

# MEDINA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



## Newsletter

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Medina County Commissioners](#)

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### [What's Happening - 5/7/07](#)

#### **Commendation**

Commissioners commended Carter Joseph Linville for achieving the high honor and rank of Eagle Scout.

#### **County Home Advisory Council**

Commissioners are accepting applications for a volunteer committee member. One representative is needed from the category of general public. Call the Commissioners' Office or visit the county's web site for an application.

#### [Upcoming Events](#)

**Sheriff's Office Open House**  
Celebration of CALEA Accreditation  
Saturday, May 12, 1:00-4:00 PM  
555 Independence Drive

#### **Friends of the County Home**

10% of dinner proceeds on Wednesday, May 16 at Mapleside Farm Restaurant go to the Friends of the County Home.

#### **Public Hearing** – Subdivision

Regulations, Monday, May 14,  
10:30 AM, Commissioners' Hearing Rm.



Sterling G. Sechrist, Jr. served as Medina County Commissioner from 1981 to 1988. He passed away on May 3. Our condolences to his family and many friends. He will be missed.

*"Treasure the love you receive above all. It will survive long after your gold and good health have vanished."*

-- Og Mandi no --

*Happy Mother's Day!*

#### **Commissioners' Contact:**

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*Email Pam to Subscribe*

### **Auditor Kovack Honored as Friend of the Red Cross Hero**



Mike Kovack has been a Friend of the American Red Cross for the past 15 years. For nine of those 15 years, he served on the Board of Directors and was chairman for two years. He is still in the Naval Reserves and has served a total of 22 years with the Navy and has been deployed five times. He was honored at the 2007 Heartland Heroes Celebration on Sunday, May 6. Congratulations and thank you, Auditor Kovack!

[Medina Red Cross Director Beth Kilchenman presenting an award to Mike Kovack](#)

### **Sheriff's Deputies are Heartland Heroes**

Deputies James Harhay, Troy Seibert, Timothy Michalak and Steven Clark were honored at the 2007 Heartland Heroes Celebration as well, for selfless actions in risky situations. Great job!

### **Auditor's Office Adoptathon was a HUGE Success!**

Commissioner Sharon Ray, liaison to the Animal Shelter, reported that the annual Adoptathon at the Community Center last Saturday was a huge success. There was a large crowd and it was a nice family event. Joan Heller, Deputy Auditor, reported that almost 50 animals were adopted including two goats and two rabbits.

### **Medina County to have Bicycle Route Map**

Mike Salay, County Engineer, presented a draft of the "Medina County Bicycle Transportation Route System" prepared by his Tax Map Office and Tony Ratajczak, a consultant for bicycle planning who also serves on the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) Bicycle Advisory Committee. The map forms the framework for a bicycle transportation route system for the county that connects all the major destinations within the county and provides easy access to other counties' bicycle routes as well. It consists of all public roads assigned for bicycle transportation purposes; not bike trails. They have incorporated NOACA's rating system into the map that lets people know if an inexperienced rider should try a certain road or if just experienced rider should be on those roads. The east/west routes are lettered and the north/south routes are numbered. They hope to mark the entire route with signs designed by Mr. Ratajczak that would allow bicyclists to know which are the major routes, and will alert and continuously remind motorists that bicycles are on the road. With the price of gasoline on the rise, many people will be looking for alternate means of transportation. Once approved by the Commissioners, the route map will be an important step in getting Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program funding from NOACA to help pay for the signs.

### **2007 Fix-It Fund Program Approved**

Commissioners authorized the County Treasurer to continue ongoing agreements and enter into new agreements with eligible lending institutions for the 2007 Fix-It Fund Program. The program offers low-interest home improvement loans for five years through participating banks. There were a few changes implemented to put the program more in line with current housing policies to provide more money to more people that are in actual need of it. It does not exclude people that are middle-class and allows for better distribution. Some of the changes to the program are: (1) eligible property can have an existing appraised dwelling value (not including land) of up to \$200,000 and must have full value on the Auditor's record; (2) ineligible program purposes are swimming pools, sprinkler systems, landscaping, decks, patios, and any building not attached to the house such as sheds or barns; and (3) the purpose of the improvements are for health and safety issues or allowing for handicapped accessibility into the dwelling, enhancing the property value, or making the house comply with building code standards. The program is scheduled to kick-off on Monday, June 4, 2007. Call the Treasurer's Office at 330-725-9746 for more information.