independent business owner, he said.

“I don’t know if we will succeed or fail, but it has been quite a learning experience,” he said. “An education like this would have cost me a fortune in college.”

The Ericksens began the project not to satisfy customers’ sweet teeth but to salvage a small, long-vacant church at 264 Sandusky St. (at Route 20).

“Ice cream was an afterthought,” he said. “We were trying to save the building and to bring a business to Conneaut.”

The couple, who took ice cream making

lessons for fun, decided to put their new-found knowledge to a practical use. First, however, would come an extensive makeover of the church, built in 1905.

A budget drawn up for the building renovation was quickly blown apart once the Ericksens learned of all the rules and regulations involved in rehabbing an old structure into a food-service operation.

“It’s hard in the state of Ohio to start a business,” he said. “There are always new rules you have to keep apprised on. It’s a challenge, not just for my small business but anyone’s business.

The Ericksens make their own ice cream, and have created some 170 flavors that appear on the menu board on a rotating basis. All those flavors require a wide range of ingredients that can cause some

unexpected financial headaches. The couple have discovered that fluctuations in supply and cost of some ingredients — like the imported vanilla the Ericksens favor — can help “squeeze (profit) margins.”

“We now see all the cost associated with starting a business,” Ericksen said. “It gives you a new perspective. It’s hard to pull off something like this without a big bankroll.”

There have been changes made since Heavenly Creamery made its debut to help keep the operation financially solvent. At the beginning, the business was to stay open year-round, but a big drop in trade when fall arrived changed the timetable, Ericksen said.

“Once the kids go back to school, things

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WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

Joe Ericksen is the owner of Heavenly Creamery in Conneaut. The business has been through some ups and downs in its first year.



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Marcy Funeral Home traces its roots back to post-Civil War era

BY MARK TODD

mtodd@starbeacon.com

CONNEAUT — The end of the Civil War wasn't three years old when Willard Marcy began a funeral business in Conneaut.

Marcy Funeral Home was launched in 1868, and four generations later the business — believed to be the oldest in continuous operation in the Conneaut area — is going strong. Robert C. Marcy, who represents the fourth generation, marvels that the enterprise will celebrate its 150th anniversary in just two years.

"It's something special," he said.

2018 will also mark the 100th anniversary the business has been in operation at 208 Liberty St.

Marcy joined his father, Robert C. (third generation), in the business in 1960 and became a licensed mor-

tician one year later. A different career choice was never an option, he said.

"I went on my first ambulance call when I was 12 years old," he said. "I never really thought about anything else, since I grew up in the business."

The Marcys stepped away from the ambulance business in the 1970s, but the changes didn't stop there. So much has changed since Willard began the business in a former blacksmith shop on the city's east side.

Kori Marcy Campbell, Robert's daughter, is a prime example. In 2001, she became the fifth-generation of family to ply the trade and the first woman in Conneaut to take an active role in the funeral business.

The industry has seen a seismic shift in

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The Marcy Funeral Home team includes (from left) Bob and Sue Marcy, owners, and Robbie Dean, funeral director and Sarah Sherman, office manager.

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CONTINUED: Paving project on N. Kingsville to-do list

FROM PAGE 8

tools, Zee said.
2016 also marks Zee's

first year in office. He was elected in November after serving many years on village council.

"I'm getting settled in," Zee said. "Being on council gave me a realistic look at what the

job involved."
Good employees make a difference, Zee said.

"For a small village we're lucky to have the employees we have," he said. "We're lucky

everyone works together. Everyone pulls their weight, and that makes my job pretty easy."

CONTINUED: Conneaut in a good spot halfway

FROM PAGE 8

occupied plenty of City Hall's time this year. The Ohio Chiefs of Police Association will conduct an assessment center this month to find the successor for Police Chief Charles Burlingham, who will officially retire next month.

The new year also brought two new patrolmen and corrections officers hired with funds raised through a tax increase voters approved in November.

The Public Works Department welcomed Joe DiBell as director in December, and the bulk of 2016 has been spent "getting Joe's feet

wet," Hockaday said. "Joe's done a nice job," he said.

Work also continues on a new personnel policy for the city, as well as an online bill-paying service for the water/sewer department.

"We're continuing to move forward with those things," Hockaday said.

April brought the one-year anniversary of Hockaday's tenure as manager. He said it's been a great stretch.

"We want to make sure we're moving forward on the big-picture items," Hockaday said. "We've had to appoint a lot of people to a lot of positions. We've set up procedures and people

have responded in a good way.

"I love the town," Hockaday said. "It's got a ton of potential. Conneaut wants to do better for itself and is willing to move forward."

Hockaday said he is grateful for the backing he's received from residents and City Council.

"It's all incredibly supportive," he said.

The city also benefits from a good group of dedicated municipal employees, Hockaday said.

"Things are going very well," Hockaday said. "I've adapted to them and they've adapted to me. We've got a lot done in the past year."

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CONTINUED: Marcy Funeral home traces its roots

FROM PAGE 10

gender equality in recent years," she said.

"Today, two-thirds of students in mortuary school are women," Campbell said. "One of the big changes is (the business) has become more acceptable for women. They bring a different level of compassion and sensitivity."

Gone, too, are many traditions and stereotypes regarding funerals.

Organ music that may have softly wafted through the funeral home years ago can be replaced with rock and roll at some services and calling hours.

"There is no longer any definition of what's traditional," Campbell said. "We can do everything to memorialize someone's life."

Her father agreed. People have been escorted to their final resting place by — or aboard — motorcycles, tow trucks and a horse-drawn hearse, he said. And the music that takes them to the hereafter now can be decidedly upbeat, Marcy said.

"There are no rights or wrongs," he said. "We've hosted jazz bands and rock bands. We're actually becoming event planners."

More people are also opting for cremation, which Campbell said

has been the biggest trend in recent years.

"Forty-five percent of deaths now involve cremation," Robert Marcy said.

Slideshows and videos that tell the deceased's life have become popular at calling hours.

"There's more memorialization," Campbell said.

More hands-on activity, too.

"Some people want to help fill the grave," she said. "They want to feel involved."

On average, the Marcys said they work with 120 families annually.

A support staff of technicians, drivers and clerical help complete the team.

Campbell said she was on the fence about the business until she graduated from college.

"So much has changed over the years," she said. "I worked here (as a youth) during calling hours, tending the front door. And now I've been licensed for 15 years."

Conneaut offers plenty of opportunity for businesses, both agree.

"The level of business (in town) may be down, but the quality of businesses is fantastic," Campbell said. "Everyone supports each other."

Her father agrees.

"There are some phenomenal people here," he said.

The funeral business can be bittersweet.



WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

The Marcy Funeral Home team includes (from left front) Bob and Sue Marcy, owners, and Robbie Dean, funeral director and Sarah Sherman, office manager.

Owners see people at their lowest point, but also know they can pro-

vide a valuable service. "There's a lot of heartache with families, but

there's also a good feeling that you are helping people through a very

hard time," Robert Marcy said. "It's been a fulfilling life."

Young leader in Conneaut: Amanda Smith

Name

AMANDA SMITH

Age:

30

Immediate family

Son Christopher, 4

Hometown

Conneaut

Currently living in (for how long):

Conneaut for 20 years

Job

Administrative assistant
Conneaut public library

Civic engagement

(elected office, clubs, etc):
Ashtabula County LEAD-
ERship class of 2016,
president elect of the Con-
neaut Rotary Club, Young
Professionals of Ashtabula
County, Conneaut Access
Television's Library Line,
and volunteer with D-Day
Ohio, the Conneaut Area
Chamber of Commerce
and the Outdoor Learning
Center

Why did you choose

this area?

Smith's family moved to Conneaut from Arizona when she was 10 years old. Aside from being able to experience all four seasons in Conneaut, she stayed for one main reason — the people.

"Definitely the people. We're a close community, it's an area I want to raise my son," she said.

Smith also said she loves Conneaut because of the opportunities for her 4-year-old son.

"Conneaut is up and coming. I see a future for him," she said.

Why are you invest- ed in the community?

Smith said she enjoys giving back and finding ways to build the community, both in Conneaut and Ashtabula County.

"Basically I like giving back to ... help improve the quality of life for people in our community," she said.



Amanda Smith

As a young leader, what do you bring to the table that can make a lasting difference?

Smith said she has learned a lot from living in the city and county. The biggest thing she can give back is her love for the community and desire to make a difference.

"Pride in the city, knowing that I'm going to stay here," she said.

She can also bring young blood to various organizations because she's outgoing, caring and knows she'll have the time to volunteer —

'I think a lot of it is just commitment. I guess being a young leader you have to love what you do and what you're doing it for. I see so much potential and I want to give back. It's where my heart is, it makes me feel good.'

Amanda Smith

Administrative assistant Conneaut public library

"and it's worth it."

"I think a lot of it is just commitment. I guess being a young leader you have to love what you do and what you're doing it for. I see so much potential and I want to give back. It's where my heart is, it makes me feel good," Smith said.

What direction do you see for the future of the community?

"I see Conneaut, not only is it just a beautiful place with the lake, but I see it as a place that people want to come to. It's a great

place for quality of life," she said, adding, "I feel like Conneaut is going to be doing big things, and that makes me proud. A lot of our great organizations and partnerships are doing what they can. People have a lot of passion for their city."

Outside of building tourism, Smith said one of the biggest things she'd like to see in Conneaut is more things geared toward youth — dedication to young people is why Smith is so heavily involved in Rotary — such as "hav-

ing a rec center that is centrally available for people in walking distance and having all those things that people need for kids."

"Rotary Club's emphasis on the youth, that's our future, that's what drives me — the actual younger generation. If I can influence them and help them, then that's what I'll do," she said.

Not only that, but Smith wants to see all the great things in Conneaut enhanced.

"Basically I just see our city restore what we have, make it even better," she said.

Tell us something fun or unexpected about yourself?

The self-described "homebody" said she enjoys "doing adventurous stuff, doing new things. I will try anything once," she said, which includes riding snowmobiles, motorbikes and four-wheelers.

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CONTINUED: Ice cream business sees ups, downs

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really slowed down," he said. "But we don't take the winter off. We work on new flavors, work on the building and paint the tables and chairs."

This year, the shop is scheduled to close Oct. 1, Ericksen said.

Also, the menu has been streamlined and members of the Erickson family are spending more time behind the counter to help reduce payroll expenses.

Improvements to the business are ahead, including the addition of more ice cream flavors and the purchase of equipment

Meanwhile, in its relatively brief history Heavenly Creamery has generated a loyal

customer base, Ericksen said. Ice cream buffs from around the region — as well as vacation travelers — have found their way to the old church.

"I can't complain about our customers," he said. "They are fantastic people who enjoy spending their days with us."

Ericksen said they appreciate the patronage and believes each sale says something significant about Heavenly Creamery.

"To me, every dollar is a vote," he said. "When you give me a dollar, you're voting that my business should continue to exist. If you want something different, you have to vote for something different."

While Heavenly Creamery has seen "daily struggles," Ericksen feels the future can be bright.

"I think we will turn a corner," he said.

Ericksen advises would-be business owners to go into their enterprise with eyes wide open.

"There are challenges you have to be aware of," he said. "On any day regulations could come down that could close you down. If you do it, do it for the right reason." Good things can await the industrious, however, Ericksen said. "It's the American dream that we will bear the fruits of our labor," he said. "We're working our tushes off, but it is rewarding."



PHOTOS BY WARREN DILLAWAY | STAR BEACON

Joe Ericksen is the owner of Heavenly Creamery in Conneaut.



Joe Ericksen is the owner of Heavenly Creamery in Conneaut.



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