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# Geauga

## TIMES COURIER

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## Panel explores need for second water tower

By **BRIAN DOERING**

CHARDON — The Water and Sewer Committee last week discussed the city's aging water system and the pros and cons of constructing an additional water tower.

City Council committee members along with representatives from CT Consultants discussed the existing water model and areas of concern.

"One of the big reasons CT was

brought to the table is currently there is only one water tower and one clear well in the system," said Alan Frygier, engineer with CT Consultants. "A clear well is essentially like a water tower," he said. "It's where the water is stored prior to being pumped" into the distribution system.

Water pressure is an area of concern, officials said, along with what

would happen if a water tower were taken out of service.

"Your water operation team does a fantastic job, you have no low pressures besides the suction side of service pumps, which is not an issue," Mr. Frygier said. "Going into higher pressures, the city has noted that there have been no major issues or complaints from residents on these higher pressures, and if you are on

it, I bet you didn't even notice."

For proper maintenance, the city needs to replace 1 percent of the water mains annually, the consultants said.

"If you are to go through replacing your 1 percent annually, those older mains and the higher-pressure areas sustain a higher pressure and more stress on them, and that's where you

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## Nature valentines



Photo by Michael Steinberg

Joe Dickmann of Chardon helps his daughter Tessa, 4, make a nature-inspired valentine at the Donald W. Meyer Center of Big Creek Park in Chardon as Charlie, 6, far right, works diligently on his own card. Geauga Park District Naturalist Nora Sindelar, not pictured, hosted the "Timbertots: Nature Valentines" workshop on Valentine's Day. Following the craft, participants took to the outdoors to explore one of the park's nine trails for a snowy adventure.

## 'Frost law' in effect on all roads throughout Geauga

By **SAMANTHA COTTRILL**

To avoid damage due to repeated freeze-thaw cycles, the Geauga Engineer's Office is implementing a "frost law" to reduce load capacity by 33 percent on all county and township roads.

The engineer's office also detailed upcoming road projects in Auburn, Kinsman, Middlefield and Claridon townships.

Deputy Engineer Shane Hajjar received approval from the Geauga County Commissioners last week to implement the frost law, allowable by the Ohio Revised Code, as of Monday.

According to the official request, the "reduction is necessary to minimize damage to the roads during periods of freeze and thaw and excessive moisture."

Mr. Hajjar said the frost law will remain in effect until further notice.

"It's really when [the temperature] goes up and down that the most damage happens," he said. "So we try to keep it in effect until it stays above a certain temperature."

He said the engineer's office will have signage in place throughout the county to notify drivers of the load reduction on roads, adding

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## Council plans welcome signs to honor state football champions

By **BRIAN DOERING**

CHARDON — Soon, drivers heading into the city will be greeted by new state football championship signage honoring the Chardon High School Hilltoppers.

City Manager Randy Sharpe discussed with City Council members the process of reviewing different designs during a meeting on Feb. 11.

"We have a couple of mock-ups that have been designed by a company that we use to make our signs here in the city," said Mr. Sharpe. "We are actually going to have signs printed on a piece of plywood and put up at the intersection of Grant and North Hambden."

Mr. Sharpe asked council members, once they are alerted, to drive by those signs and weigh in on what looks best.

Chardon High School last fall defeated St. Francis DeSales Stallions on Nov. 21 at Paul Brown Tiger Stadium in Massillon to capture the OHSAA Division III State Championship Title after an undefeated season.

"There is going to be eight of them in the community at the different entry points that we discussed at the last meeting," said Mr. Sharpe. "I am hopeful we can get it up pretty soon but that is our plan right now."

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