



The Colonial Hills Courier

The Friendly Community

April

2010

President's Message

I have all the corrections in for the 2010 Directory and we will distribute it with the May Courier. I received over 120 corrections since the rough draft came out in February – thank you everyone who responded.

If you haven't paid your **2010 dues** yet, please send them in. If you did not receive a stamped envelope from your trustee, you can mail in \$15 for families or \$5 for singles and seniors to P.O. Box 676, Worthington, OH 43085. Thanks for supporting your Civic Association!

Finally, Matt Greeson, Worthington City Manager, will be speaking at the Selby Park Shelter House on Tuesday, April 20th at 7:30 pm. He will answer questions regarding Issue 22, the May 4th ballot issue that seeks to increase Worthington's income tax rate from 2.0% to 2.5%. This is an excellent opportunity to get a fuller understanding of Worthington's Budget and to discuss whether the services that differentiate us from Columbus are worth paying for. You can get more information at www.citizensforworthington.org

George Campbell, 2009-10 CHCA President

About the Colonial Hills Civic Association

Officials

President – George Campbell 785-4999
geocolumbus@gmail.com

Vice President – **OPEN POSITION**
Call George to volunteer!!

Secretary – Tina Mayton 406-3068
tmayton125@yahoo.com

Treasurer – Roy Gelin 885-4701
rgelin@wowway.com

The Courier

Editor - Kelly Campbell 785-4999
kellyfcampbell@yahoo.com

On the Web

www.colonialhills.us

Facebook Group: Colonial Hills

Upcoming Events

Tue Apr 20
7:30 pm

Civic Association Meeting at the Shelter House.
Guest speaker city manager Matt Greeson discusses the city budget, and the need for a 0.5% income tax increase (Issue 22 on May 4th)

May 11 & Jun 8
7:30 pm

Civic Association Meetings at the Shelter House.

Sat Jun 19
9 am – 2 pm

Community Garage Sale

You need to submit a permit form to the City Clerk along with the \$2 fee. We have included a form in this Courier!

Fri Jul 2
7 pm – 11 pm

Movie Night under the tent at Selby Park!

Sat Jul 3

8:30 am – 5K Race
10:00 am – kiddie parade followed by live music, food and fun games!

Sitters – Baby and/or Pet!

- **Ruby Clark**, 296-4315, certified (Girl Scouts), baby sitter
- **Amy Clevenger**, 419-618-7863, Colonial Hills mom, baby sitter.
- **Rosemary Harris**, 436-6294, newborns 8 wks-24 mo.
- **Tatiana Diaz-Packard**, 226-5647, Red Cross Cert. baby sitter.
- **Casey Gelin**, 885-4701, Red Cross Cert. baby sitter.
- **Perri MacKenzie**, 846-2415, Red Cross Cert. baby sitter.
- **Jesse Lilly**, 352-4515, baby sitter.
- **Caroline Smyth**, 785-7064, Red Cross Certified baby sitter.
- **Zach Weinle**, 854-9196, Red Cross Certified baby sitter, also does pet sitting and yard work

Mike's Home Repair

Handyman Service

Reasonable Rates – No job too small!

email mshurig@columbus.rr.com

for list of services and references.

A Colonial Hills Resident ~ 614-436-4902

2010 Colonial Hills Civic Association Schedule

April

Tue 20th 7:30 pm City Manager Matt Greeson offers a presentation on the City budget at the Shelter House.

May

Tue 11th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting at the Shelter House

June

Tue 8th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting at the Shelter House

July

Fri 2nd 7 – 11 pm Movie Night Under The Tent at Selby Park

Sat 3rd 8:30 am **5K Run** at Selby Park

Sat 3rd 10 – 2pm **Annual July 4th Kiddie Parade and Celebration** at Selby Park

Sun 11th 12:30 – 5:30 pm **Worthington Historical Society Home and Garden Tour in Colonial Hills**

Tue 13th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting at the Shelter House

August

Tue 10th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting at the Shelter House

September

Tue 14th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting at the Shelter House

October

Tue 12th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting at the Shelter House

Sun 24th 3 – 5 pm **Halloween Party** at the Shelter House

November

Tue 9th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting at the Shelter House

December

Sat 11th 10 – 1 pm Luminary Kit Assembly @ Shelter House

Sun 12th 3 – 5 pm **Holiday Kids Party** @ Shelter House

Tue 14th 7:30 pm Monthly Meeting @ Shelter House

Thu 16th 6 – 10 pm **Holiday Decorating Contest**

Sun 19th 7 pm **Luminary Lighting** – Refreshments at Shelter House!

Cub Scout Pack 331 Busy

The Civic Association sponsors Cub Scout Pack 331, and pack leader **Dan Button** has been keeping the boys busy. On April 14th they are scheduled to tour the Worthington Police Department, including the shooting range, IT Center and police car garage. On April 22nd they will hold their annual gold banquet at the school to recognize **Douglas Button, EJ Reed** and **Hugo Winkler** who are moving on to Boy Scouts next year.

Colonial Hills Community Garden update

Spring truly has come to the Community Garden! We had a great response for our February meeting and all the family plots are spoken for. So far, we have pruned all the raspberries and showed most of the new gardeners around the place. The herb garden is coming back to life. I can almost hear the rhubarb and strawberries growing from here. It's been too wet to plow the family plot area but we've planted lettuce, spinach, radishes, green onions and peas for all gardeners to share in the old manure bed that drains better. We should be able to officially open the garden and

pick individual family plots before the end of April. I know many of us have a tray or two of seedlings just waiting for warm rich garden soil to start growing like gang-busters!

Just as we were finishing up the Courier for printing on April 10th, we learned that the community plot was being plowed. By the time you read this the gardeners should have picked their plots and be on their way to a great summer garden.

Keep the Kids Alive Drive Twenty Five



Doug Matthies discovered that we could obtain these signs for only \$3 each from Franklin County Safe Communities www.fcSafeCommunities.com. To get one for your yard, drop off \$3 at Doug's House 5736 Andover. Simply put the money in the bin and take a sign off the porch.

I think most of us try to watch the speed because we know hitting a child would be a life altering tragedy, but sometimes we forget when we are in a hurry or upset. By placing the signs around the neighborhood we can all get a needed reminder.

B & T ROOFING (614) **882-6397**
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 Westerville, Ohio 43081

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Start Planning for the Garage / Yard Sale

Dawn Curran has graciously agreed to chair this year's Community Garage and Yard Sale, scheduled for **Saturday, June 19th from 9 am – 2 pm**. In addition to coordinating the advertising, Dawn prepares a handout that we give to customers at the Shelter House on the day of the event. This handout lists (ideally) what each house is selling that would be of interest. Please e-mail a list of what you are selling to geocolumbus@gmail.com. The more specific and interesting the list, the more people will visit your sale.

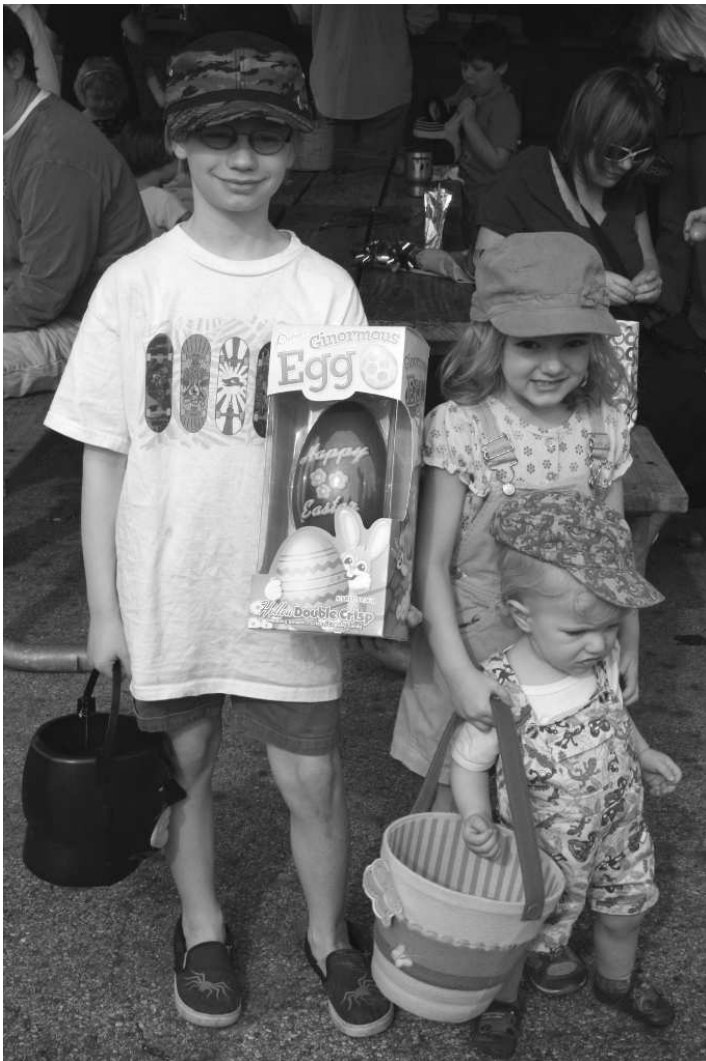
Remember that you need to submit a \$2 permit to the City to host your sale. We'll stick a form in the May Courier for your convenience, but you can download it from our website www.colonialhills.us. Submit the form to the **City Clerk at 6550 N. High St., Worthington, OH 43085**. You can

call the clerk at 436-3100 if you have any questions. The City allows one garage sale per house per year, and we intend to make the most of it with plenty of advertising and prizes for our customers. I hope you will join us in this fun and profitable enterprise!

Postponed Egg Hunt Draws a Big Crowd on a Beautiful Spring Morning

With the help of sponsor **Cynthia MacKenzie** (Keller Williams Capital Partners), the Civic Association was able to produce another successful egg hunt at Selby Park this year. Our original date of March 27th was cancelled when it snowed 3" on March 26th! Never mind that it all melted by the end of Friday, it was still too cold and wet the following Saturday. The decision to move the hunt to **April 3rd** was rewarded with a warm and sunny morning, and we had an excellent turnout!

We want to thank all the volunteers who stuffed and organized the eggs in mid March and everyone who helped on the day of the hunt. Its fun to watch the kids enjoy themselves, and to produce those childhood memories that they will treasure when they are adults. Special thanks to our Easter Bunny, Casey Gelin!



Jacob DeRodes and Maddie Rogers Represent Colonial Hills at Science Fair



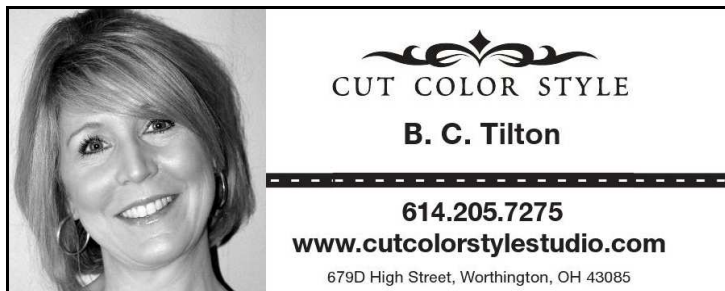
Jacob DeRodes is a 6th-grader at Colonial Hills Elementary. This is the second year Jacob has qualified to display a science fair project at the State Science Day.

The qualifying event was held at Columbus State Community College on Saturday, March 20. It featured science fair projects by top high, middle, and elementary-school students in Franklin and Madison counties.

Jacob's project is titled "A Comparison of Wind Turbines at Different Wind Speeds." It is an extension of the project he completed last year. Both projects were awarded a "superior" rating by the Ohio Academy of Science (OAS) at the district's science day.

In addition to his "superior" rating, Jacob also received First Prize from the Franklin County Chapter of the Ohio Society for Professional Engineers in recognition of his "outstanding performance in the research, preparation and presentation of (his) science project."

Fifth-grader Maddie Rogers presented a science fair project at the local science fair, which was held at Thomas Worthington High School on February 25. Maddie received an "excellent" rating for her project on water filtration.



History Presentation at Griswold Center to Set Stage for Home and Garden Tour

At 7 pm on June 9th at the Griswold Center, a history presentation on Colonial Hills will be given by George Campbell. George will share his collection of photographs while

giving a historical presentation on Colonial Hills and the surrounding area. This event has been scheduled in conjunction with the Worthington Historical Society's 2010 Home and Garden Tour through Colonial Hills on Sunday, July 11th.

Alumni Association of Pilot Dogs To Hold Celebration at Selby Park

On **Saturday morning, June 26, 2010 at 9:00 am**, dog guides and their blind partners will arrive at Selby Park to celebrate their independence and aptitude as a team. Stanley Doren, the founder of Pilot Dogs Inc. began the Alumni Association of Pilot Dogs in 1960 as a way to keep in touch with graduates from the Pilot Dog program. The weekend of June 25th through the 27th marks the 50 year anniversary of the group.

The alumni holds a convention in a different city of the country each year, and Columbus will be the host city for this year's special event. The obstacle and obedience trials, one of the highlights of the convention, will be held in Selby Park on the morning of June 26th; there will be approximately 30 to 40 teams competing. In the obstacle trial, obstacles, both natural and man made will be positioned on the sidewalks around Selby Park and the teams must navigate around them. Obstacles may include dog treats positioned in an attempt to distract the dogs. In the obedience trials, dog handlers practice all year to show off how well their dogs respond to basic commands such as "sit" "stay" and "heel" as well as the long sit and down. Winners of each event will be announced at the awards banquet held that same evening.

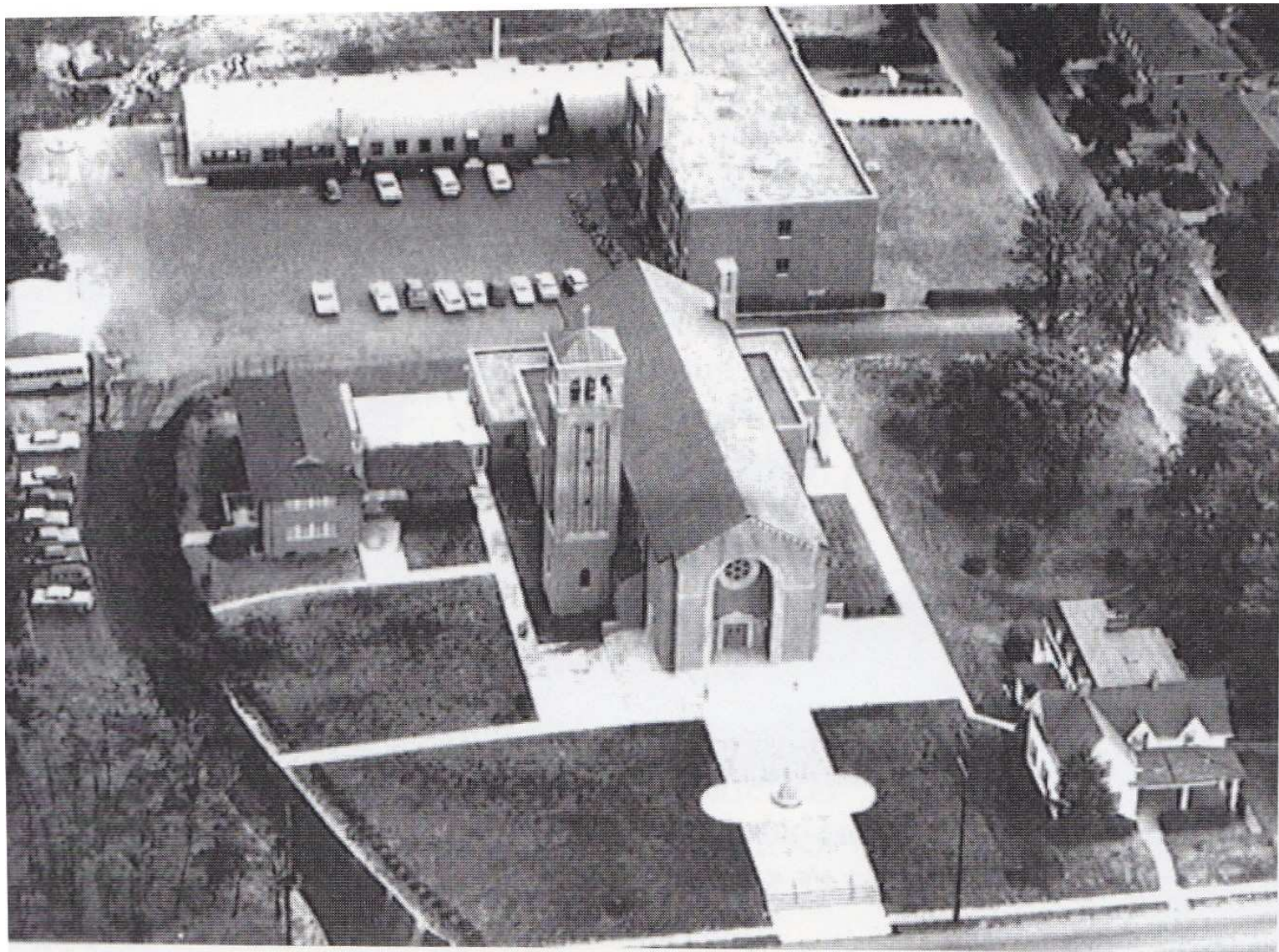
Competition begins at 9:00 a.m. at Selby Park and we hope you will come and watch the teams compete. This is an opportunity for participants to exhibit their dog's skill and how well they work as a team. This year the Alumni Association of Pilot Dogs has a lot to celebrate and we hope residents of the neighborhood will come out and join us.

Rosalie Fallenberg
rfallenberg@columbus.rr.com



Pilot Dogs run through their paces on an urban course in Fairmont, West Virginia last year.

Selby and High – St. Michael's Church, Kenyon College and the Ten Thousand Dollar Bill!



This is an aerial view of St. Michael's Church property taken in 1964. Under the guidance of founding pastor Father John P. Byrne, the Diocese bought the property for \$5500 in 1946, and built the Quonset Hut in 1948. Next, the school opened with 11 classrooms, cafeteria and kitchen in 1954. Parishioners raised \$600,000 to construct the Church, which opened in 1964. St. Michael's held parish festivals from 1948 – 1964, took a break after building the church, but resumed the festivals in 1977. In 1980, the Quonset Hut was replaced with a new gym and more classroom space. For many years the Civic Association borrowed St. Michael's bingo equipment and chairs for its July 4th festival. [photo from St. Michael Church 1946-1996 Yearbook]

The house on the lower right side is the Chase Mansion. The Reverend Philander Chase arrived in Worthington in 1817 to become the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church. When Philander's brother Ithmar died in 1818, his nine year old son Salmon P. Chase came to live with his Uncle Philander in that mansion. In 1822, Chase moved to Cincinnati, and later founded Kenyon College. His nephew Salmon went on to be the 23rd Governor of Ohio, President Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury and the man on the ten thousand dollar bill. This bill circulated from 1929 to 1969, and over 300 are still unaccounted for today!





FACT SHEET

May 4, 2010 Income Tax Request

On May 4, 2010, Worthington voters will decide whether to approve an income tax increase from 2.0% to 2.5% in the City of Worthington. As you go to the polls to make your decision, the City of Worthington wishes to make you aware of the facts surrounding the income tax to help you understand how this proposed rate increase may affect you.

Why is this increase being proposed?

The City of Worthington has seen a decline in income tax and other major revenues. With over 60% of the City's revenue coming from income tax (income tax represents 65% of all operating revenue and 94% of all funds for Capital Improvements), the loss of employers and lower payroll due to the recession have resulted in less revenue. This directly affects the City's ability to operate its quality programs and services. In addition, Capital funding is at its lowest levels in 10 years and our infrastructure continues to age and needs to be maintained. Financial projections indicate that the City will need \$3.5 million in additional revenue annually to operate and maintain current service levels.

Who is impacted by increasing from a 2% to 2.5% income tax rate?

Individuals pay first where they work.

- Worthington residents who do not earn wages, but receive Social Security, company pensions, dividends and interest income would not be impacted and are exempt.
- 41% of Worthington wage earners already pay 2.5% if they work in Columbus or another municipality with a higher income tax. They would not be impacted.
- Worthington residents employed in Worthington or other communities currently at 2.0% will pay an additional \$250 per year per \$50,000 of income.
- In addition, Worthington would realize additional revenue from the income taxes of individuals who live in Columbus but work in Worthington. These people currently pay 2.0% to Worthington and .5% to Columbus. With the tax increase, the City of Worthington would receive all 2.5% to support local programs and services with no change in tax liability to the individual.

What will the City do if the issue passes?

Through a series of focus groups and surveys, residents have told us that maintaining the quality of current service levels is a priority. If approved, the proposed increase will allow the City to:

- Maintain the quality of services provided to Worthington residents (such as snow removal, police and fire protection, recreational programs and trash, recycling and yard waste collection.)
- Keep the City's infrastructure in good condition (such as roads, sewers and City facilities.)
- Increase efforts to bring more jobs into Worthington.

What if the income tax issue does not pass?

The City would work with the community to determine what actions to take to best serve residents in the City of Worthington. The City would seek public participation and review existing survey data about residents' priorities before making any decisions. Options may include a combination of service cuts, taxes and fees for services.

What has already been done to reduce costs?

Declining revenues have been impacting the City budget for several years. In order to be mindful of the need to decrease spending, City Council has taken steps each year to make cuts and reduce expenditures. In mid-2009, the City made approximately \$654,000 in operating cuts. Additional cuts are included in the 2010 budget. Over the last five years, the City's actual expenditures have increased an average of 2.78%.

Over the last 10 years the City has:

- Eliminated 10 fulltime, 5 part-time, 3 temporary & 3 intern positions
- Restructured 4 positions to reduce costs
- Reduced the use of contractual assistance
- Restricted overtime, including for emergency response
- Enacted pay freezes
- Restricted training and supplies

Annual savings realized by reductions in these areas: \$1,230,000

In addition to these cuts, a number of steps have been taken to reduce costs through efficiencies in service delivery and administration: For example:

- Reduced cost of ice and snow removal by cutting back on the purchase of salt and relying more heavily on the less expensive Geomelt (a derivative of beet juice.)
- Cut back on fuel usage and fleet expenses by reducing the number of City owned vehicles.
- Consolidated purchasing of office supplies for a more economical pricing structure.
- Relying on electronic delivery of City Council and other meeting materials and correspondence instead of printing paper copies.
- 45% of all Parks and Registration program registration is completed online.

If approved, when will the City begin collecting the 2.5% income tax?

Income earned by residents, employees and companies within Worthington would be subject to the income tax increase on July 1, 2010. The City would begin to realize the increase depending on when returns are filed and the effective due date of these filings, most likely beginning in the 3rd quarter of 2010.

Where can I get more information?

Learn more about how the proposed income tax increase affects you by visiting the Worthington website at www.worthington.org. Information includes details on the City's financial condition and the reasons behind the income tax request. Email inquiries may be submitted to incometax@ci.worthington.oh.us or call (614) 436-3100 for more information.

The public is also invited to attend any of the following Public Forums:

- Thursday, April 1st 7:30 p.m.-Worthington Griswold Center, 777 High Street
- Thursday, April 8th 7:30 p.m.-Worthington Community Center, 345 E. Wilson Bridge Rd.
- Tuesday, April 13th 7:30 p.m.- Beth Tikvah, 6121 Olentangy River Rd.