

Community Connection

ISSUE #21

OCTOBER 2015

The Village of Ottawa * 136 North Oak Street * Ottawa
Phone 419.523.5020 * Fax 419.523.4246 * www.ottawaohio.us

Special Points of Interest:

- Council meetings are held at 8 pm the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at the Municipal Building and are open to the public.
- Please make sure the Utility Department has current contact information "just in case of an emergency!"
- Trick or Treat—Thursday, October 29, between 6 p.m. and 7 pm.
- Village offices will be closed to celebrate Thanksgiving on November 26th and 27th.



MAYOR'S UPDATE



Fall is such a fun time of year! Cooler temperatures make football games and outdoor activities quite enjoyable! And, speaking about outdoor activities; I have been known to hit the golf ball further than (Brian K.) on occasion!

There is a lot of activity going on in downtown Ottawa. The paving portion of Street Project 2015 is complete. Zimmerman Painting will be coming through town one evening soon to paint the lines and crosswalks. This may be finished too by the time you read this newsletter.

The demolition of Paul's Ace Hardware is complete. That was quite a time consuming affair. Working with CSX railroad was a bit challenging, but the project was completed successfully. Sometime in November, the Community Development Committee will be making a recommendation to Council. They have a few different ideas for this property, so we shall see what they present.

Perhaps you noticed all the holes around town. These are **not** mole holes! The

Village received a grant from the Great Lakes Initiative through the USDA Forest Service to plant a variety of trees. Croy Mowing provided the lowest and best quote and was hired by the Village to prep 795 holes and will be planting the trees in early October. Some trees will be planted in the parks, but a majority of them will be planted on properties purchased by the Village with Hazard Mitigation Grant Program monies. The tree planting project should help to return these properties to a more natural state.

Have you seen the new equipment purchased by the Village? We are now the proud owners of a 2015 Cat Loader and a 2015 Street Sweeper/Vacuum. These machines replace a 2000 loader and a 1986 jetter. You may have seen the street sweeper in action! They are both much-needed, great pieces of equipment.

Happy Halloween!

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving and...

Go Tribe! Go Browns! Go Titans!

—Dean Meyer, Mayor

Village of Ottawa Council

Dean Meyer—Mayor

Council Members

Tim Macke, President

Gene Hovest

Jo Deskins

Troy Yant

John Salsburey

Dave Michel

Planning Commission

Dean Meyer—Chair

Tim Macke

Bill Hanna

Denny Recker

Randy Verhoff

TRICK OR TREAT

Trick or Treat is scheduled for
Thursday, October 29, 2015
between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.

- Walk in groups
- Take a flashlight
- WALK from house to house.
- Use reflective tape to help drivers see children
- Look both ways before crossing the street
- Use established crosswalks wherever possible
- Only visit houses with the porch light on

Be Safe and Have a SPOOKTACULAR time!



CONTACT INFORMATION



As a reminder to all residents, we ask that everyone make sure the Village has your correct contact information. For example, if your water bill is abnormally high for some reason, we will try to contact you to make sure everything is in line. We can only do that if your phone number on file is correct. Many of us have dropped our land line and use a cell phone exclusively. Do the Village offices have that number? If you are unsure, please contact us at 419-523-5020 and ask, we will be glad to help you. —Dave Michel, Council Member

Small Business Saturday

What is Small Business Saturday?

It is a nationwide “Shop Small” business campaign. It inspires people to support and shop at small local 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.

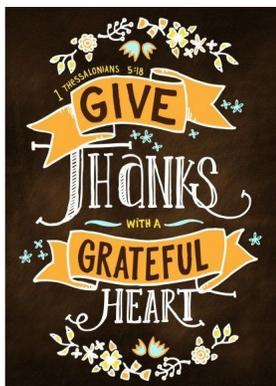
What is the local campaign?

A Small Biz Saturday committee of Chamber members is coordinating a local Small Business Saturday Campaign which is open to ALL Chamber investors. There will be activities throughout the month of November as well as on Nov. 28. If you own a local business and you would like information on participating, contact the Chamber at ottawachamber@earthlink.net or 419-523-3141.



www.ottawaohio.us

The Village website will be undergoing some changes soon as it was originally designed in 2008. So many things in the electronic world have changed since then! Council accepted a proposal from Aardvark Business Development, which is the company that did the original work, to brain-storm with a small committee to optimize the site for mobile devices. Right now, it looks like the project should be completed before the end of this year. If you have any suggestions, or would like to see some specific content on the Village website, please email Council member Troy Yant at tyant@ottawaohio.us.



Happy
Thanksgiving
to all our friends
and families!

FALL IS COMING

The recent chilly weather reminds us that fall is on the way. As a reminder, the Village will not be picking up leaves this year. Any resident of Ottawa can drop them off behind the Municipal Garage on North Defiance Street. Please do not put them out on the streets. This can plug the storm drains and possibly cause street flooding when it rains. Thanks for your cooperation with this. - Dave Michel, Council Member



Did you know that the leaves of one large shade tree can be worth as much as \$50 of plant food and humus? Pound for pound, the leaves of most trees contain twice as many minerals as manure. Since most trees are deep-rooted, they absorb minerals from deep in the soil and a good portion of these minerals goes into the leaves, which are then rich in trace minerals; nature’s nutrient recyclers. The tree leaves that accumulate in and around your landscape represent a valuable natural resource that can be used to provide a good source of organic matter and nutrients for use in your landscape and gardening efforts.

A compost pile can be made in almost any size, and framed by sturdy wire or snow fencing. Most people like to make rectangular shaped piles, because they are easier to handle. It is a good idea to put the material in layers. Start with a six-inch layer of leaves, either shredded or not shredded. Then add a two inch layer of other organic material that is higher in nitrogen than leaves, like grass clippings or old vines from your garden. It is important to mix the leaves to keep them from packing down in a dry mat. Keep the heap moist, but not soggy.

Turn the heap every three weeks, or more if able. Turning it three or four times, before late spring comes, will result in a fine compost ready for spring planting use. Aside from ensuring the start to magnificent spring plant growth, you’ve saved on plastic bags, reduced the amount of yard debris taken to the Municipal Garage and contributed toward making Ottawa, a “green” community.

- Jo A. Deskins, Council Member