

WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

WARM 98.5 ICE RINK AT SUMMIT PARK



Get bundled up for a spin on the ice at the “coolest” attraction in Blue Ash - the **Warm 98.5 Ice Rink at Summit Park!**

The season kicks off on November 13 with two and three hour skate sessions for only \$7 per person – skates included! Children three-years-old and under are free.

The ice rink will be located underneath the park’s glass canopy, 4335 Glendale Milford Road, Blue Ash.

“We’re excited for the opening of the Warm 98.5 Ice Rink at Summit Park,” said Margaret O’Gorman, General Manager of Programs and Events in the Blue Ash Parks and Recreation Department. “It is such a fun winter tradition, and a great activity for families, friends, or date nights.”

Last year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, attendees had to make reservations, but this year skate sessions are first-come, first-served. Admission

must be purchased for each session at the rink. Free skating aids are also available for each session while supplies last.

Nanny Belle’s, an ice cream parlor located at Summit Park, will sell snacks, drinks, and, of course, hot cocoa! Brown Dog Café, Senate, and Tahona Kitchen + Bar will also remain open during their normal business hours.

The rink will be open daily through January 3, with the exception of holidays. Operating hours vary. For a full schedule, visit SummitParkBlueAsh.com.

Inside this issue:

- Downtown design concepts2
- HAM/Plainfield Roundabouts4
- Officers awarded6
- Community events7
- And much more!

TOWNE SQUARE

Blue Ash City Council received a **Towne Square Project** update and design presentation at the October 14 City Council meeting.

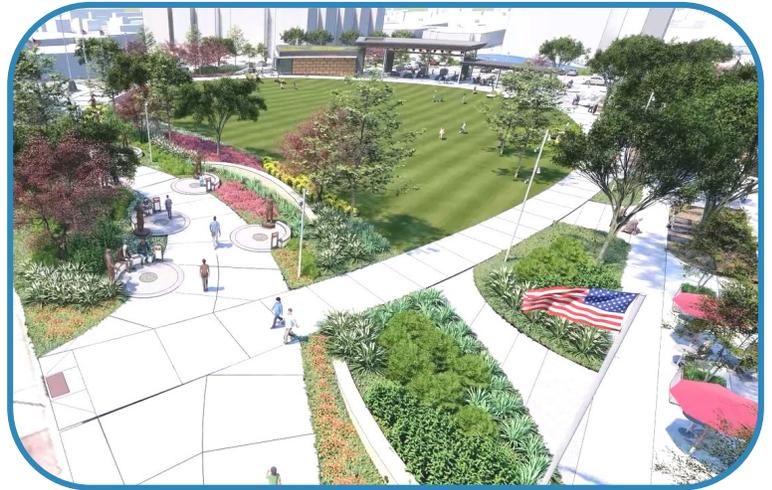
Members from the design team representing BHPD Architects and Human Nature walked Council through the latest conceptual designs utilizing imagery and a fly-through video.

The presentation was well received as it further explained the end-user experience in the newly imagined space.

The new renderings focus on the multiple amenities that make up the new space that will attract the community to the heart of Blue Ash.

The features include a sprawling Bicentennial Veterans Memorial as a walkthrough timeline, an expansive Civic Lawn surrounded by play areas for children, a tree-lined Promenade, Grove, Pavilion, Stage, and dog park.

A parking lot is located to the south of the Pavilion which will match or increase the number of current parking



spaces, mitigate topographical challenges, increase park visibility, and grant accessibility from multiple entry points.

City staff and the design team will continue to work on plan details through the spring with the goal of having construction-ready documents in 2022.

For more information and to view the video and slideshow, visit blueash.com and click on Towne Square Project.

KENWOOD/COOPER CORNER

At a work session on August 10, 2021, Blue Ash City Council was presented with a market assessment for the **Kenwood/Cooper Corner Project**.

Councilmembers had requested the assessment to determine if there was market support for the elements of the design. In most instances, that question was answered with a resounding “yes.”

The assessment, presented by Global Retail Strategies, called for an increase in amenities at the location. It found that more specialty retail stores, home-grown restaurants and entertainment, and entrepreneurial or co-working office spaces will best utilize the space and provide for economic sustainability long into the future.

To make these amenities viable, compatible, and feasible, the assessment also found it is important to supplement these elements with a residential component of 250-300 apartment units.

A boutique hotel that was presented in the original concepts was removed after the assessment determined it was too risky in the current and future hospitality market.



Council requested updated renderings and time to review the information.

While there are currently no deadlines or next steps, the City will be sure to keep the public informed as the project unfolds.

The City Council **Swearing-In Ceremony** was held in Council Chambers on December 1.

New Councilmember Brian Gath (right) was sworn into his seat representing Ward 2. Returning Councilmembers Jeff Capell (Ward 4), Lee Czerwonka (At-Large), and Jill Cole (At-Large) were sworn in as well.



Cole was appointed to the At-Large seat vacated by the resignation of Nikki Yasbeck-Schwieter in June of 2020. As the term of office was less than half complete, Cole was elected to fulfill the remainder of the term at the November 2021 election.

 **Warm98.5** 

Ice Rink at Summit Park

Admission & Skate Rental:

\$7 per person

November 13-December 10*

Monday-Friday: 5-8pm

Saturday & Sunday sessions:

12-2pm, 3-5pm, 6-8pm

December 11-January 3*

Everyday sessions:

12-2pm, 3-5pm, 6-8pm

***Holiday Hours**

November 25: Closed

November 26: 12-2pm, 3-5pm, 6-8pm

December 24: 12-2pm, 3-5pm

December 25: Closed

December 31: 12-2pm, 3-5pm

January 1: Closed



HAM-PLAINFIELD ROUNDABOUTS PROGRESS

The **HAM-Plainfield Roundabouts Project** is underway in the City with completion expected in October of 2022.

Three roundabouts that are part of the HAM-Plainfield Roundabout project will be constructed in this order under the current plan:

- Kroger entrance on Hunt Road
- Plainfield Road and Hunt Road
- Plainfield Road and Peppermill Lane

You may see work simultaneously at the different sites as crews prep the areas.

Traffic will be maintained during the construction process, though there may be lane closures from time to time.

The only road closure is expected late this year and/or early next year when Peppermill Road will be shut down at Plainfield Road. Updates will be posted at blueash.com.

Thank you for your patience as the City of Blue Ash completes this project. These roundabouts will greatly improve safety at these intersections and ease traffic congestion well into the future.



In August and September, **utility work** was completed at the roundabout construction site on Hunt Road at the Kroger entrance. In late September, signs were installed at the McDonald's and PNC entrances alerting motorists to the new traffic pattern during construction. The demolition and cleanup of the Speedway was completed.



In October, **new technology** was installed at the site that will clean and collect storm water. The Water Quality Unit will not only collect trash and debris, but also suspended solids, oil, grease, and other total petroleum hydrocarbon pollutants. The treated water can be safely discharged into local waterways.



In late October, a new fire hydrant was installed on Hunt Road at the Kroger entrance. Crews also completed **cement stabilization** and sprayed white curing compound to seal in moisture to allow for the cement to cure. In November, concrete curb, gutter, and sidewalk was installed and asphalt paving on Hunt Road was completed.

CENTRAL CORRIDOR PIPELINE

Duke Energy is expected to be wrapping up its work on the **Central Corridor Pipeline** through Blue Ash at the time of this publication.

In October, crews worked to restore the areas at Summit Park that were impacted by construction.

In early November, Glendale Milford Road reopened and



Reed Hartman Highway north of Creek Road was resurfaced.

Questions about the project? Contact Duke Energy (513) 287-2130.

PUBLIC WORKS IS ALWAYS READY FOR WINTER WEATHER

The City of Blue Ash Public Works Department is always prepared for **winter weather**.

When you see the City's snowplows hit the road, there are several things you can do to help them be more efficient.

Here are a few suggestions for residents and motorists to keep everyone safe:

- Even if a snow emergency is not declared, please avoid parking vehicles on the street. This allows plows to clear the entire street, and also not block access to your vehicle as the driver cannot control the snow coming off the edge of the plow's blade.
- Please do not shovel or plow snow into the streets. By shoveling the snow into your yard (rather than the street), you will reduce the frustration of the snowplow re-covering the end of your driveway that you already cleared.
- Do not pass a snowplow truck. Each truck has blind spots that reduce side and rear visibility. If you cannot see their mirrors, then they cannot see you.



- Increase the following distance between your vehicle and others. Also, allow for safe distances between your vehicle and a salt truck to reduce the chance of loose materials striking your car and to give you more time to react to sudden stops.

ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

The Blue Ash Public Works Department has been busy all year to bring you needed **roadway improvements** throughout the City.

Each year, certain streets throughout Blue Ash are selected for resurfacing through the Paving Program. Work was completed on the following streets in September:

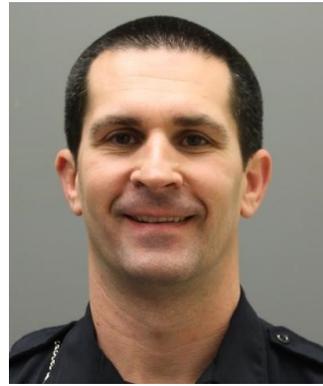
- West Avenue
- Conklin Road
- Miller Road
- Northfield Road
- Maynard Drive
- Short Highland Avenue
- Myerdale Drive
- Creek Road (East of RR tracks to Deerfield)
- Muirfield Lane
- Wood Creek

The Route and Seal Program was completed in October and included the following streets:

- Carpenter's Run
- Carpenter's Run Court
- Allenhurst Boulevard
- Heritage Road
- Heritage Court
- Hickory Hollow
- Hollow Oak
- Huntwicke Place
- Oakhurst Court
- Sycamore Grove Lane
- Spyglass Court
- Trailbridge Drive
- Carver Road
- Reed Hartman Highway (South of Cooper Road)



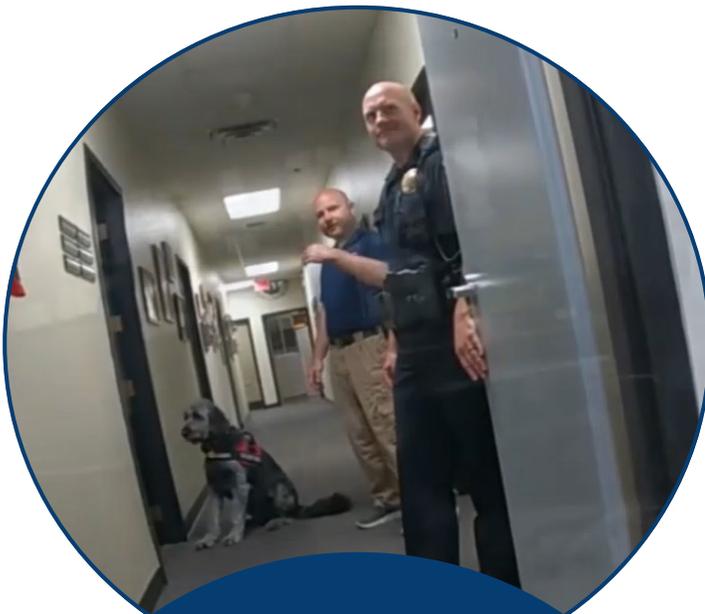
POLICE OFFICERS AWARDED FOR SAVING LIVES



Officers Keuffer, Wiley, Dungan, and Owens

The Blue Ash Police Department has recognized four officers in the last several months with **Life Saver Awards**. Officers Christian Keuffer, Brentten Wiley, and David Dungan, administered Narcan to people who would have died from overdoses.

Officer Mark Owens used CPR to rescue a man who had stopped breathing. “The Department applauds these officers for performing above and beyond their normal call of duty,” said Blue Ash Police Chief Scott Noel.



And DINGO was his name-O!

The Police Department has added a new K9 to the team. Dingo, a two-year-old German Shepherd, is partnered with Officer Chady Chahine. They will be joining K9 Ruby and Officer Erik Nelson on the Community Impact Unit.

The Police Department created an **educational video for preschoolers** who could not come for an in-person tour of the police station due to COVID-19. Community Relations Officer Beth Roach used her bodycam to get footage of the dispatch office, briefing room, crime lab, and more. [Youtube.com/CityofBlueAshOhio](https://www.youtube.com/CityofBlueAshOhio)



FIRE DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS



The annual Fire Department open house was held in October. The event gives families a fun, interactive opportunity to learn about fire safety.



The 9/11 Stair Climb raises money for the survivors and families of firefighters who died on 9/11/01.



Firefighters are pictured here training to extract a victim in a simulated school bus crash. The Fire Department completes over 4,000 hours of training every year.



The largest Veterans Day Ceremony in Southwest Ohio was held on November 11, at the Blue Ash Bicentennial Veterans Memorial Park. The event featured a memorial ceremony, tolling of bells, music from the Ohio Military Band, keynote speaker U.S. Rep. Dr. Brad Wenstrup, and E.H. Greene student essay readings.

BLUE ASH EVENTS



Costumed kids had a great time Trick-or-Treating at Walk in the Woods on October 23 at the Nature Park. Children strolled their way along a Halloween-themed path, visited different booths sponsored by local businesses and organizations, and received treats from friendly (not-scary) costumed characters.



It was another great year for the Blue Ash Farmers Market at Summit Park! Thousands of people treated themselves to the freshest seasonal fruits and veggies, aromatic baked breads, and crafty creations. The Farmers Market will return in 2022 from May 11–September 28.

Congratulations to the 2021 Blue Ash Beautification Award Winners!



1 10116 Kenwood Road



2 4953 Muirwoods Court



3 4490 Chesswick Drive



4 Mayor's Choice: 9679 Waxwing Drive

BLUE ASH BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:



LEARN HOW THIS COMPANY HELPS BUSINESSES GET BACK TO WORK SAFELY DURING A PANDEMIC AT



BLUEASHADVANCE.COM



Join the Blue Ash E-newsletter mailing list!

Just send your email address by text message:

Text
BLUEASHNEWS
to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.