City Staff Highlight
Meet Sue Kohl, the Mayor's Assistant

In addition to being a long-time Bay resident, this year Sue Kohl is celebrating 20 years working with the city. She began as the Assistant to the Building Director in 1999, and was promoted to Administrative Assistant to the Mayor in 2012. Sue handles the day-to-day running of the Mayor’s office, including coordinating his hectic schedule and fielding inquiries from residents and non-residents. She manages the city website, email blasts, and the monthly community calendar to keep Bay residents up to date on city events. Sue is also the mastermind and organizational force behind the hugely popular Food Truck Fridays, started in 2017 and gearing up for its third season beginning this May. Sue takes a lot of pride in her work and enjoys helping residents and her community.

Save the Date

Food Truck Fridays:
May 24 through Sept. 13
Every Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., adjacent to City Hall. A variety of trucks with one food truck and one dessert truck each week. Lots of fun and good food! Don’t miss it!

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies: Monday, May 27
Parade starts from Huntington Beach at 8:45 a.m. and ends with ceremonies at the Cahoon Park gazebo.

Destination Bay: Saturday, June 15
Events and activities to fill your day in Bay! Village Project’s Project Pedal, Bay Village Fire Department Open House, BAYarts Art and Music Festival, Bay Village Historical Society Antique and Craft Fair, free planetarium programs at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center.

Bay Days:
Wednesday, July 3 to Saturday, July 6
Carnival and entertainment in Cahoon Park, fireworks on July 4th at dusk.

Family Fun Night:
Saturday, Aug. 3, at 7 p.m.
Activities, a food truck, and the movie “Monsters, Inc.” in Cahoon Park.

New Bridges Are Coming

By now you’ve probably noticed quite a bit of construction going on in Bay Village this year. ODOT is replacing the Lake Road bridge over Cahoon Creek, which should be complete in September. The design of the new bridge will allow for a multipurpose trail to pass under the bridge, connecting park areas north and south of Lake Road. Bay Village received a 90% grant from ODOT to replace the Queenswood Drive bridge over Sperry Creek. Queenswood Drive should re-open in July. The city is also replacing the failing culvert under Columbia Road just south of Lake Road. Road closures will be posted when finalized. The city appreciates your patience as we make these necessary infrastructure improvements.

Visit the city’s website for the latest updates on city happenings
cityofbayvillage.com
President's View

Dwight Clark, City Council President

Serving the residents as a legislative leader of Bay Village is a passion and calling I’ve enjoyed for almost 10 years on City Council. My wife, Nancy, and I have raised three children in Bay, all attending and graduating from our wonderful public school system. We’ve been residents for almost 35 years, and I can honestly say there’s not a better community in northeast Ohio.

I’ve enjoyed serving in volunteer capacities with the Bay Rockets, Bay Village Education Foundation and Field of Dreams, amongst other non-profit organizations.

In 2019, we, as a city, stand on the precipice of several game-changing enhancements, all part of our recent Master Plan, including a new library, new housing development, bridge and road renovations, and walking/biking connectivity improvements.

City Council members serve as ambassadors for our city, a communication gateway to our residents, and truly represent all the good things Bay Village has to offer.

Council works tirelessly to be efficient, open, and responsive, taking a pledge to create or revise laws and ordinances always geared to the best interests of those residents who elect us to office.

Our Bay Village citizens, our city employees, our location, our parks, our quality of schools, our record of safety – all reasons why I serve proudly, honorably and humbly, for each of you.

Bay Village City Wards

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And Now A Word from Your Wards

Marty Mace, City Council At-Large

First elected to Council in 2015, I am grateful to be able to continue serving our community after retiring as a firefighter/paramedic for Bay Village. It is an exciting time to serve as our City center is transformed by the Liberty housing project, the new library and increased lakefront access.

I am the chairman of the Environment, Safety and Community Services Committee. I also serve as a member of the Finance Committee and Parks and Recreation Committee. It is rewarding to address our community’s needs, such as infrastructure and public building maintenance, while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Lydia DeGeorge, City Council Ward 2

Years ago, after reading Council and Mayoral decisions. As the news, I began attending council meetings. I wrote about those experiences on social media. As I shared information, I formed relationships with residents. Serving as Councilwoman was the next step, a natural progression for me. I currently chair the committee responsible for upcoming waste contracts and utility aggregation.

I am in the process of forming a merchant organization. I am proud of my duty to our business owners and constituents and our open communication as we continue to keep Bay a safe, desirable place to live, work and play.

Nancy W. Stainbrook, City Council At-Large

My family’s lived in Bay for 23 years and I’m Councilwoman At-Large. My responsibilities include Chairman of Public Improvements, Representative to the Community Services Board, and Library Committee member. I’m proud of leading efforts to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at Council meetings, renewing civic pride.

Bay is a wonderful city because of our commitment to others and to good government. I became involved in local government because sustaining our success is important. It takes generations of residents working together to create vision and execute strategy. It’s an honor representing residents and contributing to Bay’s success.

Sara Byrnes Maier, City Council Ward 3

I am honored to serve the residents of Ward 3 in my first term. I am a graduate of BHS and moved back to Bay to raise my family in this amazing city. I served on the citizen steering committee for the city’s master plan as a way to get involved in the community, which is what led me to running for Ward representative.

I am happy to be able to use my background as a city planner in my role as Council representative to the Planning Commission and as Chair of the Planning, Zoning, Public Buildings and Grounds Committee.

David L. Tadych, City Council Ward 1

Since 2001, when first elected, I have considered Ward 1 representation an honor and privilege that never gets old. I am the longest serving Council member, and elected Vice President by Council.

For 24 years, through the IRS/AARP tax program, I helped taxpayers. I chair Council’s Finance and Budget Committee, have represented Bay in four triannual union wage negotiations, and serve as Council’s Tree Commission representative.

I am most proud of chairing Bay’s Bicentennial, and initiating ward meetings allowing residents to voice concerns. Over the years, I have met many wonderful residents who care, as I do, deeply about Bay.

Peter J. Winzig, City Council Ward 4

I’ve enjoyed a wonderful 17 months as your Ward 4 representative, working with residents, Council, and City staff. In 2018, we completed Ward 4 street improvements, Bradley Park (Clothing) tennis court resurfacing, nearby restroom upgrades, and playground renovations. On the Finance Committee, we’ve kept a keen eye on expenditures, investing in City buildings, equipment, and infrastructure. On the Library Subcommittee, we guided the project back on schedule and look forward to a great facility! I’m working on Cahoon Park fields and buildings, Library City Center Park, infrastructure, budget, updating and improving ordinances, and responding to residents’ needs and concerns.
The Bay Village Finance Department is dedicated to the responsible and efficient use of taxpayer dollars. Finance Director Renee Mahoney started with the City in 2013, and since that time she has worked to restore and improve the City’s financial standing after the global downturn in 2008.

The Government Finance Officer Association (GFOA) recommends that cities maintain a general reserve limit, or “rainy day fund,” of two months’ expenses. Depleted in 2008, the City’s general reserve limit was increased to $2 million in 2018 under Director Mahoney’s guidance, meeting the GFOA recommendation for the first time since the downturn.

In addition, Bay Village has received an Excellence in Reporting commendation from the Ohio Auditor of State in 2018 for the fifth consecutive year. This year, Director Mahoney is sourcing a new integrated finance system to further improve efficiency and modernize the Finance Department. The new system should be implemented and go live by the end of 2020.

Recent Grants
Cuyahoga County awarded Bay Village $50,000 under the Community Development Supplemental Grant Program (commonly known as the casino money) to refurbish the athletic courts at Reese Park. The refurbishment will include converting one of the tennis courts to pickleball courts. This was the most competitive round for this grant program so far, with 52 applicants and 20 awards.

Kathryn Kerher, Project Manager for Bay Village, completed the application with a strong show of support from the Senior Center. The refurbishment should be complete this summer, and will enable expanded programming for both Community Services and the Recreation Department.

Community Services
The Community Services Department, led by Director Leslie Selig, touches the lives of many Bay Village residents, bringing together those in need and those who are able to help. In September, Community Services kicked off a chain of volunteer and giving events with the community garage sale at the Dwyer Center. Area residents could rent tables to sell items themselves, or donate their items outright to be sold by Dwyer Center volunteers. Staff and volunteers handled set up, pricing, and cleanup of the event, which raised over $2,000 in 4 hours. Part of the proceeds went to the Dwyer Center and the rest was used to buy materials for no-sew lap blankets, leading to the next volunteer event.

Assistant Director Connie Lupica organized and instructed 22 volunteers at a 3-hour blanket assembly program. Staff and Dwyer Center volunteers pitched in to create over $2,000 in 4 hours. Part of the proceeds went to the Dwyer Center and the rest was used to buy materials for no-sew lap blankets, leading to the next volunteer event.

Project of the Year: BV60+
BV60+, Senior Center program designed for the interests of “younger seniors,” was named Project of the Year by the Bay Village Community Council. Launched by the Bay Village Senior Center in 2018, Community Services Director Leslie Selig based the program on focus group responses indicating a lack of programming that would be interesting and accessible to “younger seniors.” BV60+ activities include pickleball, bowling, disc golf, and outdoor activities, see the Bay Village BV60+ Program Facebook page.

More Than Fighting Fires
Update from Fire Chief Chris Lyons
Fighting fires is only one among many responsibilities that your Bay Village firefighters are prepared to encounter every day. For instance, although all of our firefighters are also state-certified EMT-paramedics (and have been since 1976), we still get questions from residents about where the paramedics come from during a medical emergency. Nearly 75% of our emergency calls are, in fact, medical in nature. And while an “EMS call” may sound rather pedestrian, when you are having a heart attack, or your spouse is having a stroke, or your child needs to go to the emergency room, it is anything but an ordinary day for you.

The BVFD is an all-hazards response organization. This means that we respond to any emergency where life, health, or property are at risk.

The NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) lists nearly 30 different types of “Technical Rescue” disciplines, each with its own set of unique skills, training, and specialized equipment. These include everything from Cave Search & Rescue to Structural Collapse Rescue. Of course, we try to prepare for scenarios that are most likely to occur here in Bay Village. For example, all our members train regularly and are certified in Rope Rescue (cliffs by Lake Erie), Vehicle Extrication & Rescue (automobile accidents), Water Rescue (think Huntington Beach), and Hazardous Materials (trains and trucks carry a variety of chemicals).

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Bay Village Branch Library

Update on Library Progress

On April 3, the Cuyahoga County Public Library and HBM Architects presented conceptual plans for the new Bay Village branch to the Bay Village Planning Commission.

This was a pre-submission hearing, an opportunity for the commission members to learn about the project and provide feedback to the architects prior to the formal review and approval process.

HBM Architects used historic buildings in Bay Village as inspiration for the design, which features a front porch, a second-floor outdoor reading space bordered by a “green roof” with live plants, and separate children and teen areas.

There will be several study and meeting rooms which will be a welcome addition to the community. The plans were well received by the commission and members of the public in attendance. The library is a major component of the recently completed citywide master plan, and will help frame the Village Green or town center between the library and city hall.

Formal plan submission is expected later this spring, and a public hearing for final input from the residents will follow. For more information, see the city website.

Building Blocks

Facts from the Building Dept.

The Building Department was reconstructed from the ground up in 2019. The city’s contract with Safesbuilt ended in 2018, and Eric Turk-Macalla started as the Building Director at the beginning of 2019. The new department came together quickly with two full-time inspectors – Bob Lyons, Property Maintenance Inspector, and James Vagase, Building Inspector – as well as Shawnee Schuller, Assistant to the Building Director, and Lauren Oley, part-time Assistant.

The Building Department handles permits for new construction and renovations, property maintenance concerns, commercial and rental property inspections, and contractor registration. Director Turk-Macalla hopes to implement online form submittals in the near future.

Bay Village Service Dept.

Maintenance is Job #1

In addition to the high-visibility construction projects going on around the city this summer, the Service Department is occupied year-round maintaining the things most of us least want to think about. They clean the sewers; pick up trash, leaves, and brush; and push snow out of our way. They repave local roads, install new playgrounds, clean the restrooms at the parks, and mow acres of public grass. Jon Liskovetz, Director of Public Service and Properties, keeps as much work as possible in-house to reduce reliance on outside contractors. Fortunately, the Service Department has a very talented and dedicated staff that keeps the city looking and running great.

Keeping it Green

The Mayor and City Council work with the Bay Village Green Team, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of Bay Village volunteers, to develop and implement plans that make our community more sustainable. The team manages the Community Garden on Forestview, consults with civic groups looking to reduce waste generated at events, and organizes shredding days, composting seminars, multiple waterway cleanups and other projects throughout the year. All residents are welcome to participate. See their website at bayvillagegreenteam.org for all the information.

Bay Village Home Values Continue to Rise

The median home value in Bay Village is $263,700. Bay Village home values have gone up 6.9% over the past year and Zillow predicts they will rise 5.0% within the next year. The median list price per square foot in Bay Village is $163, which is higher than the Cleveland-Elyria Metro average of $104.

Bay Village Recreation Dept.

Playing in Bay

Most of us know the Rec Department is the place to go to for pool passes and organized ball sports, but Parks and Recreation Director Dan Enovitch and Assistant Director Tonja Coffin have put together an extensive roster of activities for a wide variety of interests, ages, and skill levels.

Here are just a few activities; for the complete list and how to register, see the Spring & Summer Program Guide on the city website.

• Itty Bitty Fun Camp: Day camp with games, songs, and crafts for ages 3 & 4.
• Big Magic with the Magic Man: Fundamentals of magic for ages 6 to 12.
• STEAM Exploration: Science, Tech, Engineering, Art, and Math for ages 5 to 12.
• Skateboarding: Skating basics and safety for ages 7 and up.
• Evening Swim Lessons: Private sessions for children and adults.
• Family Fun Night: “Monsters, Inc.” is showing at Cahoon Park on Saturday, Aug. 3.