



VillageofGrafton.org

# The Village Spotlight

A Publication of the **Village of Grafton** designed to provide the community with a snap shot of village life today.



*The Pride We Foster Today will  
reflect upon the Pride We Have Tomorrow.*

## A Message from Mayor David DiVencenzo



Village of Grafton  
Mayor David DiVencenzo

Dear Grafton Residents and Businesses,

After a long, dreary, snowy and weather-filled early spring...warmer temperatures, sunshine, and activity have finally resumed in our wonderful Village, and I can share with certainty, that there is no finer time in our town than the approaching summer months. Over the next several weeks and months, a variety of patriotic and pride-bearing community events are being planned. Among the most important for your family calendars are:

- **Monday, May 30th- Memorial Day Parade**, lineup begins at the Police

Station at 11 a.m., parade kick-off at 12 noon. Our route this year is the from the Police Station to Railroad Street, and then circles-back to Village Hall, where there will be a brief ceremony!

- **Saturday, July 2nd- Celebrate Grafton Fireworks Display** at dusk, following our Party in the Park, at Willow Park where there will be a series of local bands performing, fun, activities and more!

Please take a moment to mark these events on your calendar and be sure to see Page 8 of this publication for a full listing of all of the other activities, opportunities and events that will be taking place over the next three months.

Contained within this publication is an update on many major projects taking place in Grafton at the moment. City leaders will always keep you apprised of how your tax dollars are being allocated for long term capital improvements. An update on Main Street is included. The Sub

Station enhancements are well underway, and the Village has an excellent crew managing this project. A handful of pictures of the Administration Building at the Waste Water Treatment facility are included in these pages too.

An added emphasis in this publication will be placed on our parks and recreational areas for the Village. Readers will note the future plans for all of the parks that Village leaders envision, and we know based on feedback from our residents and usage by many of our citizens, that parks truly matter in this community. So many additional opportunities for growth and fun are being brainstormed at the present time, and the aerial renderings are included here within this publication. Residents will most readily see enhancements at Reservoir Park, where a mammoth hiking trail has been constructed around the reservoir, for patrons to walk upon and enjoy during a brisk walk. Plans to further connectivity amongst the parks are in the works as well.

The Village of Grafton aspires to be the beacon of light in Lorain County. With our exciting projects underway, the value we have all placed on parks and recreation, and our dedicated personnel members...there is no question that Grafton is the finest place to live, work, visit and raise a family in all of Northeast Ohio. Thank you for your commitment to our efforts, and for making Grafton what it is today.

Be sure to say hello when we see one another during the summer months. Thank you.

Mayor David M. DiVencenzo



This edition of the Village Pride newsletter shares a variety of information on the Village's many parks. Enjoy your review of our newsletter!

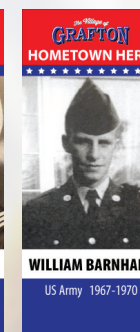
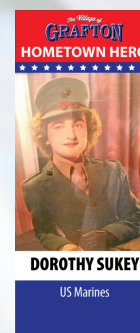
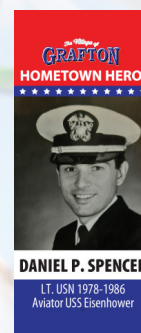
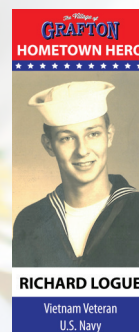
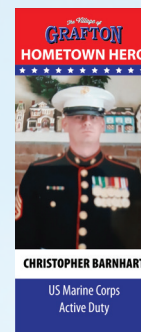


The Village of Grafton has some exciting "patriotic events" planned, including the Memorial Day Parade and our Annual Fireworks celebration on July 2nd. See inside for more details.





# *hometown* HEROES





## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: *State Farm Insurance, Donnelle Taylor Agent*

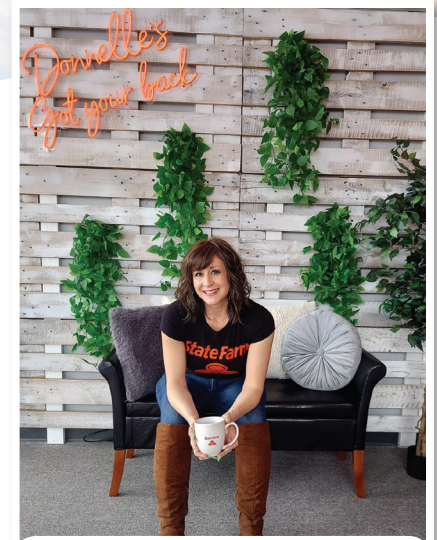
This edition's Grafton Business spotlight shines brightly on State Farm Insurance, Donnelle Taylor, Agent and the Village is excited to have them in our downtown. Donnelle and her office opened in August 2021 in their current location at 907 Main Street, and she is a provider of all types of insurance, from business to personal, general liability, and more. In addition to insurance needs, State Farm also provides various financial services as well as mortgages. Her office includes her husband, Ray, and Sandy Nielsen, who serves as office manager and has 34 years in the insurance business. Rebecca Neff rounds out the office, and they are deeply grateful to be embedded in such a wonderful community.

"We're excited about the future upgrades in the downtown area, and State Farm Insurance will continue to be a willing partner with the Village," according to Donnelle. "In addition to being an entrusted corporate entity, on an individual level, we love helping those in need."

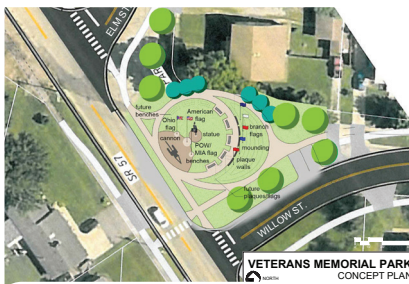
Donnelle has heart for others, and in addition to serving the community in her insurance, financial services and mortgage specialty, she gives back to the Village as well. One example was during easter, when she enlisted a photographer to take photos of the community's children along with the Easter Bunny, for some seasonal fun! In addition, she enjoys helping non-profits. Recently, she assembled donations for a family who lost their home to a fire tragedy. Helping the community, according to Donnelle, is the best feeling and part of one another's responsibilities.

Donnelle and her husband Ray are very engrained in the Grafton community. They are both graduates of Midview Heights, and together have four children, three of whom have either graduates or are enrolled in the district. You can contact her office any time, as there is someone always in the office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. And of course, Donnelle, as the owner is always working. Be sure to stop by and say hello to her and her team, and of course, if you have any insurance, financial services or mortgage needs... be sure to consider them.

Thank you Donnelle, for being a responsible and delightful corporate entity in Grafton!



*Donnelle Taylor, Agent for State Farm Insurance is Excited to be in Grafton*



*New Veteran's Memorial  
Aerial Rendering*

### **VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PLANNED FOR 2023 TO HONOR THOSE WHO OFFERED PUBLIC SERVICE TO OUR NATION**

The Village of Grafton greatly honors and recognizes the service of veterans to our country. As a special tribute, a new Veteran's Memorial is being completely planned and pursued at the present time. The Village anticipates that this Veteran's Memorial will be a symbolic place where families, loved ones, friends, patriotic citizens and proud residents can visit to look upon the names of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. This project, along with the Hometown Heroes banners, and other various celebratory activities and events throughout the year, help to demonstrate our gratitude. The nearby aerial rendering places the memorial on State Route 57 between Willow Street and Elm Street. There will be places for remembrance, and opportunities to grieve and support those who have fallen through commemorative plaques and wall markings. Benches will permit individuals to just sit and think about those who have paid a high price for their service. A cannon will be a striking visible symbol of how

warfare has been needed at times to fight evil and injustice and how peace can flow from strength. The memorial is anticipated to be opened in 2023. Please keep a lookout for more updates as we can continue moving towards the completion of the new Veteran's Memorial.

### **VILLAGE COFFEE AND CREAMERY ON THE CORNER OF NOVAK AND MAIN**


The Village of Grafton is excited for the upcoming opening of the Village Coffee and Creamery, which will be located on the corner of Novak and Main Street. As an expansion of the ownership of Nancy's Diner, Denise Worthy and company, ice cream lovers, food enthusiasts and coffee connoisseurs alike will love the tasty items on the menu. A soft opening took place earlier this spring to introduce specialty drinks, iced coffees, pastries, and more. This business is located at 486 Main Street, so please be sure to visit us, say hello to the hardworking team, and enjoy some delectable coffee and sweets. Congratulations on your opening!



*New Veteran's Memorial  
Aerial Rendering*

**POGGEMEYER**  
DESIGN GROUP

*Celebrating*  
**50** Years of  
Designing  
Solutions



419.352.7537 • WWW.POGGEMEYER.COM ENGINEERS • ARCHITECTS • PLANNERS

**Village "Buying Gold"**  
Jewelry & Repair  
Products:  
Fine Jewelry • Clocks & Watches

Offering  
12 Months  
Financing

**Services**  
• Jewelry Repairs  
• Jewelry Appraisals Engraving  
• Clock & Watch Repairs

The Kuhn's Family



Downtown Grafton  
954 Main St.  
Grafton, OH 44044  
(440) 926-0500



www.villagejewelryandrepair.com



**PRIVATE SECURITY**  
DIV. of KLINECT TV LLC.  
**Matthew A. Dukles**  
SALES~SERVICE~INSPECTIONS

891 Main St.  
Grafton Oh. 44044

24/7 Fire & Burglary Monitoring Services  
Commercial & Residential  
Security-Fire-CCTV-Sound-Telephone Systems

440-926-2419  
ademcomatt@klinecttv.com

**www.privatesecurityalarms.com**



**Kazmierczak**  
**CONSTRUCTION, LLC.**  
BUILDING DREAMS

Remodeling • Additions • Barns • Garages • Decks • Siding  
Windows • Doors • Creative Concrete • Concrete  
Foundations • Custom Homes

**Josh Kazmierczak**  
josh@kazmierczakconstruction.com  
44421 Jones Road, Wellington, Ohio 44090

**440-225-6024**  
www.kazmierczakconstruction.com

**440-355-4616**


**KEYSTONE POINTE-EXCELLENCE IN POST  
HOSPITAL AND REHABILITATION CARE**

**-SUPERIOR OUTCOMES**  
**-LARGE PRIVATE ROOMS**  
**-HIGHLY RATED BY MEDICARE**



**KEYSTONE POINTE**  
Health and Rehabilitation  
383 Opportunity Drive, Lagrange, Ohio






# 2022 SUMMER READING PROGRAM

## GRAFTON-MIDVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY'S

# June 6 - July 23 OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

- 
- Fun for the Whole Family
  - It's Easy to Participate
  - Win Prizes for Reading
  - Stop by and get a Library Card Today

**Up, Up, & Away!**  
**Saturday, July 23, 6 PM**  
Bring your blanket and chairs  
to Our Lady Queen of Peace  
708 Erie Street, Grafton

Come out and join the Library for an amazing double feature: first, an up-close hot air balloon experience with "Just a Dream" courtesy of Michael Miller, and second, once it's dark, a special showing of Disney Pixar's film "Up."

Rain date: August 27 @ 6 PM

**MINI MASTERPIECES**  
Pick up your kit  
until May 31!

Want to showcase your artistic talent? Take part in GMPL's "Mini Masterpiece" art exhibit! Prizes for all age categories. Call the Library for details.



**GRAFTON-MIDVIEW**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
OPENING YOUR WINDOW TO THE WORLD.



[gmplibrary.org](http://gmplibrary.org) | 440-926-3317



## Parks and Recreation Opportunities are Flourishing in Grafton!



### VISIT RESERVOIR PARK. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

Reservoir Park is experiencing a major upgrade, just in time for the breaking seasonal weather. A grand all-purpose walking trail has been installed around the entire perimeter of the reservoir. The purpose of the construction of the trail is for enhanced connectivity, fitness and providing a safe access to the residents for fishing in the reservoir. Utilizing the ball diamonds, walking the reservoir with a scenic and stable trail head, and fishing are just a few among many activities that can be enjoyed at Reservoir Park now. Best of all, there are plans underway currently to make the new walking trail connect to a crosswalk, that will ultimately lead to Willow Park, across Route 57. That way, these two southern-end-of-town parks can be connected for residents to enjoy!

### WILLOW PARK IS HOME TO MANY COMMUNITY EVENTS!

Willow Park will also be experiencing major upgrades as well, to continue with the overall spirit of parks enhancements. Be sure to walk around Willow Park during our annual fireworks festival on Saturday, July 2nd where bands will be performing under the new pavilion, and more exciting activities!



### NORTH PARK UPDATE: TAKING AN ANALYSIS OF ITEMS TO KEEP MOVING FORWARD!

The Village is currently undertaking a robust inspection of all of the equipment at North Park, from a usability and safety standpoint. While many upgrades have taken place at North Park, among other parks that you will read about later in this edition, there is no doubt that North Park is a priority. Doing a survey of the equipment, of what's there and safety inspection, to make sure that everything is available and safe. Park plans. This is what we're working on for the future.



# Progress on Projects... Always Something Happenin' Around the Village of Grafton

## ENVISION GRAFTON MAIN STREET PROJECT COMMENCES!

The Village of Grafton reported earlier this year, in the annual State of the Village edition, that the Envision Grafton Main Street project would begin in May. An important pre-construction meeting was conducted earlier in the month with a cross section of Village officials, representatives from Fabrizi Trucking Construction, members of the engineering team, and our inspection team at QCI to review and finalize the very last details of the project. Once again, the Main Street project will include upgrades from Erie Street to Mechanic Street, including new roadway surface, curbs and gutters, reverse angle parking, trees and green space, bump outs for landscaping. For the residents' knowledge and sake, **traffic will be maintained in regular flow**, so please be sure to come out to support businesses. Several crosswalks are being enhanced for safety and connectivity purposes. Parking will be available behind Village Hall, along with Becker's Court Water Tower Parking, and off Railroad Street too. Village officials are still in the planning stages for Phase 2 of Main Street, which will include Mechanic Street to Village corporation limit boundaries.



*The Envision Grafton Main Street project commenced in May 2022, to completely enhance the roadway surface, curbs and gutters, landscaping and more!*



*Members of the Waste Water Treatment Facility stand in front of the newly opened Administrative Facility.*

## WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING OPENS LATE 2021

As the community knows, the Waste Water Treatment Plant Administration building has been erected and officially opened for the conduct of Village business in late 2021. Now that our valuable waste water treatment team has had a few months to settle into the new space, the Village wanted to share some final particular information. The Administration Building includes office space for our personnel and other various employee facility needs. There is a 25 foot x 45 foot workshop area for repairs, hands-on work and other operational construction needs. There is also a 60 foot x 45 foot storage and maintenance area. Some of the unique features are a sanitary/grease separator to help meet EPA requirements, in order to separate sludge materials during the handling process. The project was officially completed at the end of 2021, and with the last few months to get the facility up-and-running, Village officials are now planning a formal dedication at some point in the future. This space has also positively impacts the original facility, as space has been freed up near the laboratory for more activity and storage. This new facility benefits all and keeps the service and efficiency high, while creating a better work environment for some of the needed tasks associated with the important job of properly and safely handling our waste water.

## MECHANIC STREET AND CROOK STREET IMPROVEMENT DELAYED

The Mechanic Street and Crook Street Improvement, including the new sanitary and storm sewers, new pavement and new sidewalks, has been postponed due to bid qualification matters. The next step will be re-bid in August and looking for completion of 1st and 2nd quarter of 2023. Keep on the lookout!

## SUBSTATION ENHANCEMENTS ARE MOVING FORWARD!

The Substation enhancements to improve its output from 4KV's to 12KV's is full steam ahead. The project will be completed over the summer months, and we anticipate no outages as we move forward.



*A meeting takes place at the Sub Station for its major upgrade and enhancement*



# Upcoming Village Events

Please remember to check the Village Website and Facebook page for updates on a regular basis.  
Thank you for your continued support.



## June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM at Village Hall	8	9	10	11 Trash to Treasure Day! See website for more details
12	13	14 Midview Kiwanis 12 noon - 1 PM Village Hall Flag Day	15	16	17	18
19 Father's Day	20	21 Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM at Village Hall	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Midview Kiwanis 12 noon - 1 PM Village Hall	29	30		

## July

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 Celebrate Grafton Battle of the Bands Fireworks at Dusk Willow Park
3	4 Independence Day	5 Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM at Village Hall	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Midview Kiwanis 12 noon - 1 PM Village Hall	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM at Village Hall	20	21	22	23
24 Parents' Day	25	26 Midview Kiwanis 12 noon - 1 PM Village Hall	27	28	29	30
31						

## August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM at Village Hall	3	4	5	6
7 Purple Heart Day	8	9 Midview Kiwanis 12 noon - 1 PM Village Hall	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Village Council Meeting 7:30 PM at Village Hall	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Midview Kiwanis 12 noon - 1 PM Village Hall	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## VILLAGE OF GRAFTON FALL FESTIVAL

Please mark your calendar for the Village of Grafton Fall Festival to be held on October 1st at Willow Park from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The LaGrange Engine Club will have their "old-time" vehicles on site as well as other displays. The Village is in the process of organizing a Farmers Market, Crafters and food vendors for the festival. If you would like to participate in the Fall Festival please complete the Craft and Farmer's Market Vendor form that can be found on the Village's website at [www.villageofgrafton.org](http://www.villageofgrafton.org) or call Town Hall at 926-2401 ext #2 for more information.

## Non-Emergency Contact Information

**David DiVencenzo**  
Mayor

(440) 926-2401 opt. 5  
[dmdivencenzo@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:dmdivencenzo@villageofgrafton.org)

**Tim Strah**  
Council at Large

[Timstrah@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:Timstrah@villageofgrafton.org)

**Matthew Dukles**  
Ward 1

[madukles@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:madukles@villageofgrafton.org)

**Elizabeth (Liz) Sauer**  
Ward 2

[easauer@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:easauer@villageofgrafton.org)

**Rick Logue**  
Ward 3

[rlogue@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:rlogue@villageofgrafton.org)

**Lynette Kitts**  
Ward 4

[lmkitts@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:lmkitts@villageofgrafton.org)

**Amy Barnhart**  
Clerk-Treasurer

(440) 926-2401 opt. 3  
[arbarnhart@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:arbarnhart@villageofgrafton.org)

**Joe Price**  
Village Administrator

(440) 926-2401 opt. 4  
[jbprice@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:jbprice@villageofgrafton.org)

**Diana Kazmierczak**  
Village Secretary

(440) 926-2401 opt. 2  
[djkazmierczak@villageofgrafton.org](mailto:djkazmierczak@villageofgrafton.org)

Building

(440) 926-2401 opt. 2

Utilities

(440) 926-1093 opt. 1

Streets

(440) 926-2260

Electric

(440) 926-2912

Sewer

(440) 926-2765

Fire (non emergency)

(440) 926-2075

Police (non emergency)

(440) 926-2261