



# Village Talks

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF WORTHINGTON

Summer 2015 Issue

## UMCH Development Information Public Meeting Scheduled for June 29th

The community is invited to attend a special meeting of the Municipal Planning Commission and Architectural Review Board on Monday, June 29th for a presentation by Lifestyle Communities about its proposed development of the United Methodist Children's Home property. The meeting is at the Worthington Education Center, 200 E. Wilson Bridge Road, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. This information session is taking place prior to submission of a formal development application, which is expected later this summer.

### Preliminary Plans

Lifestyle Communities has come forward and is working on a plan to purchase the 40+ acre United Methodist Children's Home property for development. Many details still need to be finalized before the plan is officially submitted as an application, but it is expected to include:

- a mix of residential-types including single family homes, townhomes and apartments
- commercial space including possible medical office and retail
- natural green space and parks

The City expects Lifestyle Communities will be prepared to present concept plans to the Municipal Planning Commission and receive public input before filing a formal development application this summer. Once the application is submitted, the criteria outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan will be used to evaluate the submittal.

### Impact Studies

A variety of impact studies will be completed during the review process, including a market study, fiscal impact analysis, stormwater evaluation and traffic studies. To assist in reviewing the proposal, the City has engaged the following consultants to provide their expertise and advice. They include:

- MKSK for planning services
- Carpenter Marty Transportation for traffic
- MS Consultants to study and recommend stormwater and green infrastructure solutions

### Comprehensive Plan Update

After an extensive public process, Worthington City Council approved an update to the Comprehensive Plan in September 2014 which stated its desire for a mix of uses on the UMCH owned site. The Visioning UMCH process provided a framework for development with the long term goal of fostering mixed uses to include a variety of housing products that meet community needs, new office and retail space, and new public and green spaces.



*Illustration from the City's Comprehensive Plan shows areas identified for specific types of development.*

The City believes that this site is one of the best opportunities for redevelopment in all of central Ohio, with approximately 40 acres sitting inside the beltway and along High Street. The redevelopment of the UMCH property is a significant opportunity for Worthington. The opportunity is to create a very distinctive, walkable mixed use development that is special and distinctive in the region, while at the same time carefully integrated with our strong, historic community.

Additional information will be posted online as the process continues. You can sign up to receive email updates by visiting [worthington.org](http://worthington.org).

# Business News

## FC Bank Headquarters

FC Bank has announced the location of a regional headquarters and expanded branch operations in Worthington at 6600 North High Street, on property purchased by the bank just north of the Worthington Municipal Building. FC Bank has a history in our community, with a bank branch location south of downtown. The new location will be redeveloped into a 18,500 square foot, two-story regional headquarters and branch operation to accommodate up to 50 employees. This will include relocating up to eight current Worthington-based employees. The City is actively working to help relocate the existing users of the property to other appropriate locations within Worthington.



## Linworth Crossing



The site of the former Segna Volvo dealership at Rt. 161 and Linworth Road has been cleared to make way for a new retail center. The 40,000 square foot Linworth Crossing retail center will feature a new gourmet grocery store as its anchor. To help alleviate congestion at that busy intersection, there are intersection improvements coming as part of the project, including an extended turn lane on Rt. 161. In addition, the cities of Worthington and Columbus and Perry Township are all cooperating with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission to study and find additional solutions for the intersection. More information on the traffic study can be found at [morpc.org](http://morpc.org).

## More Headlines

- The **Heights at Worthington Place** is open for business and has welcomed many new residents. The development includes commercial space for businesses in the front building, along with 194 apartments combined between the two buildings, ranging from one to three bedrooms in size. The back building, which opened last fall, is 90 percent full with nearly half of the residents age 55 and older. The front building began welcoming new residents this spring.
- The **Kilbourne Memorial Building**, located on the northeast Village Green, is currently under renovation to prepare it for commercial use. Improvements include bringing the building up to code for accessibility.
- Construction of the **Fresh Thyme Farmers Market** on High Street is nearing completion. The grocery store featuring all-natural and organic foods is expected to open in August.



*The view from the Heights at Worthington Place over the pool and patio, which is shared by residents of both buildings.*

# Summer Fun!



**Worthington Farmers Market**  
Saturdays 8am to Noon - Downtown

**Concerts on the Green**  
Sundays through August 16th, 7pm on the Village Green. Also, mark your calendar for a special Saturday Concert on the Green on Saturday, August 15th. [worthington.org](http://worthington.org).

## Worthington Art Festival

June 20, 9am-6pm & June 21, 11am-5pm  
[oldeworthingtonbusinessassociation.com](http://oldeworthingtonbusinessassociation.com)



## Worthington Family Picnic

July 4 - 4pm - Gather the family and come on down to the Worthington Family Picnic and Fireworks Celebration on the 4th of July! Enjoy a family picnic on the lawn of Thomas Worthington High School (TWHS) with food, live musical entertainment, Supergames and much more!

## July 4th Fireworks

The fireworks celebration begins at 10:00 p.m. The display can be viewed either from the Family Picnic location on the front lawn of TWHS, or at the football stadium to the west of the high school.

Note: City offices, including the Griswold Center, will be closed on Friday, July 3rd. The Community Center will be closed on Saturday, July 4th. Trash collection will NOT shift this week. Trash, recycling and yard waste will be picked up on Friday, July 3rd.

## Shootout for Soldiers

This 24 hour lacrosse game at Thomas Worthington High School features 24 consecutive 1-hour games. The goal is to support veterans for a successful transition into civilian life. Festivities include food, music and games. Visit [www.shootoutforsoldiers.com](http://www.shootoutforsoldiers.com)

## A Taste Of Worthington

July 17 - 5:30 - 10pm - OfficeScape Corporate Center, 350 W. Wilson Bridge Rd. - [worthingtonchamber.org](http://worthingtonchamber.org)

## Tour of Ohio Bike Race

September 4, Worthington Estates Neighborhood

## Market Day

September 26th, Downtown Worthington

# Oak Wilt Alert



Worthington homeowners who have oak trees on their property should be on the lookout for a devastating vascular disease that is new to the area. Oak wilt, a fungal disease, has now been found locally for the first time. This fungal disease is not new to the United States, but it continues to spread and is becoming more common.

Oak wilt has the ability to kill trees very quickly. Extremely susceptible species such as red oaks can die within a few weeks of infection. Once a tree becomes infected, there is no cure and the tree must be removed. If infections occur in late spring, trees usually begin wilting in mid to late summer, and by fall they can be completely dead. The telltale signs of oak wilt are brown and falling leaves in the middle of summer. Starting at the leaf edges, the brown, dead areas expand inward until the entire leaf is brown. Eventually the leaves fall from the tree. Diseased oaks often can be spotted from a distance because of their bright autumn-like coloration in contrast to the surrounding greenery.

If oak wilt is suspected on your property, contact a certified arborist who can help with diagnosis. Once confirmed, mechanical trenching between trees is recommended. This will sever any root grafts, preventing transmission of the fungus to new areas. Oak trees must not be pruned during the spring and summer, because this is when beetles are active and can spread the fungus. Fungicide treatments are available and can be applied preventively to healthy trees in order to help protect them from infection. Although oak wilt is similar to Dutch elm disease, it is more controllable. Pro-active prevention is essential to successfully preventing the spread of the fungus.

## Contact Us

LOUIS J.R. GOOREY MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
436-3100 – 6550 N. High St.  
City Manager's office, City Clerk, Economic  
Development, Mayor's Court, Finance,  
Personnel, Public Information

### LAW DEPARTMENT

436-7429 – 370 Highland Ave.

### PARKS & RECREATION

436-2743 – 345 E. Wilson Bridge Rd.  
Community Center, recreation programs,  
park maintenance, street tree program

### GRISWOLD CENTER

842-6320 – 777 High St.  
Recreation Programs for 55 and older

### SERVICE & ENGINEERING

431-2425 – 380 Highland Ave.  
Trash collection, recycling, yard waste, sewers,  
maintenance, Capital Improvement Projects

### PLANNING & BUILDING

431-2424 – 374 Highland Ave.  
Land use planning, zoning and building  
regulation

### DIVISION OF POLICE

885-4463 – 6555 Worthington Galena Rd.

### DIVISION OF FIRE & EMS

885-7640 – 6500 N. High St.  
CPR classes, public education, fire inspection

[www.worthington.org](http://www.worthington.org)

[www.businessworthington.org](http://www.businessworthington.org)

[www.facebook.com/worthingtonoh](https://www.facebook.com/worthingtonoh)

[www.twitter.com/worthingtonohio](https://www.twitter.com/worthingtonohio)



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# Summer Construction Street Improvements

Improvements are coming to Worthington roadways this summer. The streets listed are scheduled for rehabilitation and resurfacing as part of the City of Worthington 2015 Street Improvement Program.

Rehabilitation includes the repair of curbs and gutters, sidewalks, the street base as necessary, resurfacing, re-striping and ADA ramps where required. Work will take place from late June to September. All streets will remain open to local traffic during construction.

- West New England Avenue, Oxford to Sinsbury
- Hartford Street, Granville to South
- Andover Street, Loveman to Park
- North Selby Boulevard, East Selby to HN 454
- South Selby boulevard, Andover to HN 482
- Dendra Lane
- Pittsfield Drive
- United Methodist Church Public Parking Lot

IF YOUR  
FAVORITE  
WORTHINGTON  
PARK COULD  
TALK,  
WHAT WOULD  
IT SAY?

if my park  
could talk



TELL US AT [WORTHINGTON.ORG](http://WORTHINGTON.ORG)  
WE'RE LISTENING.



What's important to you in a park? What could we be doing better? What do you enjoy? Make your voice heard by taking a quick survey. Visit [Worthington.org](http://Worthington.org) and click on the survey link on the home page.