



CITY OF  
**PICKERINGTON**

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT E-NEWSLETTER FOURTH QUARTER 2017**

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### **LETTER FROM THE MAYOR**

As the end of the year quickly approaches, it is a good time to reflect on the successes of 2017.

The City welcomed Combustion Brewery and Taproom, Sycamore Creek Senior Living, Sherwin-Williams and Zettler Hardware to the business community. We provided a job retention and creation grant to one of the City's top employers, R.G. Barry Corporation.

A number of projects were completed this year, including a study examining the water treatment plant's capacity as it relates to growth, \$1.3 million in annual residential pavement maintenance and the completion of the Pickerington Downtown Plan. Lastly, while you may not have seen physical work taking place, staff has been working on final preparations for Refugee Road improvements.

The City is looking forward to a number of projects set to begin next year, including the aforementioned improvement and widening of Refugee Road, an economic development strategic plan, the continuation of my administration's commitment to \$1 million in annual residential pavement maintenance and renovations or upgrades to several of our parks.

There are many exciting opportunities that lie ahead for the City in 2018. I am confident that Pickerington will continue to capitalize on the many successes of 2017. As always, my Administration and the City's Economic Development Department are here to assist you. We are committed to serving the City of Pickerington.

Merry Christmas and have a safe holiday season!

Sincerely,

Lee A. Gray  
Mayor



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### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS**

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#### **R.G. BARRY CORP TO RETAIN 100 JOBS AND ADD ADDITIONAL 20 IN THE CITY OF PICKERINGTON**

R.G. Barry Corp., a leading developer and marketer of accessory lifestyle brands and

products, will retain and expand its presence in Pickerington.

The economic development agreement states that R.G. Barry Corp. will remain in Pickerington for 15 years, retain 100 employees and add 20 new jobs. In consideration, the City of Pickerington will offer R.G. Barry Corp. a job retention and creation grant. This retention and expansion project was in competition with other Central Ohio office locations.



To learn more about the grant, click [here](#).

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## REFUGEE ROAD ENHANCEMENT

During the first quarter of 2018, the City of Pickerington, with the support of the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission will begin significant improvements to the Refugee Road corridor.

Once completed in late 2019, the project will positively impact residents and businesses who depend on this important corridor by providing the following benefits:



- Additional lanes on Refugee Road from the east corporation limit (near Goodyear/Woodstock Avenue) to Refugee Road/Fullers Way intersection
  - 2 lanes each direction
  - 2 left turn lanes from Refugee Road to SR 256 (both directions)
- Additional center turn lane/median from Refugee Road/Fullers Way intersection to the west corporation limit (near Wheatfield Drive)
- Curb and gutter along the entire roadway will improve drainage and the roadway profile will be updated to current design standards for a smoother, safer ride
- Pickerington's first modern roundabout, at Refugee Road/Fullers Way intersection
- New bike path on the north side Refugee Road, providing access from SR 256 to the existing Blacklick Creek Trail adjacent to Farmbrook Estates subdivision
- New sidewalk on the south side of Refugee Road
- Complete resurfacing of Refugee Road medians throughout the corridor to help control access and improve traffic flow

If you have any questions or would like additional information about the Refugee Road Enhancement Project, please contact (614) 382 - 5500 or by [email](#).

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## FAIRFIELD 33 DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE



perceptions of the industry.

The first Friday in October is recognized as National Manufacturing Day. Manufacturing Day is an annual celebration of modern manufacturing during which manufacturers invite their communities (including students, educators, business people, media, and politicians) to their facilities in a collective effort to educate visitors about manufacturing career opportunities and improve public

In recognition of National Manufacturing Day, the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance created a [video](#).

To learn more about the Fairfield 33 Development Alliance and its efforts to bring awareness to careers in manufacturing, click [here](#).

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## OHIO UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE LEARNING FALL PROGRAMS

To celebrate sixty years of providing higher education access and affordability to Central Ohio, Ohio University Lancaster | Pickerington is proud to unveil a sixty photo installation to commemorate the anniversary. The exhibit is located in the Brasee Hall north lobby (Lancaster Campus) adjacent the library entrance.



“We are incredibly proud of our rich history at the Lancaster campus,” said Andy Ellinger, Communications and Marketing Manager for Ohio University Lancaster. “Alumni and friends are encouraged to come back to campus to view the installation and help us celebrate our anniversary.” [Read more...](#)

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### PICKERINGTON AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Advocate, engage, connect and save are the focus of the Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC). The PACC is the “Voice for Business,” advocating for the business community at many levels. Engagement comes with the many promotional opportunities or by volunteering on a committee through the Chamber. Connect with fellow members at educational programs/events that take place each year and save by taking advantage of the many benefit programs offered.

2018 will bring new programs and educational offerings through the Small Business Advisory Council as it hosts its inaugural Small Business Conference. The Business Advocacy Committee will be hard at work reviewing issues that impact the business community. The PACC Board of Directors and Ambassadors will be reaching out to connect with and to learn more about businesses in the community. The Chamber team will also be working on programming that is stronger and more relevant for business growth.

With 49 new members, the Chamber is continuing to grow and strengthen. The Chamber is grateful for the support from the business community and looks forward to another prosperous year in the Pickerington region!

The Chamber is strong, the future is bright and the community continues to grow! To connect with the Pickerington Area Chamber of Commerce, please contact [Theresa Byers](#) at (614) 837-1958.

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### PICKERINGTON VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

The Pickerington Village Association (PVA) has the following upcoming event:

- **Indoor Farmers' Market:** The Farmers' Market has moved indoors to the Loft at Combustion Brewery and Taproom, 80 W. Church Street for the fall and winter. The market is held on Thursdays from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.



For more information on this event, contact the PVA at (614) 321-8221.

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## NEW BUSINESS / BUSINESS UPDATES

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The City of Pickerington would like to welcome the following new businesses to the community:

- [All India Cafe](#), 1225 Hill Road North
- [Derek Abner Insurance](#), 60 Hill Road South
- [State Farm](#), 50 West Church Street
- [The Corner: A Bar and Grill](#), 105501 Blacklick Eastern Road
- [Absolute Skilled Health and Hospice](#), 161 Clint Drive
- [Katie Vincer-Sears DDS](#), 107 West Columbus Street
- [Violet Community Crossfit](#), 140 West Borland Street, Suite 200
- [Laptop Guy](#), 10501 Blacklick Eastern Road

The following business will be expanding its presence in the City in 2018:

- [Roosters](#), 1500 Stonecreek Drive South

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## POLICE & FIRE

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### PICKERINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Pickerington Police Department offers the following tips on identity theft protection:

- Shred sensitive documents with a personal shredder (shredders with diamond cuts are best)
- Don't give personal information over the phone
- Do not routinely carry your social security card or birth certificate in your wallet or purse
- Disclose your social security number only when absolutely necessary
- Change your driver's license number to a randomly assigned "S" number
- Contact card carriers (such as health insurance) who use your social security number as identification and ask if they can use a different identification number
- Carry only those credit cards that you use regularly and cancel all unused credit cards
- Keep an accurate list (update the list regularly and keep it in a secure place) of all credit cards and bank accounts including name, mailing address and telephone number of the creditor, the account number, and expiration date
- Closely review all credit card statements each month to detect unusual activity or unauthorized charges
- Destroy pre-approved credit card solicitations, contact all three major credit-reporting bureaus in writing and "opt-out" of pre-screening lists
- Do not use your year of birth or other easily identifiable code as a password or PIN for credit cards or ATM machines
- Destroy all credit card and ATM receipts and do not discard them in banks or retail establishments
- If you suspect that your mail is stolen or tampered with, contact your local post office or postal inspector
- Never give your PIN number out to someone over the telephone, even if they say they work for the bank or financial company in question
- Use encryption software when transferring personal identification information over the Internet
- Be very cautious about sending personal identifying information over the Internet

Please contact the Pickerington Police Department at (614) 575-6911 with any questions or to report suspicious activity.

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### VIOLET TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

by MIKE LITTLE, FIRE CHIEF

The Columbus Dispatch ran a week long segment in October about

firefighters and cancer. It is well documented that firefighters have a much higher risk of contracting cancer than the general public. Our firefighters at Violet Township are not immune to this phenomenon. Our department has had approximately 10% of staff treated for some form of cancer. Furthermore, many members have had pre-cancerous lesions found and removed.



The intent of this article is not to alarm anyone, but to share our experience and to let you know what is being done to prevent further occurrences of cancer with our personnel. Fortunately for the Violet Township Fire Department, Lieutenant Dave Carter attended the Ohio Fire Executive course a few years ago. A requirement of this course was a research project on a subject that affects the fire service and your department. Lt. Carter chose to research and write about cancer in the fire service. Based on his research, the Violet Township Fire Department evaluated what it does to protect firefighters and lessen their risk of contracting cancer.

After evaluating the department, it was found that our practices were lacking and not enough was being done to protect our own. In the past two years, the department has taken steps to provide greater protection and to hopefully lessen the impact and incidence of cancer to our personnel. Some of the interventions include:

- Purchasing a 2nd set of turnout gear (protective clothing worn into fires) for all personnel
- Developing and incorporating a hood exchange program for all personnel on Sundays; this provides a clean protective hood for use
- Adding baby wipes to all vehicles for use at the scene to wipe away soot and other contaminants from the face, ears, neck and head
- Discontinued the practice of bringing turnout gear, dirty or clean, into the common living areas of the stations
- Encouraging personnel to shower as quickly as possible after returning to the stations after a fire

The Violet Township Fire Department takes pride in serving our community. It is important that the department keeps the community informed on what we are doing to protect and improve the health and wellness of our personnel. The continued support we receive, allows us to provide these added interventions for our personnel and for that, we thank you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Violet Township Fire Department at (614) 837-4123.

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## CONTACT THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



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