



Community Connection, Winter 2016-17

7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039 Phone: (440) 353-0819 Visit us at www.nridgeville.org

Mayor's Message...

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is upon us. I love this time of the year – time with family and friends, and let's not forget those that are less fortunate than us. North Ridgeville Community Care does a fantastic job doing just that. Community Care draws predominantly on volunteers and private donations to provide goods and services including free food, clothing, rent and utility assistance, counseling and holiday programs for those less fortunate. As you are out and about doing your holiday shopping or making out your Christmas list, consider Community Care. If you have questions, call Community Care directly at (440) 353-9716.



Update on NOPEC Electricity Supplier

As many of you may already know, the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) has reached an agreement for NextEra Energy Services Ohio, LLC (NESO) to become the new supplier of electricity effective January 2017. FirstEnergy Solutions in late October announced it was terminating its contract three years early. NOPEC immediately began negotiating with suppliers on behalf of the communities it serves to reach a new agreement to insure its customers will continue to receive the benefits of NOPEC membership which have resulted in about \$250 million of electric cost savings to date.

By Ohio law, NOPEC is required to mail opt-out notices to its electric customers every three years. You should have received a mailing within the last few weeks to give you the option to opt-out of the program. If you want to remain in the NOPEC program, you need to do nothing. You will automatically remain in the NOPEC program and will continue to receive discounted aggregate pricing under the current supplier as well as the new supplier beginning January 2017. If you have any questions regarding the NOPEC-NESO electricity agreement, visit NOPEC's website at nopecinfo.org/electricupdate or call 1-855-667-3201.

Tobacco-Free Workplace Environment Policy



I am happy to announce that effective January 1, 2017 the City of North Ridgeville will be joining our already tobacco-free Park and Recreational Facilities. In order that we may properly promote the health, safety and wellness of our employees, to eliminate the well-known risks associated to second-hand smoke, as well as to enhance the quality of life of all those whom we serve including residents who may visit our public City facilities and related areas; and in part to implement Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3794 (Smoke-Free Workplace Law), the City of North Ridgeville establishes a tobacco-free workplace environment.

The use of tobacco will be **prohibited** on all outside property or grounds owned, rented or leased by the City of North Ridgeville including in or on private vehicles while parked on City property. Use of tobacco means all uses of tobacco, including inhaling, exhaling, burning, vaping or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, vaporizer, other lighted smoking device or papers for burning tobacco, or any other plant; chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other matter or substances that contain tobacco.

Our complete Tobacco-Free Workplace Environment Policy will be made available on the City's website in the coming weeks along with helpful resources. In addition, the Lorain County General Health District (LCGHD) offers residents a wealth of information and Tobacco Cessation tools including Ohio Quitline at 1-800-QUITNOW. Visit LCGHD's website at loraincountyhealth.com for helpful facts, tools and resources.

In closing, I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Mayor G. David Gillock



North Ridgeville Receives State Recognition for Healthy Community

North Ridgeville is among sixteen communities being honored by the Ohio Department of Health's Bureau of Creating Healthy Communities with a Healthy Community Award for promoting good health for their residents. This award is intended for communities that are improving access to and affordability of healthy food, increasing opportunities for physical activity, and ensuring tobacco-free living. The City of North Ridgeville is an active partner of the North Ridgeville Heart & Sole collaborative that helped make this award possible.

North Ridgeville Police Department Receives Ben Roethlisberger Foundation Grant

Pittsburgh Steelers' Super Bowl Quarterback and Findlay, OH native, Ben Roethlisberger recently announced the 8th grant of the 2016 season from the Ben Roethlisberger Foundation will be presented to the North Ridgeville Police Department. The \$10,000 grant will be used to purchase and train a dual purpose K-9. Currently there are three police dogs, one of which will be retiring within the next year or so. This grant will afford the Police Department the opportunity to purchase and properly train a replacement for Rambo when the time comes that he'll need to hang up his police leash.



(Pictured is Patrolman Larkin and Leo from our K-9 Unit at the 2016 Fire Prevention and Health Fair)

Lorain County General Health District

The Lorain County General Health District (LCGHD) serves as our local health department and provides numerous services to our community. Every day your local health department works to prevent disease, to protect you, and to promote healthy choices. Below is an abbreviated list of services provided by LCGHD:

- ✓ Responsible for issuing licenses for restaurants, vending machines, solid waste disposal sites, campgrounds, marinas, private water systems, manufactured home parks, public pools, spas and beaches.
- ✓ Inspects, trains and educates over 1,000 places that serve you food (restaurants, grocery stores, food trucks, etc.). Facility inspections are conducted one to four times per year. These inspection reports are available online including any violations received by the establishment.
- ✓ Provides immunizations to thousands of children, adults and seniors; protecting you from the spread of harmful diseases. They hold annual flu clinics in our City.
- ✓ Protects the waters that you drink, play in, and enjoy by inspecting and monitoring pools, spas, and beaches, and provides flooding cleanup assistance.
- ✓ Works to prevent mosquito-related illness by treating areas of standing water, and education on the removal of standing water and other ways to avoid mosquito bites. LCGHD also works to prevent tick-related illnesses and protects the public from the threat of rabies through identification, investigation and education.
- ✓ Maintains a record of births and deaths in our County.

LCGHD has been preventing diseases for 96 years – since 1920. Learn more at LorainCountyHealth.com or call (440) 322-6367.

Sign Up for eNews



Sign up to receive eNews via email and/or text message. When the need arises that the City needs to communicate time-sensitive information to residents, e.g., road closures, etc. an e-mail and/or text message will be sent to subscribers. Newly added to the alerts is a monthly reminder for bulk trash pick up. Visit nridgeville.org and click on the eNews Signup tab to register for this free service.

Gift of Lights at Victory Park Ohio



The City of North Ridgeville is a proud sponsor of this year's **Gift of Lights** at Victory Park Ohio. **Gift of Lights** is the largest drive-thru holiday light display in Northeast Ohio. The trail of nearly one million lights measures 1.3 miles and features over 30 displays and a 100-foot light tunnel.

The **Gift of Lights** is open daily from 5-10 PM through January 1, 2017. The cost is \$20 per car with a portion of the proceeds benefiting University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's. Tickets can be pre-purchased at giftoflights.com or at the gate. Victory Park Ohio is located at 7777 Victory Lane.

For more information visit giftoflights.com, victoryparkohio.com

or call (330) 441-4255.

North Ridgeville Seniors, Inc. Presents The Singing Angels Holiday Concert

The Singing Angels, America's Premier Performing Youth Chorus, will perform a special holiday concert on **Wednesday, December 28** at St. Julie Billiard Church, 5500 Lear Nagle Road. Doors will open at 6:30 PM and the show begins at 7 PM. The performance, which is free and open to the public, is made possible through the generosity of O'Neill Healthcare North Ridgeville and the North Ridgeville Corn Festival Committee.

This young group of performers, ages 8 to 18, will sing and dance their way into everyone's heart with their family-oriented and highly entertaining concert. Their diversified repertoire of songs include holiday favorites and show tunes.

In addition to the concert, a Chinese Auction for beautiful gift baskets donated by First Federal of Lakewood will be held with proceeds benefiting the North Ridgeville Senior Center. Raffle tickets will be sold at the concert with the drawing held during intermission along with a free-will offering.

Weather and Safety Tip Reminders

Winter weather is just around the corner as is the holidays. Below are a few reminders to keep you and your family safe during these winter months:

- * When snow exceeds two inches within 24 hours, a **Snow Ban** is in effect and **No Parking** is permitted on any City street to allow snow plows to pass.
- * City Ordinances 660.04 and 660.05 require sidewalks, curbs or gutters to be cleared of snow and ice within a reasonable time, which will ordinarily not exceed 12 hours after any storm during which the snow and ice has accumulated.
- * The removal and disposal of ice and snow from private drives or parking lots into the City streets or across the street onto a tree lawn is prohibited per City Ordinance 600.04.
- * Stay back at least 100 feet when following a snow plow or salt truck.
- * If your mailbox is damaged by a snow plow, please contact the Service Department at (440) 353-0814 or you can report it online at nridgeville.org by clicking on Departments, then Service.
- * When your wipers are on, so should your headlights regardless of the time of day/night.
- * Do not allow children to play in or on snow drifts near streets or roadways. Safety first!
- * Please make sure fire hydrants are clear of snow and ice.
- * Live Christmas trees should be watered frequently to prevent fire hazards. Turn the lights off on your Christmas tree when you are not at home or at night when you are sleeping.
- * When using indoor electric and propane/kerosene heaters, be sure to keep them a safe distance away from combustible materials such as curtains, furniture and flammable items. Propane/kerosene heaters should be utilized in only well-ventilated areas.
- * When traffic lights are out, exercise safety by treating all intersections as four-way stops.
- * If you observe a street light out, contact Ohio Edison at 1-800-633-4766 to report the outage or you can call City Hall and we'll place the call on your behalf.

Community Calendar

- Nov. 18-Jan. 1 Gift of Lights – Drive-thru holiday light festival open daily from 5-10 PM at Victory Park Ohio. For more information visit www.giftoflights.com.
- December 5, 6 Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days
- December 5, 19 City Council Meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- December 7 Fair Housing Board Meeting at 10 AM in Mayor's Conference Room at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- December 23, 26 Christmas Holiday - City Hall will be closed in observance of the holiday.
- December 28 Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock from 8-9 AM at Kim's Restaurant, 37863 Center Ridge Road. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
Singing Angels will perform a free concert at St. Julie Billiard Church, 5500 Lear Nagle Road. Doors open at 6:30 PM and concert begins at 7 PM. Sponsored by North Ridgeville Corn Festival and O'Neill Healthcare North Ridgeville on behalf of the Senior Center.
- January 2 New Year's Holiday – City Hall will be closed in observance of the holiday.
- January 3, 4 Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days
- January 3, 17 City Council Meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- January 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – City Hall will be closed in observance of the holiday.
- January 19 State of the City Address by Mayor G. David Gillock at the North Ridgeville Education Center from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM. The event is sponsored by the North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (440) 327-3737.
- January 26 Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock from 8-9 AM at City Hall in the Conference Room. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- January 27 Spaghetti Dinner at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost \$7 adults, \$6 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available.
- February 6, 7 Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days
- February 6, 21 City Council Meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- February 11 Daddy Daughter Dance from 7-9 PM at the North Ridgeville Middle School. Cost per couple is \$30 resident/\$40 non-resident, each additional child \$10. Ages K-5th grade. Pre-register January 4-February 5 by visiting nridgeville.org/parksandrec or call (440) 353-0860.
- February 20 Presidents' Day – City Hall will be closed in observance of the holiday.
- February 24 Coffee & Conversation with Mayor Gillock from 8-9 AM at Kim's Restaurant, 37863 Center Ridge Road. Stop in to enjoy a cup of coffee and casual conversation with the Mayor.
- March 6, 7 Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days
- March 6, 20 City Council Meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.

