

# Community Connection

ISSUE #27

OCTOBER 2016

The Village of Ottawa \* 136 North Oak Street \* Ottawa  
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## Special Points of Interest:

- Trick or Treat—Thursday, October 29, between 6 pm and 7 pm
- Village offices will be closed to celebrate Thanksgiving on November 24th and 25th.
- Small Business Saturday—November 26th
- Christmas Parade—Sunday, November 27th at 2:00 pm
- Council meetings—8 pm the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at the Municipal Building
- Park Board meetings—7 pm the 4th Monday of each month at the Municipal Building
- Planning Commission meetings—3rd Friday of each month at 8:30 am—Municipal Bldg



## MAYOR'S UPDATE

So, school is back in session and the vegetables in my garden have almost finished producing causing an abrupt end to my canning season! Those pickles and tomatoes are really going to taste good all winter though!

Some projects around the Village have not yet begun, but several are moving right along. The Villa Dr., Short St. and Chippewa Dr. Project is progressing. This area was sorely in need of resurfacing and is just about complete. New curbs, gutters and drive approaches were poured during the first phase on half of Chippewa Drive and all of Short Street. The second phase is the same concrete work for the remainder of Chippewa and Villa Drives and then eventually the entire area will have asphalt applied. Hohenbrink Excavating is the general contractor on this project and is doing a great job.

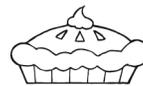
We are still working on growing grass for the Ottawa West End Pump Station Project. There is a reason grass just doesn't grow in the summer. Too hot and not enough water! Hopefully we will have better luck this fall.

This was a great summer to swim. Memorial Pool saw over 4,900 swimmers during

the season. The current contract with the YMCA set the closing date as the first Sunday in August which seemed kinda early this year. Council and the YMCA are going to look at extending this date and/or extending the daily hours past 6 p.m. as part of the next contract. The YMCA does a super job of managing our pool and keeping all of our swimmers safe!

I don't know if you have seen our "new" pickle ball court, but be sure to check it out. The old tennis courts at the Waterworks Park have been quite an eyesore. The Ottawa Kiwanis graciously donated monies to have Ruhe Asphalt resurface the courts. The playing surface was taped off, the old nets are still used and voila!! We have two pickle ball courts! This sport is a combination of tennis, badminton and ping pong. It uses a hard paddle and a perforated plastic ball. I haven't had a chance to play yet, but I was a spectator several weeks ago. It looked like a lot of fun! With that... fall is here, so..

**Happy Halloween!**  
**Have a Blessed**  
**Thanksgiving and...**  
**Go Tribe! Go Browns!**  
**Go Titans!** —Dean Meyer, Mayor



## Where to "Legally" Place a Sign

As the November election gets closer, we are seeing yard signs of all kinds around the Village. As a reminder to all residents, signs are not allowed in the right-of-way. If you have signs in your yard, make sure they are not placed between the sidewalk and the street but further in your yard on private property. Everyone's cooperation is appreciated.



## Village of Ottawa Council

Dean Meyer—Mayor

Council Members

Tim Macke, President

Jo Deskins

Troy Yant

John Salsburey

Dave Michel

Jeff Ducey

## Planning Commission

Dean Meyer—Chair

Tim Macke

Bill Hanna

Denny Recker

Randy Verhoff

## TRICK OR TREAT

is scheduled for  
Thursday, October 27th  
between 6 and 7 pm

**Be Careful**  
**Be Safe**  
**and have a**  
**SPOOKTACULAR time!**



# AGGREGATION NEWS

Electric and gas aggregation work is under way and we should have some numbers soon. Aspen Energy recently sent a Request for Proposal to four electrical suppliers and expects to have some numbers back in time for the September 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. After Council makes a decision on a supplier, it will go back to the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) for approval. Once that is done, opt-out letters will be sent to all residents not under a current contract. The procedure for natural gas aggregation will follow the same steps. Hopefully good news for energy prices for Village residents is coming soon. The tentative timeline is as follows:



Sept. 21	Deadline For Request For Proposals
Sept. 26	Council Reviews Proposals and Approves Agreement
Sept. 28	Supplier Files Opt-Out Notice with PUCO (10 Day Wait)
Oct. 10	Opt Out Notices Mailed to Eligible Customers (21 Day Window)
Oct. 31	Opt Out Phase Ends - Supplier Begins Enrollment w/ Parent Utility
Dec. 1	Power Begins Flowing

—Dave Michel, Council Member

## CONTACT INFO

### Email addresses for Council members

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## AM I REQUIRED TO CARRY FLOOD INSURANCE?

A significant portion of the Village of Ottawa lies in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) or 100-year floodplain; therefore, by law flood insurance is mandatory for structures in the SFHA purchased with funds backed by the Federal Government, such as a mortgage secured through an FDIC insured bank.

If you own your structure or financed it with private funds, flood insurance is not mandatory; however, you may still want to consider purchasing coverage, since homeowners insurance generally does not cover flood damages. For an idea of how expensive post-flood repairs can be, visit [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov) and take advantage of the interactive “Measure Your Damage” tool. You may be shocked to discover just 3 inches of water inside a 2000 square foot home could cause over \$22,000 in flood damages.

Contact your local insurance agent for more details about flood insurance coverage; and, keep in mind there is generally a 30-day waiting period before coverage takes effect.

## Small Business Saturday—Nov 26th

is a nationwide “Shop Small” business campaign. It inspires people to support and shop at small businesses on the day after Black Friday. It’s a way for people to give back to the small businesses who give to the community year round. Watch for special deals and promotions at locally businesses on Small Business Saturday. Updates will be posted at [www.ottawachamber.org](http://www.ottawachamber.org).

## Who’s that Knocking at my Door?

The Village of Ottawa requires anyone soliciting door to door to first secure a Peddlers License. The permitting process provides the Village with a way to screen potential peddlers’ backgrounds and their employers’ company reputations. It also assures the Village will have photo identification of all peddlers on file.

So how do you know if a peddler has followed the Village’s permit process? Each approved peddler receives a Peddler License, usually printed on colored paper. This license will have their name, their company’s name, the valid dates they are allowed to solicit, and the Mayor’s signature and seal. In the event the Mayor is unavailable to sign the license, the Council President’s signature will be in place of the Mayor’s.

Non-profit groups such the Girl Scouts selling cookies or school groups selling magazines are not required to get Peddler Licenses; however, companies encouraging you to sign up for electric or gas services, and all solicitors attempting to sell you something are. Peddlers are allowed out between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., and not permitted to solicit on Sundays or holidays.

If a solicitor knocks on your door, do not be afraid to ask to see their Peddler’s License. They must show it to you, if you ask. If they cannot or will not produce a license, please call the Village Offices at 419-523-5020 during business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or the Sheriff’s business line at 419-523-3208, after hours to report an unlicensed peddler. The Village appreciates residents’ help in monitoring unlicensed peddling.



## CHRISTMAS PARADE

The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Ottawa Christmas Parade will be Sunday, Nov. 27 at 2 pm sharp. The Chamber is accepting parade entries. Download an entry form at [www.ottawachamber.org](http://www.ottawachamber.org) Businesses, organizations, churches, schools, teams, public officials, cars, trucks, motorcycles, farm implements, horses and other animals are welcome to be in the parade free of charge. The route will remain the same as last year, beginning at 4<sup>th</sup> and Pratt Streets near Ottawa Water Works Park, going through the downtown area and ending in front of Sts. Peter and Paul School at 4<sup>th</sup> and Locust Streets. Following the parade there will be entertainment and family festivities.