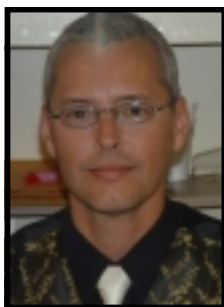




## Good Luck Ed!



Village Clerk Ed Collinsworth was ordered to active duty in Kosovo with his Army unit in July. We wish him a safe trip and speedy return.

Sheila Miller, will assume the clerk's duties in his absence. Welcome Sheila.

## Housing Boom



It's a housing boom in Galena! Eleven houses are already in progress in the Heathermere subdivision on Walnut St.

Infrastructure construction, such as sewer and water line installation, has begun at the Walnut Creek subdivision on Joe Walker Road.



## Lawsuit Filed Over Sewer Plant

On June 2, Galena Village Solicitor Ken Molnar filed suit against Delaware County to purchase the

county sewage treatment plant that serves Galena. The suit asks the court to cancel the County's lease on the land and appropriate the treatment plant to Galena for \$220,000 plus approximately \$327,000 in sewer tap deposits to be returned to the Village.

Mayor Tom Hopper explained, "We have been attempting to negotiate in good faith with Delaware County for three years to serve Galena's sewage treatment needs. We have been unable to get much of a response to our communications with County officials so we've been unable to work out a solution. We traded bids on the purchase of the plant and we felt the County's final offer was extremely high."

At the end of March, Galena made an offer for the ten-year-old plant and County Commissioners countered with an offer of \$370,000. Galena countered with a second offer of \$220,000 with sewer tap deposits to be returned to the Village. Council never received a response to that offer from the County Commissioners.

Delaware County built the plant in 1994 for \$399,996 and the \$370,000 price tag is 92.5 percent of the original value. The plant is now considered aged technology and has a history of maintenance problems that have led to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) violations. Galena considers the price for the plant very high considering it is basically halfway through its estimated life of 20 years.

"Galena needs to control its own destiny and it's clear the County does not have our residents' best interests at heart,"

Hopper says. "The proof is in the County's unwillingness to expand the plant to meet our needs while they concurrently refuse to sell us the plant at a fair market price so we can expand it. When they investigated taking Galena's municipal sewage collection system last fall, we were pretty certain they are no longer interested in serving Galena's needs."

"We had hoped to settle this with the County but we are left with no other recourse," Molnar explained. "Galena's landowners have certain property use rights and we'll let the courts settle this. It's apparent to Galena that the County is undertaking a concerted effort to promote township growth over the interests of the incorporated areas within the

## Galena Dates

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

- July 13 Parks & Rec.
- July 14 Zoning & Planning
- July 26 Council Meeting
- July 26 Chipper Day
- Aug. 11 Zoning & Planning
- Aug. 17 Parks & Rec.
- Aug. 23 Council Meeting
- Aug. 29 Ice Cream Social, 6-8 pm, Ruffner Park
- Aug. 30 Chipper Day

County. Galena should be able add to its economic tax base through residential, industrial and commercial growth, all of which requires adequate sanitation.”

Galena submitted a Wastewater Study 208 Plan to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) December 1, 2003. The 208 Plan spells out a small area that Galena could serve with a wastewater treatment plant. The process for approval requires support letters and Galena has received those from the Village of Sunbury and the City of Columbus. Delaware County has not supported Galena’s plan yet has no plans for expansion of the existing plant or building a new plant for 5-10 years according to their own draft master plan. In fact, the County’s plan calls for Sunbury and Galena to abandon their wastewater treatment plants.

County officials responded to Galena’s lawsuit on July 1 and requested that the court send the case to mediation.

## Chipper Day



Galena’s first Chipper Day got off to a rough start with some

equipment incompatibility problems. Once the problems were solved, chipping went smoothly although it took two days to complete. We appreciate your patience with us.

The next Chipper Day is July 26 (last Monday of the month).

## Blessing of the Animals

The Galena United Methodist Church invites you to bring your animals, large or small, for the Blessing of the Animals Celebration at 10 a.m., July 25, at Ruffner Park. Bring a dish or two and table service and enjoy a potluck meal after the service.

## Church Carnival Planned

Join the Galena United Methodist Church at their Carnival planned for 3-5 p.m., July 31, at Miller Park. Come for fun and games and help build an ice cream float in a gutter – now that’s a big float!

## Tree Trimming

The Village filed a complaint with AEP over their recent tree trimming program. The Village commented on how bad the trees look and on safety issues such as hanging limbs and wood lying around.

## New Truck

The Village’s new truck has finally arrived! The 2004 C-4500 dump truck, outfitted by Kaffenbarger Truck Equipment Company with a truck bed, central hydraulics, and plow, was purchased from Byers Chevrolet for a total cost of \$43,411.25.



## Village Contacts

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 web: www.galenaohio.org  
 Mayor Tom Hopper 965-1024  
**In an emergency, dial 911**  
 Sunbury/Galena Police 965-3946  
 BST& G Fire Dept. 965-3841  
 Del-Co Water 548-7746  
 Del. Co. Sanitary Engr. 833-2240  
 AEP 800-277-2177  
 Galena Post Office 965-2371  
 Sunbury Post Office 965-2471  
 Columbia Gas 800-344-4077

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