

## Independence Around Town

### Economic Development Newsletter

Fourth Quarter 2016

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

With the Holiday Season upon us, I would like to thank the community, elected officials, entire City staff, and businesses that call Independence home for their support throughout a successful 2016.

The City has experienced one of the strongest financial years in its history. We were able to complete major road projects, successfully and safely accommodate RNC guests, host the 100th Home Days, and celebrate the championship of our own Cleveland Cavaliers. We all have a great deal to be proud of and these successes are the impetus for continued efforts in 2017 to further the prosperity of Independence residents and businesses.



Best wishes to you and yours for a joyous holiday,

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Togliatti  
Mayor

## NOTABLE NEWS

### INNOVATIVE LANE USE COMING WITH COMPLETION OF THE ROCKSIDE ROAD SOUTHBOUND RAMP WIDENING

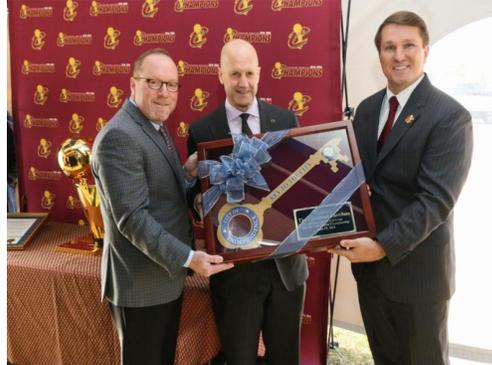
The major widening project that has been ongoing since August is nearing a project shut down due to winter weather; however, the Engineering Department would like to take this opportunity to inform stakeholders about some new features that will be implemented with the completion of the widening project.

#### Flashing Yellow Arrow (FYA)

In the summer of 2015, ODOT listed the area adjacent to the I-77/Rockside Road interchange as one of the most dangerous driving locations in Cuyahoga

County based upon accident data. On average, 60,000 vehicles use this interchange daily. In an effort to improve traffic flow, ODOT and the City of Independence are partnering on a unique safety feature in this area. The City and ODOT are working together to install Flashing Yellow Arrows at key locations near the I-77/Rockside Road interchange. [Read more...](#)

## CAVALIERS WAY DEDICATION CEREMONY



An exciting event took place on Monday, November 21st with the unveiling of two new signs which ceremonially rename a portion of Brecksville Road to Cavaliers Way. Mayor Togliatti congratulated Cavaliers' CEO Len Komoroski and General Manager David Griffin on the team's success and expressed the City's appreciation to the Cavaliers organization for being a great community partner. The City was thrilled to have the Larry O'Brien Trophy on site as the Mayor presented the Key to the City to the Cavaliers dignitaries.

The dedication ceremony received a lot of press coverage. To learn more about Cavaliers Way, view additional event photos and video of the sign unveiling please visit the [Cavaliers page](#) at nba.com.

## CHAMBER UPDATES

The Cuyahoga Valley Chamber of Commerce (CVCC) is launching a membership drive by offering a 20% discount to new members that join between December 15, 2016 and January 15, 2017. Chamber members enjoy many benefits - events, programs and resources to help grow their companies, as well as opportunities to benefit from group savings on healthcare insurance and workers compensation premiums. The new member application is available at the CVCC [website](#).



The CVCC has also announced its event calendar for the first quarter of 2017. Details on the feature events are as follows:

### **Taste of the Valley**

January 26, 2017

4:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Holiday Inn, 6001 Rockside Road  
Independence, OH 44131

### **February Networking Luncheon**

Presentation by Christopher Keller, EDGE, Director of Entrepreneurship and Innovation

February 15, 2017

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Holiday Inn, 6001 Rockside Road

Independence, OH 44131

### **March Networking Luncheon**

Why Cleveland? - Presentation by Ann Marie Powers, Destination Cleveland

March 15, 2017

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Holiday Inn, 6001 Rockside Road

Independence, OH 44131

To learn more about event sponsorship opportunities please visit the organization's [website](#) or contact Executive Director, [April Acuna](#) at 216.573.2707.

### **WEATHERHEAD 100**

Congratulations to these Independence companies that were honored by the Case Western Reserve University Weatherhead School of Management as part of the [Weatherhead 100](#) award recognition.



The Weatherhead 100 identifies the 100 fastest growing companies in Northeast Ohio. Winning companies are recognized for growth in net sales over the past five years - from at least \$100,000 to at least \$1,000,000. [Wellness IQ](#) (1) and [TalentLaunch](#) (77) have been recognized as 2016 Weatherhead 100 companies.

[Fleet Response](#) (7) was also recognized as a Weatherhead 100 Centurion company. Weatherhead 100 Centurions are fast-growing companies with at least \$100,000,000 net sales last year.

Established in 1988, the Weatherhead 100 awards celebrate Northeast Ohio's spirit of entrepreneurship and companies leading the way in the region.

## **WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES/BUSINESS UPDATES**

Help us keep the community up-to-date on our newest neighbors! Drop us a line when you learn of a new business calling Independence home. Please join us in welcoming the following new businesses.

The new [Home2 Suites by Hilton](#) recently opened its doors. The new 105-room hotel is located at 6200 Patriots Way.

[Ultra Electronics - Furnace Parts](#) has relocated from Cleveland to Rockside Square Two, 6133 Rockside Road.

[Alcan Primary Products Company](#) has joined the Independence business community at 6055 Rockside Woods North.



[Prime Lending](#) has opened a new location in Independence at 6133 Rockside Road.

[Levine & Levine](#) recently relocated to Summit One, 4700 Rockside Road from Cleveland.

New York based [Reliance First Mortgage](#) has opened a new location in Independence at 6155 Rockside Road.

[Good Nature Organic Lawn Care](#) has relocated its operation to 7621 Old Rockside Road from Cleveland.

Kansas based [Favorite Healthcare Staffing](#) has established a new operation at Freedom Square I, 4401 Rockside Road.

## **ODDS & ENDS**

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The Independence Police Department strives to ensure that our City is the safest possible place to work, live, visit and raise a family. Unfortunately, as recent incidents across the nation have demonstrated, violence can occur almost anywhere. The decisions made by employees and management when these incidents occur can have a significant impact on the severity of the event. Programs such as The Department of Homeland Security's "Run, Hide, Fight" and ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) provide workers with strategies and options to react to occurrences of workplace violence.



Sergeant Brad Borowy is a certified ALICE instructor and has presented this training to the staff and students of the Independence Schools, City employees and he has also provided training to numerous businesses throughout the City. The Independence Police Department offers workplace violence training to any business in the City, and we will customize the presentation to your company's size, location and availability. If you would like any additional information regarding this training please contact [Chief Michael Kilbane](#).

# CONTACT THE INDEPENDENCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



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Independence Around Town  
Economic Development Newsletter



Fourth  
Quarter  
2016

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