



### Message from Mayor Cyril Kleem



I would like to personally invite you and your family to join me and my family at the City of Berea's annual Jack Frost Festival of Lights on Saturday, Dec. 3.

This winter festival and the Grindstone Festival in July have become Berea's signature community events.

There will be the usual parade, fireworks and tree-lighting. Kids can enjoy visits with Santa plus rides on the Merry-Go-Round and Ferris Wheel. The Rotary Club of Berea with the help of Baldwin Wallace University students will pass out free hot chocolate and cookies. We try to mix things up a bit each year by adding something new. This year it's a snow globe photo booth. Even it's not really snowing outside, you can have your picture taken with faux flakes.

Festivals such as this are part of what make this a family-friendly community. This is a great way to welcome the holiday season, meet your neighbors for a fun evening with the kids and grandkids and perhaps make some new friends in the process.

All of these events are free. Please make plans to help Berea kick off the Christmas and Chanukah seasons. Shop Berea. Eat in our restaurants. Play in our parks. This is small town America at its best. This is Berea.

Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and Happy New Year to you all!

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016

**Jack Frost Festival of Lights**  
See inside for details

Our Facebook & Twitter page name is: City of Berea, Ohio  
Visit our website [www.cityofberea.org](http://www.cityofberea.org)

## Blue Grass road project is complete

A two-year project to reconstruct the roadways in the Blue Grass neighborhood and Starlite Drive has been completed on schedule and on budget.

The project wrapped up on Nov. 5 at a total cost of \$2 million.

The work was done in two phases. Phase 1 included the complete reconstruction of Starlite, Paddock, Canter, Shetland and Surrey with new stone base, concrete curbs and gutters and an asphalt pavement. Sidewalks and aprons were replaced as needed. That first phase cost \$600,000 and was done in 2015.

This year, the project tackled the main streets in the development – Bridle and Trotter lanes, Yearling Drive and all the cul de sacs. Trotter, Bridle and Yearling were completely reconstructed including a new stone base, concrete curbs and gutters and an asphalt pavement. There also were storm sewer improvements and sidewalk and apron replacements as needed. Phase 2 cost was \$1.4 million.



City Engineer Tony Armagno said there are still some "soft" issues to address, such as planting grass. The Homeowners Association will handle relandscaping the entryways in the spring.

There were no flooding issues in the neighborhood, but the project did relieve some surface water issues, Armagno said.

The City's long-range strategic plan calls for a similar major project in the Jananna-Vivian-Kaye neighborhood in 2017.

## Berea water is safe to drink

There have been concerns about the quality of Berea's drinking water because of some erroneous media reports. City officials want to assure Berea residents and business owners that Berea water is safe for drinking, cooking and bathing.

Trace amounts of lead, copper and other metals occur naturally in water. The Environmental Protection Agency has set a lead content limit of 0.0155 milligrams per liter for drinking water. The Berea Water Department has tested the water at a home in Berea that a local news outlet previously reported as having high lead levels in the water. The Water Department tests, which were sent to an EPA sanctioned laboratory, show the home with a lead level of 0.0075 mg/l – well below the EPA limit. A similar test at the Berea Water Plant showed a barely detectable level of 0.0012 mg/l.

The Berea Water Plant adds orthophosphate during the water purification process, as mandated by the EPA to prevent lead from leaching into the water supply. However, lead in the drinking water can come from old plumbing or solder around pipes inside homes.

The water plant keeps a file on each home's tap-ins. Homeowners can call the water plant to learn that information. Records show that the

vast majority of those lines are copper.

Berea tests 30 higher risk homes every three years. Because Berea water historically meets guidelines, the EPA indicated that this reduced monitoring was warranted. Homes were last tested in 2014, so the next round of testing will occur in 2017 when drinking water will be tested for both lead and copper.

Cloudy water can be caused by several situations – a water main break, hydrant flushing or construction. Residents in the Fair Street area may be experiencing cloudy water due to the installation of new water mains and sewer lines on the street. That situation is temporary.

Cloudy water also can be caused when water has been sitting in pipes for several hours. Homeowners can clear the water and minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing the hot and cold water taps for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking.

If Berea water customers have any concerns about water quality or want their homes to be tested, they can contact the Berea Water Plant at [waterplant@cityofberea.org](mailto:waterplant@cityofberea.org) or call (440) 234-5652.

## Bulk Trash Collection Friday, Dec. 23

Bulk trash includes large items such as furniture, appliances, carpeting & any large objects that will not fit into the regular blue trash container.

*PLEASE NOTE: Freon no longer must be removed from refrigerators & freezers before being left for pickup. Republic Services will send a separate truck to collect appliances. They will remove the Freon.*

Questions: Call Republic Services,  
(800) 433-1309

## Trash pickup delayed

Because of Christmas on Sunday, Dec. 25 Curbside trash collection will be delayed.

**Trash will be picked up:  
SATURDAY, DEC. 31**

Trash should be placed at curbside no earlier than 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30.

Containers should be removed & stored by 10 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 1.

Because of the New Year's Day holiday on Sunday, Jan. 1 Curbside trash collection will be delayed that week.

**Trash will be picked up:  
SATURDAY, JAN. 7**

## Recycling Tip of the Month

Make sure lids on trash & recycling bins close tightly.

When bins are overstuffed, the automatic arm on the trash trucks cannot operate properly and trash can be spilled.

## Christmas Tree & Light Recycling Recycle Christmas Lights Dec. 5 – Jan. 6

Berea Recreation Center  
451 Front St.

Strings of lights – power strips – extension cords

NO Tinsel, bubble lights or snow spray

Republic Services will pick up trees for composting

**Jan. 7 and Jan. 13**

Leave at curbside

No tinsel, no lights, no tree stands  
Do NOT place in plastic bags

Questions, call the Service Garage  
(440) 826-5853

Or e-mail  
[servicegarage@cityofbera.org](mailto:servicegarage@cityofbera.org)

# RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAYS

## Leaf pickup schedule extended

Because of the unusually warm fall weather, the curbside leaf schedule has been extended citywide. The last pickups were set for the week of Nov. 28 but many of the trees are late shedding their leaves. Service Director Paul Anzalone said the schedule will be extended until Dec. 16. City trucks will make their rounds throughout the city during those final two weeks.

## Delivering holiday turkeys



Berea Mayor Cyril Kleem, Pathways Hospice Chaplain Willie Springer and Pathways CEO David Noggle unload the 25 turkeys donated by Pathways to Berea Community Outreach. The turkeys were given to BCO clients for Thanksgiving.

## Fire safety tips for winter

The Berea Division of Fire reminds residents that the winter months are the leading time of year for home fires. Here are a few safety tips:

Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary by a qualified professional.

Never use a range or oven as a supplemental heating device.

Never leave a portable space heater operating while it is unattended or while you are sleeping.

If you have an artificial Christmas tree, be sure it is labeled, certified or identified by the manufacturer as fire retardant.

If you have a live tree, be sure to keep the stand filled with water.

If there is a fire hydrant near your home, keep it clear of snow so it can be easily located in case of emergency.

Any questions, contact the Berea Division of Fire at (440) 826-5880.



The Monthly Berean is published monthly by the City of Berea and is distributed to residents, organizations and businesses in Berea.

Mayor Cyril Kleem  
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To submit information, contact:  
[beranewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:beranewsletter@gmail.com)  
(440) 274-5608

Please submit stories and information by the 10th of every month.

## SANTA'S Workshop

**Sunday, Dec. 11**

**3 - 5 p.m.**

**Berea Recreation Center**

Children can make presents for their parents/caregivers

Cookies & refreshments will be provided!

## MOVIE NIGHT

**Saturday, Jan. 7**

**6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

**Berea Recreation Center**

Free and fun for all ages!

FEATURING:  
"NORM OF THE NORTH"

Popcorn and refreshments will be provided

Please bring your own blanket or chair





# 2016 Jack Frost Festival of Lights

# Dec. 3

**Free!**

Fun for the whole family!

**CONTACT:**  
Megan Pochatek  
(440) 274-5608

## Parade Route:



## Schedule of Events

**Light up Berea Parade**  
Begins at 5:30 p.m.

**Tree Lighting Ceremony & Fireworks**  
Starting after the parade  
Approximately 6:30 p.m.  
*Located at the Berea Triangle*

**"Iceless" Skating Rink**  
5:30-9 p.m.

**Human Snow Globe**  
5:30 ~ 9 p.m.  
Get your photo taken with you  
friends and family

**Ice Sculpture Demo.**  
Begins at 6:30 p.m.

**Meet Santa**  
6:30-9:30 p.m.  
*\*Please bring your own camera*

**Ferris Wheel & Merry-Go-Round**  
6:30-9:30 p.m.

**Crafts**  
6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Make reindeer food and a  
Christmas countdown craft

**Hot Cocoa and Cookies**  
Donated by Rotary Club of Berea  
**FREE- While supplies last**

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 EVENT SPONSORS



Jim & Dottie Walters  
J&J Appliances  
Larry and Elaine Myers  
Yvonne Fulimeni  
Berea Kiwanis Club  
Georgi Rohde  
Suburban Clock and Repair  
Tom and Dorothy Goebel  
American Legion Post 91  
Belle Amie Hair Studio  
Sweet Mango  
Pat and Dick Koharik

Daune & Kevin Jaynes  
Berea Chamber of Commerce  
Georgia Schuff  
Patrick Hunt  
Rudolf & Joan Kamper  
Donald & Lucille Goebel  
Ed & June Puwal  
Donald Sawyer  
Eugene & Linda Joy  
Tom & Marie Herr  
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Mary Ann Walter

Yvonne Fulimeni  
Darleen Gooslin  
Dik Malott  
Tom Norton  
Bruce & Arlene Lehtinen  
Nick & Donna Haschka  
Matt & Gina Madzy  
Tony & Julie Armagno  
Lillian Anderson  
Pam Defino  
Diana Emrich

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Center Street Bridge closed

The Center Street Bridge over the Metroparks, by Giant Eagle, has been completely closed to traffic. It had been open only to one-way traffic due to safety concerns. An inspection has revealed more issues. A contractor will remove the middle beams because of safety issues.

### Eastland Road resurfacing put on hold

Cuyahoga County has postponed again the repaving of Eastland Road – this time not until the spring of 2017. The roadway has been scheduled to be resurfaced from Bagley Road to the city limits with Middleburg Heights. This is a county project with all costs borne by the county. Residents will be notified by letter about the delay.

### Portion of Bagley Road closed in Olmsted Falls

Bagley Road is closed from Columbia Road to Usher Road in Olmsted Falls so that the bridge can be replaced. The road will remain closed until July 2017. Traffic is being detoured from

Columbia to Cook to Mapleway. Sprague Road is also an alternative.

### City, BW create online resource for businesses

The Baldwin Wallace University Digital Marketing Clinic in partnership with the City of Berea has put together a free resource for businesses. The Berea Biz Resource Portal can point small businesses in the right direction for information on a variety of topics, including project management, web site content development, stock photography, graphics and images and email marketing, among other issues. Visit the portal at <https://dmc.wishpond.com/bereabiz/>

### Southwest General earns ‘A’ for safety

Southwest General was one of only 844 hospitals to receive an “A” in the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, ranking Southwest among the safest in the country. Leapfrog rates hospitals nationwide on patient safety. The safety grade uses 30 measures to assign grades twice a year. To learn more, visit [www.hospitalsafetygrade.org](http://www.hospitalsafetygrade.org).

## NOPEC letter explains utility options

The Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) is a non-profit consortium of more than 200 communities in 13 northeast Ohio counties that provides lower cost gas and electricity to members. Berea has been a NOPEC member since the council was formed in 2000.

Residents have the option of remaining with a NOPEC gas or electricity supplier or shopping around. NOPEC buys in bulk to try to keep prices down for consumers.

Recently, Berea residents received a letter from First Energy stating that it would no longer be the electricity supplier for NOPEC. First Energy had been the supplier since 2010. The new NOPEC electricity supplier will be NextEra Energy Services Ohio, which also is the gas supplier, said Mary Ripley, NOPEC communications manager. NextEra entered an agreement with NOPEC in 2013 to be the gas supplier. That agreement continues through early 2020.

“This will be a seamless transition,” Ripley said. “Consumers’ electricity is not going to stop.”

Every three years, NOPEC is required by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to send letters to consumers, informing them of the electricity supplier, the costs, and the savings and offering consumers a chance to opt out of the program. This year was the regularly scheduled year for those letters and they were mailed to Berea residents in late November. Letters about the gas supplier are mailed every two years.

If consumers want to remain with NOPEC and have NextEra as the electric supplier, they don’t have to do anything, Ripley said. “They can throw that letter away,” she said. If, however, they want to explore alternatives and decide not to remain with NOPEC, they can sign and return the letter.

NextEra is expected to give a 6 percent savings on electricity rates to residents and 4 percent savings to small businesses – the same savings FirstEnergy offered in the past, Ripley said.

Customers can view gas and electric pricing for NOPEC and compare rates at [www.nopecinfo.org](http://www.nopecinfo.org). Consumers also can visit the PUCO web site, [www.energychoice.ohio.gov](http://www.energychoice.ohio.gov).

## Wiffle League expands



Members of the Berea Wiffle League visit the Berea Recreation Center. They include Jackson Host, Jacob Andrews, Matthew Yakimov and Alex Smearman.

The Berea Wiffle League, which started three years ago with four teams of Middleburg Heights Junior High boys, is looking to expand to include girls and adults.

Jacob Andrews, one of the founders, said the 2016 league was boosted to 12 teams thanks to interest from teens in surrounding communities, including Brook Park, Middleburg Heights, Olmsted Falls, Westlake and Medina. There was also one adult team – the Huffer Puffers. “They actually did pretty well,” said Matthew Yakimov, another founding member of the league.

The original team members are now students at Berea-Midpark High School and making plans for college. They also want to ensure that the Wiffle League endures. The guys are recruiting kids at Ford Intermediate School, Middleburg Heights Junior High and hope to get students at Grindstone Elementary School involved as well.

“It helps that we had a very successful year,” said wiffle player Jackson Host. Students don’t necessarily have to play, he said. Volunteers are needed to set up the field and keep score. “But our goal is to get more players,” he said.

This year’s teams played on two fields – a growth spurt from just one field last year – at the recreation area on the grounds of what used to be Parknoll School. The season runs from Memorial Day through August and ends with the World Series of Wiffle Ball.

This year, the final games coincided with the Indians’ World Series appearances. “We flew the Indians banner on the foul pole,” Andrews said.

Sponsors are integral to the success of the league, said Alex Smearman. Sponsors included Dakota Seeds, which sells sunflower seeds; New Primal Beef Jerky, Giant Seeds, the official sunflower seed supplier to MLB; and Excursions Journey to Health, wiffle equipment supplier. Smearman said the league goes through more than 100 balls a season. Budget Saver gave the league coupons for popsicles.

The league also sold shirts with the Berea Wiffle Ball logo. As usual, proceeds from donations and sales went to Berea Animal Rescue. This year, that totaled \$500.

Tryouts begin in January and February. Interested players can contact the league via e-mail at [bereawiffle@gmail.com](mailto:bereawiffle@gmail.com). Also check out their videos on YouTube.

## KIWANIS PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 4

Berea-Midpark High School

Tickets \$7

(No charge for children 5 and younger)

Christmas Carols – Santa – Crafts

Music by Marlynda

## Victorian Christmas Tea

Berea Historical Society

Mahler Museum & Education Center

118 E. Bridge St.

2-4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11

Free & Open to the Public

Entertainment – Food –

Spiced Wassail served Victorian style

## Historical Society presents Grindstone Heritage Awards

A former mayor of Berea and a nurse who served in France in World War I were honored with Grindstone Heritage Awards in October. The awards are presented posthumously by the Berea Historical Society to members of the community who have contributed significantly to Berea's history.

Honored this year were former Mayor Tom L. Stinchcomb and Antoinette Lippold, who served with the Red Cross.

Stinchcomb had been president of Berea City Council when Mayor Ernest Quackenbush died in office in 1959. Stinchcomb took over as mayor and served through 1963. He was an independent insurance adjuster and a member of the Berea Masonic Temple, Shrine Club and the City Club. He also sang with the Orpheus Male Choir, The Temple in Cleveland, Old Stone Church and the Rocky River Methodist Church. He was an active member of the Berea United Church of Christ. Stinchcomb and his wife, Marjorie, had a daughter Sharon Stinchcomb Calderini, BHS '60, who lives in Colorado. She wrote to the Historical Society, "He cared so much for the City of Berea and as the mayor always tried so hard to do what was best for both its present and its future." Stinchcomb died in 1974 and is buried in Woodvale Cemetery.

Lippold was born in Chicago in 1893. She was orphaned at an early age and was sent to the German Methodist Orphan Asylum (now Guidestone). At 18, she returned to Chicago and entered a training program for nurses. After graduation, she joined the Red Cross and spent time at Camp Greene in North Carolina where soldiers were being trained to fight in Europe during World War I. She was sent to France in October 1918 and died there on Nov. 5, 1918, of meningitis.

Heritage Award winners' names are inscribed on a memorial in Grindstone Heritage Park near the Triangle. The park was created by City Council in 1976 and the first names were added two years later.

## "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"

Academy for Dramatic Arts  
Christ United Church

23114 West Road, Olmsted Falls

7 p.m., Dec. 2

2 p.m. & 7 p.m., Dec. 3

2 p.m., Dec. 4

Tickets: \$10 adults (13+), \$5 children (4-12)

[afdaberea@gmail.com](mailto:afdaberea@gmail.com)

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Auditions for "Dear Edwina Jr."

4-7 p.m., Jan. 15

For actors 10-16 years old

## Ohio Means Jobs matches workers and employers

When workers are searching for jobs and employers are looking to hire, Ohio Means Jobs may be the answer.

Ohio Means Jobs/Cleveland-Cuyahoga County is a one-stop collaborative that offers many different programs and services at no cost to businesses and job-seekers.

Tom Hasson is the workforce service center manager at the OMJ west-side location at 11699 Brookpark Road in Parma. "These are permanent, full-time jobs," Hasson emphasized. "Last year, we placed 4,000 people."

"We deal with companies large and small," Hasson said. There are more than 3,000 employers in the data base, including PPG Industries and The Cleveland Clinic.

"We build relationships with companies," he said. "We visit them to learn more about their requirements, their culture. We want to find out what's important to them."

The job needs can range from warehouse work to driving to middle management.

OMJ counselors work with job-seekers to hone



The Learning Center at Ohio Means Jobs is a resource for job-seekers to work on resumes and search online



Tom Hasson

interview skills and resumes. "There is an orientation program to let the job-seeker learn what we offer," Hasson said. A resource room offers telephones, fax machines, copiers and computers. "They can use this like their office, their headquarters while they look for work," Hasson said.

Military veterans are assigned to employment specialists who are experienced in dealing with the special needs of vets.

Matching the right worker with the right job "is not rocket science," Hasson said. "It's a journey. Applying for a job now is not like it was years ago." Most job searches and help wanted ads are online. But the interviews are in person.

"We want people to practice their elevator speech – about 30 seconds to communicate what you can offer. Practice it. Be smiling. Be prepared."

Contact Ohio Means Jobs' Parma office at (216) 898-1366 or visit [www.ohiomeansjob.com/cuyahoga](http://www.ohiomeansjob.com/cuyahoga).

## Water meter installations nearly complete

Only a handful of residential water meters are left to be installed and those should be completed very shortly.

Around 25 commercial meters also remain to be replaced by the end of the year.

Utility Engineer Sandra Vozar said, "There have been very few problems and our residents have cooperated tremendously in quite a successful project."

The process of replacing older water meters with newer, high tech meters began in June. More than 4,000 meters have been installed. Almost 3,000 meters had been updated over the past 10 years. The new meters come with meter transmitting units that automatically send data to the City on a daily basis. The result will be more accurate data about water usage and will assist in early detection of leaks that many homes experience. In the past, a water meter reader would visit homes on a quarterly schedule. By the time the meter reader noticed high usage and leakage issues, major damage had been done or an ex-

tremely high water bill resulted. Daily, automatic readings will tip off the Water Department to problems immediately and prevent such damage. Plus, a water meter reader will no longer have to enter homes and businesses.

The City hired NECO to install the new equipment, which included Badger water meters and ACLARA meter transmitting units. The units have a 20-year life expectancy. During the summer, NECO had as many as seven installers working daily with approximately 75 meters installed each day.

During the project, other plumbing problems were detected and corrected. Many inside valves were replaced and city shutoffs at the street were fixed as well.

To help pay for the project, \$2 per month is added to quarterly water and sewer bills. Those funds will be placed in a special account to pay for future upgrades and replacements.

Vozar called the project "a very positive experience."

## SCHOOL NEWS



### BMHS marching band wins 2<sup>nd</sup> place

The Berea-Midpark High School marching Titans garnered second place in the Cleveland.com contest for Best High School Marching Band in Northeast Ohio. First place went to the Cuyahoga Falls Tiger Marching Band. Videos of the bands' performances were posted on Cleveland.com and fans were invited to vote.

### Ford Fitness Program at Berea Rec in recess

The fitness program for Ford Intermediate School students sponsored by the City of Berea is in recess until March. Students are bused to the Berea Recreation Center twice a week for kickball, dodgeball, tug-a-war and other activities. Parents should sign up their children at Ford. The program is free and is limited to 60 students.

### Winter sports get under way at BMHS

Winter sports teams are ready to get under way at Berea-Midpark High School.

The Girls' Varsity Basketball Team will play its first game on Nov. 30 at home against North Olmsted. The first home game in December will be 7:15 p.m., Dec. 7 vs. Westlake. These are conference games.

The Boys' Varsity Basketball Team's first game is 7:15 p.m., Dec. 9 away vs. Lakewood. The first home game is 7:15 p.m., Dec. 13 vs. North Ridgeville. Both games are conference games.

Wrestlers will attend the non-conference Edison Invitational on Dec. 3. The first home meet will be 6 p.m., Dec. 15 – a Southwest Conference Double Dual Meet with Avon and Lakewood.

For more information on other sports teams, visit [www.berea.k12.oh.us](http://www.berea.k12.oh.us).

## Veterans tour Browns Training Facility



Veterans from the Northwestern Healthcare Center enjoyed a private tour of the Cleveland Browns Training Facility recently. Stopping on the indoor field are John Nolder (Air Force), Richard Rivotta (Navy), Lawrence Toney (Army) and Pathways Hospice Chaplain Willie Springer (Army). The tour was part of the We Honor Veterans program at Pathways.

## Berea Cares introduces Food Resource Guide

The Berea Cares committee has distributed a Food Resource Guide, listing available food pantries and other assistance for meals for Berea residents.

The booklet is a collaboration between Metro-Health Medical Center, its Berea Cares representative Karen Cook and the residents of Quarrytown. The guide is being used by Quarrytown, the various food pantries in Berea and area churches. For additional copies, see Berea Cares chair Duane Jaynes, [bco@cityofberea.org](mailto:bco@cityofberea.org).

The committee also is discussing ways to produce a community support group guide similar to that previously provided by the Berea City School District. The district no longer produces the guide. The guide would list non-profits and other organizations in the area, the type of assistance they can offer and how to contact them.

Another concern is Meals on Wheels, which has been run out of St. Paul Lutheran Church. Rev. Tom Henderson of St. Paul's said the St. Paul program will cease operations as of Dec. 31. Finances are a major concern. Berea Cares will look into applying for a grant to fund the program.

*The next Berea Cares meeting will be 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 21 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 276 E. Bagley Road. The committee is open to all civic organizations and individuals who would like to volunteer. Berea Cares has four major areas of focus – youth, seniors, military veterans and low income/disabled.*

## City honors World War II veteran



Mayor Cyril Kleem presented World War II veteran Julia Heinemann, 92, with a special proclamation for her military service with the Army Air Corps. Attending the ceremony were members of her family, police and firefighters and two volunteers with Pathways Hospice's Veterans to Veterans program. Navy vet Bill Douglass and Army vet Dale Eckert have completed a training course to visit veterans in hospice care. Julia is a Pathways Hospice client. She served as a supply clerk in San Francisco from 1942-1945 and was honorably discharged as a corporal. She and her husband, George, had three sons, David, George and William.



## Election results for ballot issues

Most issues on the ballot for Berea voters on Nov. 8 passed handily. Issue 6, the renewal of a 4.1-mill operating levy for the City of Berea was approved by voters for the 10<sup>th</sup> time since 1975. Two of the three proposed charter amendments passed as did both school issues.

Voter turnout was high. In Berea, it was 73 percent. Countywide, 67 percent of registered voters went to the polls.

Here is a breakdown by issue and what the costs to taxpayers will be:

Issue 6: City of Berea 4.1-mill general operations renewal levy. For the levy, 5,532 (65 percent); Against the levy, 2,927 (35 percent). Cost to the owner of a \$100,000 home is \$26.73 a year. No increase in taxes.

Issue 7: Proposed Charter Amendment to extend City Council terms from 2 years to 4 years. Yes, 3,639 (46 percent); No, 4,356 (54 percent). Issue fails. Terms will remain at 2 years.

Issue 8: Proposed Charter Amendment to allow

City Council to change the way members are notified of special meetings. Yes, 5,583 (74 percent); No, 1,961 (26 percent). Issue passes.

Issue 9: Proposed Charter Amendment to call for non-partisan elections. Yes, 4,342 (59 percent); No, 3,066 (41 percent). Issue passes.

Issue 10: Liquor Option, Sunday Sales for Perk Cup Café. Yes, 80 percent; No, 20 percent. Issue passes.

Issue 11: Liquor Option, Sunday Sales for Mike's Bar & Grille. Yes, 83 percent; No, 17 percent. Issue passes.

Issue 107: Berea City School District 4.2-mill bond issue. For, 13,447 (55 percent); Against, 10,864 (45 percent). Issue passes. Cost to owner of a \$100,000 home will be \$147 a year.

Issue 119: Polaris Career Center 0.69-mill permanent improvement levy. For, 43,836 (51 percent); Against, 41,331 (49 percent). Issue passes. Cost to the owner of a \$100,000 home will be \$24 a year.



*Veterans' Corner is a monthly listing of activities and resources for military veterans.*

### Hospice trains veterans to help veterans

Pathways Hospice of Berea is training military veteran volunteers to visit veterans in hospice care. The Veteran-to-Veteran program is designed to pair volunteers with veterans who may have medical or aging issues at home or in a facility. Veteran volunteers may be asked to read, write letters, pick up groceries, run errands or just visit and talk with clients. There is a training program.

To apply, contact Pathways Hospice at (844) 835-2220 or visit [www.pathwayshospice.co](http://www.pathwayshospice.co).

### First all-female Honor Flight visits Washington, D.C.

The first all-women veterans Honor Flight flew out of Columbus in September. The 81 vets had served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. They began their visit at the Women in Military Service to America Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery and also stopped at the Iwo Jima Memorial, Air Force Memorial, World War II Memorial, Korean War Memorial and the Vietnam Wall. For more information on Honor Flight, visit [www.honorflightcleveland.com](http://www.honorflightcleveland.com).

### Millions raised for Fisher House

The goal to raise \$3 million to build a Fisher House in Cleveland has been met. Over the past four years, the campaign sought support from veterans groups and the community. Fisher House provides a home away from home for families while veterans receive medical care. The Greater Cleveland version will actually be two homes with 12-14 suites that will accommodate up to 50 family members. The homes will be built next to the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center. For more information, visit [www.greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org](http://www.greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org) or call (440) 377-0067.

### How to send Christmas cards for military

For a detailed list of non-profits that support veterans and active duty military, especially during the winter holidays, visit [www.wearere.com](http://www.wearere.com). The Web site lists dozens of organizations that offer advice on sending packages, letters and greeting cards to veterans and active duty military at home and on deployment. The list includes such organizations as Adopt-a-Platoon and Moms for the Military.

## BW helps vets transition to college campus

Separating from the military and reentering civilian life can be a challenge. Adjusting to a new life on a college campus can be doubly so. Baldwin Wallace University's newly opened Veterans Resource Center aims to help student veterans not only with BW programs but with others offered by the Veterans Administration and other agencies as well.

Student veterans are typically older than the usual college student, who is fresh out of high school. The average age of student vets at BW is 34-35, said Nancy Jirousek, director of adult, transfer and military services for BW. The oldest vet is in the early 50s. That can make transition to campus life a bit different.

"We've been working to create a military-friendly campus since 2008," said Jirousek. This year, Home Depot awarded the university a \$10,000 grant to create the Veterans Resource Center in the Student Activity Center (SAC) on Beech Street. It opened on Veterans Day with the help of the Student Veterans of America chapter on campus.

The grant allowed for the refurbishing of office space on the lower level of the SAC, 96 Beech St. It has a lounge area, computer work stations and an office for Randy Stevenson, Army veteran and Veteran Services Coordinator for BW. Stevenson served for 10 years between active duty Army and the National Guard and he previously worked for the Cuyahoga County Veterans Service Commission.

There are 85-90 student vets on campus plus 27 spouses or other relatives who have received GI Bill privileges, Jirousek said. The Resource Center also will serve Air Force ROTC students from Kent State and Army ROTC students from John Carroll University.

Stevenson, who lives in Berea, said he can put vets in touch with VA benefits and programs and can offer counseling, if needed. Right now, BW is working with the Parma Vet Center to collaborate on programs.

Under the new GI Bill, vets can attend tuition



*Staffing the BW Veterans Resource Center are, from the left, Nancy Jirousek, Randy Stevenson and Marina Ross.*

free and receive a book stipend. BW is a Yellow Ribbon School, Jirousek said. That means the higher costs of attending a private college such as BW can be mitigated. The VA calculates BW's tuition and the tuition costs at the most expensive state school (in Ohio, that would be Miami University) and splits the difference.

Each department at BW also has an employee dedicated to dealing with veterans and their special needs, Jirousek said.

Helping out in the Veterans Resource Center is Navy veteran Marina Ross of Berea. Marina and Army vet Kate Potter are attending BW on the VA work-study program. They attend classes and work in the Resource Center.

Ross will graduate in May with dual degrees - a B.A. and an MBA in accounting. She also is a mom with three children, 6, 8 and 9, at Grindstone Elementary School and a husband, Morris Ross III, also a Navy vet studying at Tri-C.

"I was looking for a school that would offer a good education, that was the first priority," Ross said. "But the VA program was also a factor." Ross served from 2000-2006 mainly at Annapolis, Md., and Great Lakes Training Center in Chicago. Her husband separated in 2014 after 14 years on active duty.

BW has made the transition to civilian life easier, Ross said. "We had to move away from the security of the base and not having that ID card," she said. "Here is a good surrogate."

## Police deliver Thanksgiving turkeys

The police station's No Shave Campaign paid off in November when officers delivered turkeys to eight Berea families for Thanksgiving. Officers were permitted to forego shaving if they

kicked in \$20 a month to a special Feed-a-Family fund. The money raised was used to purchase Thanksgiving meals for families in need.





## BW presents holiday music concerts

The Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music and the Community Music School will present its annual program of holiday concerts in December. Most are free but for some there is a charge. Visit [www.bw.edu/tickets](http://www.bw.edu/tickets) for pricing. All concerts are in Gamble Auditorium, Kulas Musical Arts Building, 96 Front St.

Building on 40 years of intergenerational learning, the Community Learning School tries to enrich lives by providing experiences that promote lifelong engagement with music. CMS offers music and arts education for students of all ages from infant to retiree. Call (440) 826-2365 or visit [www.bw.edu/community-music-school/](http://www.bw.edu/community-music-school/) for program information.

**Community Music School: Men's Chorus Holiday Concert:** Holiday favorites with student ensemble, Mr. Sun's Echo. The evening includes candlelight processional, soloists, organ, brass ensemble and audience sing-along. Frank Bianchi, conductor. **3 and 6 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3.** For tickets, visit [www.bw.edu/tickets](http://www.bw.edu/tickets).

**Conservatory Holiday Concert:** Music of the season sponsored by Friends of the Conservatory. **3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4.** For tickets, visit [www.bw.edu/tickets](http://www.bw.edu/tickets).

**New Horizons Band: 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 7.** Free.

**New Horizons Orchestra: 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 8.** Free.

**Youth Honors Wind Ensemble:** The Jazz Band, Concert Winds and Symphony Winds will perform. **6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10.** Free.

## Kids can be Junior Police Officers for a Day

Students in the third- and fourth-grades can be police officers for a day on Wednesday, Dec. 21.

The Division of Police's Community Engagement Unit is sponsoring the Junior Police Officer Day, which will be in two sessions. Children can sign up for 9:30 a.m. to noon or 1-2:30 p.m. Kids will be sworn in, learn about their jobs and then help solve a whodunit. Afterward, they will share a pizza lunch with officers.

Only 10 spots per session are available. Children must live and go to school in Berea. Parents can register children from 9 a.m. to noon on Dec. 7-8 by calling Kathy at (440) 891-3316. The program is free.

**Community Music School: Women's Chorus:** A variety of chorale literature written especially for female voice, including classic and contemporary choral masterworks as well as Broadway ad pop. Jordan Saul, conductor. **8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10.** Free.

**String Ensemble & String Orchestra: 1 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11.** Free.

**Junior & Senior Youth Orchestra: 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 11.** Free.

**Suzuki Center Solo Recital: 2 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 18.** Free.

*Other programs offered by BW in December are:*

**Music Theatre Senior Recitals:** Music theatre seniors perform a self-created, self-directed 45-minute cabaret program of acting, singing and dance. **John Patrick Theatre, Kleist Center for Art & Drama, 95 E. Bagley Road., 6:30, 7:30 8:30 & 9:30 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 1; 6, 7, 8 & 9 p.m., Friday, Dec. 2; and 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, & 9 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3.** Free.

**Symphony Orchestra:** "Sumptuous melodies, timeless emotions!" Performing Clint Needham's "Everyday Life" and Tchaikovsky's "Symphony No. 5." Octavio Mas-Arocas, conductor. **Gamble Auditorium, Kulas Musical Arts Building, 96 Front St., 7 p.m., Friday, Dec. 2.** Free.

*Finals week is Dec. 5-9. Fall Commencement is 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, in Ursprung Gymnasium, Lou Higgins Recreation Center, 136 E. Bagley Road. Tickets are required. Visit [www.bw.edu/commencement/](http://www.bw.edu/commencement/) for details.*

*Baldwin Wallace University offices will be closed Dec. 21-Jan. 2.*

## Church Street Ministries Fundraiser

**7:30-9:30 p.m.  
Friday, Dec. 2  
Razzles**

27128 Bagley Road, Olmsted Township  
All-You-Can-Eat Pizza & Wings  
50/50 - Raffles - \$100 Door Prize

Tickets, \$20

**Thank you for supporting Berea's 2016 special events!**



## Chamber president receives Bright Star Award



*Megan Baeche, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, left; Dave Pusti, Board President, present Cynthia Cekanski with the Bright Star Award*

Cynthia Cekanski, president of the Berea Chamber of Commerce, received the 2016 Bright Star Award from the Northern Ohio Area Chambers of Commerce. The award is given each year to one person from each member chamber who has gone above and beyond in their volunteer efforts. The award ceremony was Oct. 27 at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton. Cekanski is an administrator with Aristocrat Berea.

## BW to go smoke-free

The campus of Baldwin Wallace University will ban all tobacco products as of Jan. 1, 2017.

The university's new tobacco and smoke-free policy was established in the interest of the "health, safety and comfort" of the campus community, according to a BW news release.

The policy change was student-led. Student government conducted a survey last year that indicated a positive response. "Student leaders worked together to make this happen," said Ashley King, former Student Body president.

The new policy covers any tobacco product, lighted or unlighted, including but not limited to cigarettes, pipes, cigars, e-cigarettes, smokeless and chewing tobacco. That includes sale, possession and use of tobacco. The policy applies to anyone who is on campus or who is in a BW-owned or leased vehicle or building. Use of tobacco in personal vehicles on campus is prohibited. The policy applies to students, faculty, staff, contractors, vendors and visitors.

## SCAN Hunger Center Holiday Hours

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Friday, Dec. 9**

4-7 p.m.

**Friday, Dec. 16**



## At the Library

### Opera comes to the Berea Branch Library

Opera is a common theme through some unlikely pop culture icons – Sesame Street, The Muppet Show, Looney Tunes, British Airways, Apocalypse Now, the Marx Brothers and Citizen Kane, to name a few. This program draws attention to the ways in which music and the plots of operas have become part of our everyday lives. Great Lakes Light Opera will explore the best and worst references in pop culture. There will be video clips, recordings and even a live opera singer. **“Kill the Wabbit: Opera in Pop Culture”** will be 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 14.

**The library will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 24 through Sunday, Dec. 25 and Saturday, Dec. 31 through Sunday, Jan. 1 for the Christmas and New Year’s holidays.**

Reservations are requested for all programs except weekly children’s story times. Visit [cuyahogalibrary.org](http://cuyahogalibrary.org) or call (440) 234-5475. Other programs at the Berea Branch during December are:

#### For Mixed Ages

**Music for the Holidays:** Recorder-Concert West will perform holiday music, Bach and carols from around the world. 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 4.

**Punch and Judy Show:** The annual holiday puppet show features master puppeteer Nancy Sander and “Santa’s Little Helper.” The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Berea Branch Library. Registration is required for all children and adults attending the show. 7 p.m., Dec. 12.

#### For Adults

**Social Media Basics:** A fun and informative session to learn about Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. 7 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 7.

**Thursday Evening Book Discussion:** Books are available at the branch one month prior to the discussion date. 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 8.

**Monday Afternoon Book Discussion:** This month’s discussion will be “The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane” by Kate DiCamillo. Copies of the book will be available at the check-out desk one month before the discussion. 2 p.m., Monday, Dec. 12.

**Drop In and Download:** Learn how to borrow free eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, movies and music from our digital collection anytime, anywhere. Bring your devices and passwords and the staff will get you started. The digital collection is available 24/7, 365 days a year and there are never any late fees. 1:30-4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 21; 5:45-8:45 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 22.

#### For Teens

**Tag Tuesday:** Teen Activity Group Tuesday

meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Each session features a different activity - crafts, games, service, etc. Light refreshments provided. A parent/guardian must sign a release form before the program. Registration is requested. This program is for students in grades 6-12. 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 20.

**Minecraft Creation Challenge:** Students in Grades 6-9 can take part in a creation challenge using the pocket edition of Minecraft on the library’s iPads. Registration is required. 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 28.

#### For Kids

**K-2 Build and Do:** Students in kindergarten through Grade 2 learn through the fun of doing. Each session will introduce a new challenge and kids will build and create solutions using Lego blocks and a variety of materials. Registration required. 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 3.

**Tween Time Tuesday:** For students in Grades 4-6. A different activity each month. Light refreshments are provided. Parent/guardian must sign a release. Registration is required. 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 6.

**Frozen Science:** Children in Grades 1-5 will channel Elsa’s powers as they learn how to form ice and create their very own troll slime. A parent/legal guardian must sign the Release and Hold Harmless form. Parents are encouraged to stay with younger students. Registration is required. 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 17.

**Noon Year’s Eve Celebration:** Families are invited to celebrate the New Year early with their kids. Ring in 2017 with music, a ball drop and a countdown at noon. Registration is required for all adults and children attending. 11:30 a.m., Friday, Dec. 30.

**Weekly Children’s Storytimes begin in January.** Call (440) 234-5475 or visit [www.cuyahogalibrary.org](http://www.cuyahogalibrary.org) for specific times and ages. Programs are available for children birth through age 5 as well as children of school age. Registration is not required.

#### JANUARY PREVIEW

**Brain Fitness:** A three-week series with Kathryn Kilpatrick, M.A., CCC/SLP, to challenge your brain. 2 p.m., Thursdays, Jan. 5, Jan. 12 & Jan. 19.

**A Skippyjon Jones Celebration:** For Skippyjon Jones fans ages 3-11 with a caregiver. Stories, games and activities. Registration is required. 2 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 14.

**Eat Your Words:** The launch of a new bi-monthly culinary book club. We will explore cookbooks and share recipes. Books will be available at the library one month prior to each meeting. 2 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 17.

## Berea Little Free Pantry opens behind City Hall



Stocking the new Berea Little Free Pantry are Kristyn Haschka, Randy Berlan, Matt Brockman and Donna and Nick Haschka. Emma Hashka, far right, helped too.

The shelf-like structure behind Berea City Hall and the Berea Branch Library is stocked with canned goods and paper products. A sign on the door invites those in need to take and those who can to give.

The Berea Little Free Pantry is a new concept promoted on Facebook and started by a mother in Fayetteville, Ark., in May of this year. Little Free Pantries are now popping up throughout the Midwest.

Kristyn Haschka, daughter-in-law of Ward 2 Councilman Nick Haschka, saw the Facebook posts and asked Nick if such a pantry would work in Berea. Nick consulted with Mayor Cyril Kleem, who gave his blessing.

Kristyn’s friends Randy Berlan and Matt Brockman offered to build it. Randy bought the supplies. Donations of non-perishable food items came from Kristyn and other mothers in Berea.

“The response was overwhelming,” Kristyn said. “I had at least 10 women in neighboring communities immediately volunteer to help us get started.”

Some of those women hope to start similar Little Free Pantries in their communities. Another mother has construction under way in Euclid, Kristyn said.

The goal of the Little Free Pantry movement is to provide free food and other supplies 24/7. Patrons take what they need. Donors can drop off items at any time to restock the shelves. The pantry is not meant to feed a family for an extended period of time but can provide short-term relief.

For more on the Little Free Pantry, visit [www.littlefreepantry.org](http://www.littlefreepantry.org).

## Find what you're looking for at Finders Keepers

Finders keepers is an old saw but it might just prove true at a new resale and consignment shop – Finders Keepers Corner.

Located in the Williamsport Plaza, Finders Keepers accepts high quality clothing and collectibles for resale and currently has nine vendors offering a wide variety of wares.

Business partners Amany Makari, Bobbi Cavanaugh and Sonja Ade opened the store in October. “We have a little bit of everything,” Makari said.

The merchandise includes hand-made, original greeting cards; cookbooks; pictures; jewelry; kitchen items, even vintage furniture dating from the 1920s, as well as an extensive collection of men’s and women’s clothing.

“We don’t accept just anything,” Cavanaugh said. “We look everything over very carefully to see if it fits with what we want to offer.”



*Amany Makari and Bobbi Cavanaugh welcome shoppers to Finders Keepers Corner.*

Finders Keepers Corner is located at 398 W. Bagley Road, Unit #10. Effective Dec. 1, hours will be 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Follow them on Facebook or call (440) 973-4973.

## BHS Class of 1946 celebrates 70<sup>th</sup> reunion

Dan Prochazka knows how to make an entrance. He showed up at his 70<sup>th</sup> Berea High School class reunion earlier this year in a bright yellow Corvette – complete with a handicapped placard hanging from the mirror.

“I come to all the reunions,” Prochazka said. “Berea High was a very nice school.” After graduation, Prochazka went on to teach auto mechanics for 40 years, retiring from Midpark High School. Now he runs a farm in West Salem, Ohio, growing corn, soybeans and wheat.

Catching up with classmates was the primary focus of a mini-reunion arranged by the Berea High School Alumni Association. Seven members of the Class of 1946 attended the get-together at the Berea Historical Society. There were 87 members in the original class.

Evelyn Harnagy Wiechowski – after whose family Harnagy street is named – remembers John Mucklo as one of her favorite teachers. “He kept a paddle,” she recalled. “He wouldn’t actually hit anyone but he would wave it around.” It helped keep unruly kids in line.

Shirley Sanderson Schmitt remembers the impact World War II had on her class. The war was over by 1946 but students had family members and friends who served and the students felt a part of the war, she said.

Annabelle Nock Patton said classmates visited the homes of the fallen soldiers to learn more about them. “We dedicated our yearbook to them,” Patton said. “We asked the families for photos and information.” She said 38 Bereans who lost their lives during the war have their photos in the class of 1946 yearbook. The expe-



*Shirley Sanderson Schmitt cuts the celebratory cake for the 70<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the Class of 1946.*

rience had a lasting impact, she said. “I grew up very fast,” Patton said.

Art Dumke, who went on to run the Cities Service gas station in Berea after graduation, said he was drafted in 1947. “I took the physical but I was only 5 feet tall,” he said. He didn’t have to serve. Dumke did remember the war years as very lean times for families. “Meat was scarce,” he said. “We raised chickens so we could eat.” Families used ration books for food and gasoline.

For Mildred Zegarac Posen, growing up in Berea in the 1940s was “a wonderful time. You could walk down the street and they would say ‘good morning’ to you.”

“Everybody knew everybody else in Berea. It was an exciting time.”

City of Berea  
11 Berea Commons  
Berea, Ohio 44017

PRESORTED STANDARD  
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BEREA, OH  
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ECRWSS

## POSTAL PATRON

Phone: (440) 826-5800

www.cityofberea.org

## Community Events

**Dec. 2:** Night at the Races for the Bases. 6-11:30 p.m., Browns Training Facility, 76 Lou Groza Blvd. Fundraiser for Tyler Field. Tickets, \$30.

**Dec. 2:** Church Street Ministries Fundraiser. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Razzles/Rockers Café, 27128 Bagley Road, Olmsted Township. All-U-Can-Eat Pizza & Wings. 50/50 & raffles. \$100 door prize. Tickets, \$20.

**Dec. 2-4:** Best Christmas Pageant Ever. Academy for Dramatic Arts, Christ United Church, 23114 West Road, Olmsted Falls. 7 p.m. Dec. 2; 2 and 7 p.m. Dec. 3; 2 p.m. Dec. 4. Tickets \$10 adults (13+), \$5 children (4-12).

**Dec. 3:** Jack Frost Festival of Lights. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Downtown Berea. Free.

**Dec. 4:** Kiwanis Pancake & Sausage Breakfast. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Berea-Midpark High School. Tickets \$7.

**Dec. 6:** Holiday Orchestra Concert. 7 p.m., Berea-Midpark High School.

**Dec. 7:** Pearl Harbor Day.

**Dec. 8:** Holiday Band Concert. 7 p.m., Berea-Midpark High School.

**Dec. 11:** Victorian Christmas Tea. 2-4 p.m., Berea Historical Society, 118 E. Bridge St., (440) 243-2541. Free.

**Dec. 11:** Santa’s Workshop. 3-5 p.m., Berea Recreation Center, 451 Front St. Children invited to make gifts for parents/caregivers. Cookies & refreshments provided.

**Dec. 15:** Holiday Choir Concert. 7 p.m., Berea-Midpark High School.

**Dec. 16:** Berea Historical Society. Last day museum will be open until 2017.

**Dec. 21-Jan. 3:** Winter Break. Berea City School District.

**Dec. 23:** Bulk Pickup Day.

**Dec. 24:** Chanukah begins at sundown.

**Dec. 25:** Christmas.

**Dec. 31:** Curbside Trash Collection delay because of Christmas holiday.

**Dec. 31:** New Year’s Eve.