



# June 11, 2024

# MAYOR'S UPDATE

## Coming up in Bexley:

June 13, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm:	Farmer's Market (also on June 20)
June 13, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm:	Architectural Review Board
June 15, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm:	Pedal for Pancakes
June 15, 9:00 am - 11:00 pm:	Bexley Re:Cycle Bikes at Pedal for Pancakes
June 18, 6:00 pm:	Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee
June 19, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm:	Juneteenth Celebration at Jeffrey Mansion Carriage Court
June 21, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm:	Boards and Commissions Retreat
June 21, 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm:	Main Event: Honey I Shrank the Kids
June 23, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm:	Jazz in the Park: Fo/Mo/Deep
June 25, 6:00 pm:	City Council
July 4 Festivities:	8:00 am - John Barr 5K, 9:30 am - Parade, 10:00 pm - Fireworks

## Some of What I've Been Up To:

- Meeting with Capital University and Bexley City Schools
- Support and follow up on Alley of the Future installations
- Extensive work on Main Event and Jazz in the Park events
- Meetings for Fourth of July parade and evening events
- Mayor for a Day with Hallie Raskin
- Parks rules and Rec Board Modernization meeting
- Work and follow up on food scarcity and summer
- Interviews and follow up on Director of Building and Development position
- Participated in Bexley Pride Walk and created custom shirts for elected officials.
- Staffed Main Event
- Attended and performed at Porchfest
- Attended community block party
- Multiple phone calls and coffee meetings with Board and Commission candidates and current appointees
- Filmed One Bexley Clip
- Land Use Strategy preparation and followup
- Email, calls, and meetings regarding easement
- City Tour with BCF and Anne Jeffrey Wright
- Attended COMMA Meeting and follow up
- Mayor Madison funeral speech and follow up tribute communications
- MORPC Executive Committee Meeting
- Ferndale Mayfield Meeting and follow up on next steps
- Mural Festival Planning Meeting
- Park wayfinding meeting
- Health Insurance mid-year follow up
- Year of the Parks follow up and meeting
- Research on potential future legislation
- Follow up and communications on various resident concerns and questions
- Work on Bexley Times newsletter
- Planning work on Boards and Commissions retreat

Keep in touch! To sign up for weekly email updates from the City of Bexley, including information on community events and timely notifications and reminders, visit: [www.bexley.org/blast](http://www.bexley.org/blast)





## Remembering Mayor Madison

The breadth and scope of Mayor Madison's contribution to our community cannot be put into words. As Mayor for 32 years, David was Bexley personified, quickly lending a helping hand in a time of crisis, and meticulously tending to the needs of the city and its residents over a rich and tireless career. Above all, he was an amazing friend. Full of sound advice and authentic encouragement, his helpfulness was only outpaced by his quick wit and side-splitting (often inappropriate) humor, always delivered at the most unexpected times.

When flooding would occur, David was on call in the middle of the night, helping carry boxes out of basements and infusing empathy and care into incredibly stressful situations. His expectation of service set a bar that any future Mayor can walk away from at their own peril. Bexley is legendary for having plows out when the first snowflake hits the pavement - David loved snowplows and one stood at salute outside of his memorial service - perhaps the first time a snowplow has been mounted on a Bexley truck in June.

Mayor Madison was also fiercely protective of the safety of the community, and spent his career building up our Police Department, and forging a strong relationship with the Columbus Fire Department. He established the mayoral tradition of showing up when there was or had been a house fire, and cooking steak dinners for the fire battalions to show his appreciation. Throughout all, Mayor Madison took his duty to protect and to serve with an energy and a fastidiousness that saved lives, secured property, and showed how seriously he took his obligation to serve.

In the midst of breaking water lines and wind storms it's possible to get caught up in a stress loop. Mayor Madison had an antidote in his sense of humor. It was biting, it was nimble, it was - I must say it - raucously inappropriate. But it was also 100% pure gold. Humor was a tool that he used to do his job to its fullest. He never took himself too seriously and never let those around them take themselves too seriously. David used comedy to instruct, to balance - and, yes, sometimes just to leave you shaking your head in awe and shock.

Within 24 hours of becoming Mayor under what were tragic and unexpected circumstances, one of my first calls was to David, and soon after he was in my office as I asked his advice on ANYTHING he could help me with - insider tips, nuggets of wisdom, operational suggestions. Mostly he used this time to be affirming and encouraging, which was 100% in character. Oh, and to tell me to stop wearing a tie and to consider adopting his trademark outfit of khakis, loafers, and a button down shirt.

In speaking with staff, what was most remembered about David was his unyielding support for his people. There were several sayings hanging up on his wall as Mayor. One that stands out - and I'm paraphrasing:

"People may not remember what you said or what you did, but they will remember how you made them feel." David, we do remember what you did, but most importantly, we remember how you made us feel. An entire community surrounds you in love, gratitude, and in celebration of a life well lived.





## The Return of Bexley's Super Summer Events

Bexley sent off the month of May with a bang with our annual Bexley Pride Walk followed by a hugely popular Main Event. Saturday the good weather and good vibes continued at PorchFest and then carried on into the annual Bexley Women's Club House & Garden Tour.

## Fourth of July Plans Underway

Fourth of July planning is off and running and I have a few updates to note as we begin to look forward to Bexley's busiest summer day! If you plan to participate in the parade or know a group who will, please email Natalie by Friday.

- Parade entry applications are open through June 14 (same route as 2023)
- John Barr 5K will return but the route will be an out and back due to construction in the area
- Evening Festivities will start at 6:00 pm followed by Fireworks at 10:00 pm

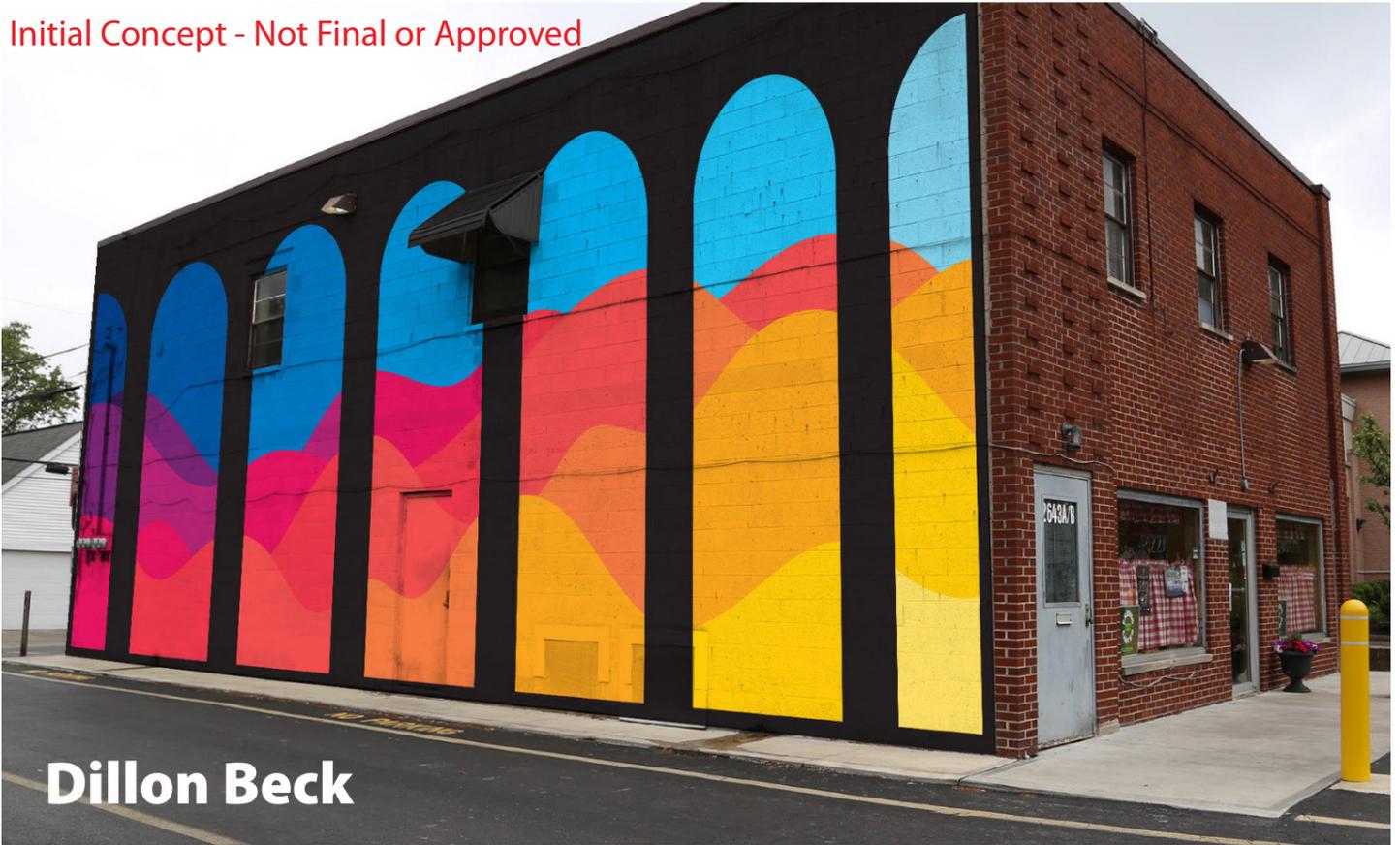
## Mural Fest Update

Last week, a public meeting was held to review the top ten artist submissions from the Call for Artists. While the enormous response from the artist community resulted in a difficult decision between a large number of impressive submissions, we have narrowed down the muralists to a half dozen (or so) artists. We've also identified the following walls to feature the 2024 murals and permission has been secured from the building owners. (The included images are concepts, not final designs or selections)

- Rubino's Pizza - Eastern Elevation
- Anthony Thomas Wall
- Wes Banco - Western Elevation
- 2nd Glance Hair and Nail Salon - Western Elevation
- Bexley Square - Rotating Mural area facing Giant Eagle Market District



Initial Concept - Not Final or Approved



**Dillon Beck**

Initial Concept - Not Final or Approved



**Andrey Kravtsov**

