

## Galena Express is Ready for Play



The Village of Galena's new train themed playground equipment is ready for play in Miller Park.

The Village of Galena "Express" is ready to roll along the old train tracks that will become part of the Ohio-to-Erie Trail through Galena. The Village recently completed installation of new train-themed playground equipment in Miller Park on Walnut St. The equipment features a train engine crawl tunnel and play area, a talk tube, an inch-worm bridge, a cyclone spinner, trapeze rings, and a suspension bridge. Climbers will enjoy climbing on a chain wall, tires, a coil and a spiral climber, as well as a bubble climbing wall. The equipment was purchased with Preservation Parks of Delaware County grants and matching funds from the Village over a two-year period.

In other parks news, Assistant Public Service Director Jeanna Burrell and Mayor Thomas Hopper met with a multi-jurisdictional group including Galena, Columbus, and Preservation Parks of Delaware County hosted by Genoa Township. The group is exploring extending a trail from Galena to Westerville around the east side of Hoover Reservoir.

## Walnut St.

During the March Village Council meeting, Public Service Director Scott Jamison reported that reconstruction on Phase 2 of Walnut St. expected to begin in late April or early May and will be completed by June 1st.

## Planning & Zoning

Public Service Director Scott Jamison reported that a new home zoning permit was issued for the Walnut Creek Subdivision on Joe Walker Rd.

Assistant Public Service Director Jeanna Burrell is researching smart growth initiatives in preparation for revision of the Village's subdivision code. Smart growth involves many best management practices such as clustering houses on smaller lots with open space set asides (which the Village already practices). It includes walkable communities with interconnected neighborhoods (which the Village is working on with its current and future trail system).

Essential to smart growth is handling storm water runoff in the most natural

manner possible. This allows storm water to percolate down to replenish the aquifer rather than running off streets into storm sewers. When water runs off streets, it carries with it many dangerous pollutants from yards and vehicles. Practices to accomplish this include rain barrels, gray water cisterns for yard irrigation, rain gardens, native species plantings, and bioswales. Permeable paving such as gravel, pavers, and permeable concrete and asphalt allow water to percolate through the pavement rather than forcing it to run off into streams.

Burrell and Jamison attended a Water Friendly Codes and Ordinances workshop near Cleveland to learn more on the topic. They met with an engineer in Gahanna to discuss permeable paving and storm water concepts. Along with Mayor Hopper, they met with City of Columbus water and planning personnel to discuss balanced growth initiatives.

The Village is also participating in the Big Walnut Watershed Planning Partnership coordinated by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). This planning effort will evaluate every parcel in the planning area

and rate it against a set of criteria. Parcels will receive points that may rank them as Priority Agriculture, Conservation, or Development areas. These points may qualify owners for funding.

## Limb Pick Up

There have been numerous problems with the Village dump truck requiring multiple repairs. As a result of the truck problems, the March limb pick-up days did not occur. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Pick up has been rescheduled for April 8 so residents can dispose of their smaller limbs from the February ice storm. Limbs no longer than 4 feet and no bigger than 4" in diameter should be stacked at the curb, cut side out with no other materials, and should not be bound. Residents can also take limbs smaller than 20" in diameter to Mulch First, 725 Kintner Parkway, in Sunbury for a small fee. Call 965-6482 for more information.

## Fiscal News

Fiscal Officer Marty Mazzie reports that the Village has successfully refinanced its Building 1829 (the former Galena United Methodist Church) and its wastewater treatment plant.

The Village's biennial audit that should be completed in April.

## Galena Dates

The following are Village Council and committee meeting dates as well as other local events. Village meetings are open to the public and are at 7 p.m. in the basement of the Municipal Building, 9 W. Columbus St., unless otherwise stated.

April 1, 8	Trash Days
April 8	Chipper Day
April 15	Trash Day
April 16	Summerfest Committee Mtg., 10 AM, Murphy's Real Estate
April 18	IRS & RITA Tax Filing Deadline
April 20	Zoning & Planning Commission
April 22	Trash Day
April 23	Easter Egg Hunt, 1 PM, Ruffner Park
April 25	Council Meeting
April 29	Trash Day
May 2	2nd Quarter Sewer Bills Sent Out

## Records Commission Seated

At their March meeting, Council established a Municipal Records Commission. Mayor Hopper, Fiscal Officer Marty Mazzie, Village Solicitor Ken Molnar, Council Member David Simmons, and resident Grace Piper were appointed to the commission.

## Easter Egg Hunt

The Special Events Committee is working on the Easter Egg Hunt planned for April 23. Local children are invited to hunt Easter eggs and coins at Ruffner Park, located at 152 Harrison St., in Galena. The event begins at 1 p.m. sharp, rain, snow, or shine. Be prompt because the event is over in the blink of an eye.

More than 2,200 eggs will be prepared with 10,000 pieces of candy and pennies. The hunt will be divided into age groups for infants-4 years old, 5-7 years old, and 8-10 years old. The 5-7 year olds and 8-10 year olds also can participate in a nickel and candy toss. Ages 11-14 can participate in a Scavenger Hunt for 25 presidential dollars.

One child in each age group will be lucky enough to find a big egg that qualifies them for a special Easter basket prize. Each child will receive a gift, too. Children can also visit with the Easter bunny.



The Greater Galena Civic Association's (GGCA) Summerfest Committee met March 19 to plan for the Aug. 27 festival. The group is currently firming up sponsors, advertisers, and vendors. A new home improvements alley will feature local builders, remodelers, and landscapers. Interested parties can contact Jane White at [Jane@themudflats.com](mailto:Jane@themudflats.com) and can find out more about Summerfest at the GGCA's new web site at [www.discovergalenaohio.com](http://www.discovergalenaohio.com).

**Saturday, August 27th,  
11 a.m.-11 p.m.  
on the Galena Square  
featuring**

- Live Music
- Kids Zone
- Arts Vendors
- Food Vendors
- Commercial Vendors
- Beer Garden

This year's Summerfest will be a collaborative effort with the Sunbury Sizzle and Sounds event being held the same day. Bands will be scheduled in offsetting times so festival visitors can shuttle back and forth between the events. This promises to make both events a bigger and better destination.

Volunteers are welcome to attend the next meeting on April 16, 10 a.m., at Murphy's Real Estate, 19 W. Columbus St., on the square.

## Sewer News

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency issued a "Draft Permit to Operate" for renewal of the Village's wastewater treatment plant operating permit. There will be a 30-day comment period starting February 28. The Final Permit to Operate should be issued after the comment period.

The time delay relay (TDR) that was installed last month at the Walnut Street Lift Station is working well to prevent immediate restart of the lift station after brief power interruptions.

The lift station experienced a pump failure on March 19 caused by an adult diaper that clogged the pump and caused it to overload and shut down. This also caused the entire pump station to shut down. It took nearly all day to get one of the pumps to run. A standby pump is in use until the damaged pump can be repaired. The cost of this incident will be several thousand dollars.

Village staff is working with the Village solicitor to shut off one homeowner's sewer tap for long-term non-payment. This will result in eviction from the home and will require payment of the Village's expenses as well as reconnecting the line. Fiscal Officer Marty Mazzie is working with the solicitor to bring other customers with outstanding balances current.

Be sure you pay your bills in a timely fashion to avoid late payment penalties, property tax liens, and other legal actions.

Second quarter sewer bills will be mailed out May 2 and are due June 10.

There are several payment options:

- Mail payments to the Village of Galena, PO Box 386, Galena, OH 43021. Call us with any questions at 740-965-2484.
- Set up monthly sewer bill payments with no additional fees at the Delaware County Bank's Galena branch. Bring your sewer bill with you the first time.
- Set up automatic payments to have \$50.56 debited from your checking account at any bank on the 8th of each month. Forms are available in the Village offices and on the village's web site under [local links/sewers](#).

## It's Tax Time!

It's tax time! Due to the Washington DC Emancipation Day holiday being observed on April 15, the Internal Revenue Service

has moved its filing deadline to April 18. This is also the due date for filing your municipal income tax forms with the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA).

Forms are available in the Village offices and at [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com). A variety of services are online such as step-by-step calculations, electronic filing and transfer of refunds, and payment by credit card or electronic debit.

Remember, if you live or work within the Galena municipal boundaries, you must pay the Village's one percent income tax. Check our web site for boundaries that are much smaller than the Galena mailing area. The Village does not have reciprocal agreements with other taxing entities.

To file electronically, you will need social security numbers for you and your spouse, W-2 forms, 1099 forms and Federal Schedules C, E & F, date of move for residents who moved in 2010, and bank routing and account numbers for fast refunds or to pay electronically.

## Community Expo

The 13th Annual Chamber Community Expo will be held 5-8 p.m., Thursday, April 28 at Big Walnut High School. The event is a business, health, civic, and school showcase.

## Electronic News

The newsletter is available online or can be e-mailed directly by contacting [adminassistant@galenaohio.org](mailto:adminassistant@galenaohio.org).

## Village Contacts

<b>Village Offices</b>	740-965-2484
<b>FAX</b>	740-965-5424
<b>Thomas Hopper:</b>	<a href="mailto:mayor@galenaohio.org">mayor@galenaohio.org</a> 965-1024
<b>Scott Jamison:</b>	<a href="mailto:servicedirector@galenaohio.org">servicedirector@galenaohio.org</a>
<b>Marty Mazzie:</b>	<a href="mailto:fiscalofficer@galenaohio.org">fiscalofficer@galenaohio.org</a>
<b>Jeanna Burrell:</b>	<a href="mailto:adminassistant@galenaohio.org">adminassistant@galenaohio.org</a>
<b>Jeff Stokes:</b>	<a href="mailto:maintenance@galenaohio.org">maintenance@galenaohio.org</a>
<b>web:</b>	<a href="http://www.galenaohio.org">www.galenaohio.org</a>
<b>In an emergency, dial</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>BST&amp;G Fire Dept.</b>	965-3841 <a href="http://www.bstgfiredistrict.org">www.bstgfiredistrict.org</a>
<b>Big-O Refuse</b>	888-924-2446
<b>Cable: Time-Warner</b>	800-617-4311
<b>Columbia Gas</b>	800-344-4077
<b>Del-Co Water</b>	548-7746
<b>Dog Warden</b>	368-1915
<b>Electric: AEP</b>	800-277-2177
<b>Galena Post Office</b>	965-2371
<b>Health Dept.</b>	740-368-1700 <a href="http://www.delawarehealth.org">www.delawarehealth.org</a>
<b>Immediate Urgent Care,</b>	101D W. Cherry St., Sunbury, 965-8305
<b>Phone: Century Link</b>	800-407-5411
<b>RITA (income tax)</b>	800-860-7482 web: <a href="http://www.ritaohio.com">www.ritaohio.com</a>
<b>Sheriff</b>	833-2800
<b>Sunbury Post Office</b>	965-2471
<b>Wastewater Plant</b>	740-602-1234
<b>Lift Station</b>	
<b>Emergencies</b>	740-972-8646