



# BEXLEY TIMES

City of Bexley Quarterly Newsletter

Volume N° 23 - April through June, 2014

**ON THE  
FLIP  
SIDE:**



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Calendar of Events

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK: NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Making syrup, developing a grocery store, and building community in Bexley



Grant Archer, Mike Price, Ben Kessler, Ron Gould with Maple Syrup bottle #1.

It's early February, Jeffrey Park forest is 10" deep in ice-crusted snow, and the mercury is hovering at 16°. The Jeffrey family called the mansion and estate "Kelveden," and this morning a group of about 40 residents stand clustered around City arborists Grant Archer and Ron Gould on the Kelveden grounds, clutching coffees and hot chocolates from the Bexley Coffee Shop. Grant and Ron are showing participants in the City's Maple Syrup workshop how to identify sugar maple trees. Turns out it isn't the easiest of tasks: the direction of the wind and the shade from a larger canopy tree are all variables that can character the look and feel of a sugar maple's bark. Ron and Grant are skilled tradesmen, though, and they deftly help point the group to about 40 sugar maple trees, to the delight of workshop participants.

At a second workshop event a couple of weeks later, participants learn to tap the trees. Even 2<sup>nd</sup> grader Emma Kelly gets to try her hand at the drill and at the hammer, and she proves to be quite adept at both. A week later, the same group huddles around an outdoor fire, evaporating over 60 gallons of maple sap over a period of many hours, down to a yield of 37 eight-ounce bottles. Boy Scout Troop 166 played a pivotal role in the whole adventure, and many a scout enthusiastically skimmed the protein off the top of the boiling sap and participated as sap was transformed into a sweet syrup, poured into glass bottles, and labeled as "Kelveden Urban Forest Maple Syrup."

### City Hall Redevelopment Update

On Main Street, planning work for the City Hall and service garage move has reached a fever pitch. There are many moving parts, and there are daily logistical complications and timeline targets that are worked through and conquered. Plans for the new City Hall space next door to our current location are being refined, reviewed, and refined again. The same can be said for the service garage, which will be moving next to the police station in late fall. All hands are on deck as we are focused on making the site available for a late 2014 start of construction on a two-story, 30,000 square foot Giant Eagle Market District grocery store. By the time the project is complete in late 2015, Bexley will have a neighborhood grocery store that is focused on quality meats, produce, and prepared foods, and the City will have all of our relocation costs covered by new income from the project. Full info is at [bexley.org/cityhallsite](http://bexley.org/cityhallsite).

### State of the Community - April 10th

Each day at City Hall brings new challenges and new opportunities, all of which point back to our common mission of enhancing the Bexley's community core. And of course we're not alone in this mission. Leaders from Bexley Schools, the Bexley Library, the Chamber of Commerce, Capital University, Columbus School for Girls, St. Charles, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, and the Bexley Community Foundation will join me on stage Thursday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. at CSG's brand-new (and fantastic) theatre, where we will cooperatively outline our individual organization's goals for 2014 and achievements in 2013. I'd love to see you there—you can RSVP at [bexley.org/soc](http://bexley.org/soc). Make sure to come a little early (doors open at 5 p.m.) for a taste test of that Kelveden Maple Syrup, and for a chance to enjoy refreshments and mingle. Until then, see you around Bexley!



### Water/Sewer Capital Fee

In 2013, following three public meetings and over a year of consideration, City Council voted to create a water and sewer capital fee to be assessed against water/sewer bills effective January 2014. The fee is a 6.5% premium (equivalent to \$15 per quarter for the average water/sewer bill) that will be used exclusively as a reserve to fund water and sewer infrastructure replacement and repair. You'll see this new charge on your current bill.

### Greater Bexley Cleanup

The Greater Bexley Cleanup is just around the corner, set for Saturday, April 12 at the Gateway South Parking Lot (intersection of Main and Parkview, right across from the Rusty Bucket). We have a great selection of businesses that will be there to take donations-- Goodwill (electronics, books, clothes, etc), Batteries Plus (including car batteries), Habitat for Humanity (building supplies, large working appliances), Masser Metals, and ShredIt. You can always show up and volunteer to help us clean up Bexley, but if you'd like to work in a specific zone, check out our Facebook page for a link to sign up. As a reminder, you cannot bring old paint to the Greater Bexley Cleanup. Find details for paint disposal on the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) website.



## Bexley Women's Club House & Garden Tour

Enjoy nine unique homes and gardens at the Bexley Women's Club 7th Annual House & Garden Tour, held Saturday, June 7, and Sunday, June 8, 2014.

### Preview Tour & Party:

**Saturday, June 7, 2014, 4-6:30 p.m.**

Get a sneak peek of the amazing sites with some areas not accessible during the Sunday tour. Relax at the party with tasty bites from local eateries, a cash bar and live music! Tickets are \$50 at [www.bexleywomen.org](http://www.bexleywomen.org) or mail check payable to BWC: PO Box 9023, Bexley, OH 43209

### House & Garden Tour

**Sunday, June 8, 2014, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Drive, walk, ride bikes or take free Bexley BEAT shuttles to visit the sites. Tickets available April 15 at [www.bexleywomen.org](http://www.bexleywomen.org) and beginning May 23 at Bexley Coffee Shop, Bexley Pizza Plus & Graeter's Ice Cream. Advance tickets: \$20; Day of tour tickets: \$25 – at Events Entrance, Columbus School for Girls, 56 S. Columbia Ave.

For complete tour and sponsorship info, visit [www.bexleywomen.org](http://www.bexleywomen.org), email [bexleywomen@gmail.com](mailto:bexleywomen@gmail.com) or call 614.253.3307.

## Summer Streets Projects

Summer certainly means it's time for pools and barbecues, but summer also means that it's time for street projects! Our largest project this summer is funded in part by OPWC grants, and will involve water line and street work on Delmar Drive (Cassady to Cassingham), Allegheny Avenue, Bellwood Avenue, and Columbus Avenue. In parallel to this project, Columbus Gas is doing a gas line replacement project in the same area. All work on this project should be complete by mid-November. We'll also be putting the final touches on the Main Street streetscape project this summer. New signage is going in now, our final crosswalks will be installed soon, and traffic signal upgrades will be occurring through the summer. We'll also be repaving a handful of streets and will announce that list soon. Thank you for your patience as we keep Bexley in good shape!



## Farmers' Market

It's almost that time--the Bexley Farmers' Market kicks back up starting Thursday, May 15. Held every Thursday from 4-7 p.m. through October 30, the Market is located right on Main Street in the Gateway South Parking Lot across from Rusty Bucket. You'll find plenty of farm-fresh vegetables and much more. Visit [www.bexleyfarmersmarket.com](http://www.bexleyfarmersmarket.com) or find them on Facebook for more details!

## Code Enforcement Corner

It's time for spring cleaning outside our homes. Please remove weeds, leaves, brush, and trash that have accumulated during the last few months. Also, remove any dead bushes and trees that didn't survive the winter. For those with alleys, pay particular attention to trash and brush/leaves. And remember that trash bags must be put in cans with tight-fitting lids.

Due to the heavy snowfall we received this year, there has been damage to gutters, downspouts, soffits, fascia, siding and accessory structures such as garages, sheds and carports. Please repair these items as soon as possible to prevent further damage to, and keep up the appearance of, your property. Remember to keep plantings on your property trimmed out of the right-of-ways of sidewalks, streets, and alleys.

## The Main Event

The Main Event is back for summer 2014, bringing the community together once a month from May to September for a free movie screening, special activities and snacks. Special events and music will start at approximately 7 p.m.; movies start at 9 p.m. This program was able to continue thanks to a generous grant from the Bexley Community Foundation! Note that our June movie will be on a Thursday night this year. Keep posted for more details on the Bexley Blast and at [www.bexley.org/main](http://www.bexley.org/main).

**May 16:** The Muppets  
**June 19 (Thurs):** Wall-E  
**July 18:** Star Wars  
**August 15:** Public vote!  
**September 19:** Wizard of Oz



## Recreation Registration!

The Bexley Recreation & Parks Summer Activity Brochure is now available for viewing online! All activities/events for the coming summer months will be listed in this brochure. Bexley residents will receive a hard copy of the brochure April 3 in *ThisWeek Bexley News*. We will also provide extra hard copies at Jeffrey Mansion, City Hall, and the Library. Activity Registration opens Monday, April 7th at Noon (online or in-person). For more information or if you have a question, please call us at (614) 559-4300.



## Mark Your Calendar

**State of the Community Address**  
 April 10, 5 p.m. @ Columbus School for Girls' Theatre

**Greater Bexley Cleanup**  
 April 12, 9 a.m.-Noon @ Gateway South Parking Lot

**Community Easter Egg Hunt**  
 April 19, Noon @ Jeffrey Park

**Farmer's Market Begins**  
 May 15, 4-7 p.m. and every Thursday thereafter

**Main Event**  
 May 16, June 19, July 18, beginning @ 7 p.m.

**Black Tie & Blue Jean BBQ Montrose Fundraiser**  
 May 18, 5-8 p.m.- [www.montroseplayground.org](http://www.montroseplayground.org)

**Bexley Women's Club House & Garden Tour**  
 June 7-8

For more events, visit [www.bexley.org/events](http://www.bexley.org/events)



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[www.bexley.org/blast](http://www.bexley.org/blast)