

Independence Around Town

Economic Development Newsletter

Second Quarter 2018

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Summer is finally here and another construction season is underway. Not only have we begun the annual road repair maintenance on many of our streets, we are also moving forward with some larger projects. Two of the major undertakings include: the road extension of Rockside Woods Boulevard North from Embassy Suites to Brecksville Road by the AAA Office building, and the Hemlock Trail project, which includes the construction of a 1.7 mile, 10-foot wide all-purpose trail from Brecksville Road to the Towpath Trail near Canal Road. We recently celebrated the groundbreaking of the Hemlock Trail, while construction on the Rockside Woods Boulevard North extension is still a few months away. Both projects will be complete in 2019.



The final Public Meeting regarding the Community Greenspace and Brecksville Road Streetscape was held on Wednesday, May 23rd, with approximately 40 stakeholders attending. Project consultant, Environmental Design Group, presented final conceptual plans based on all of the input they have received from the City Administration, City Council and the residents who shared their ideas at prior meetings. Many attractive designs were presented along with the associated costs. It is now up to City Council to determine how to move forward concerning phasing in all or certain individual project components. There is a Council Workshop scheduled for July 31st to discuss the implementation of these projects.

Please mark your calendars for our Independence Day Celebration at Elwood Park on July 3rd. Food booths will be open from 7-10 PM, so come early to enjoy a bite to eat before the fireworks. Our 102nd annual Home Days Celebration will be on August 3rd - 4th this year. We can all look forward to a fabulous and fun-filled weekend. I hope you will join us at these annual community events.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Togliatti
Mayor

NOTABLE NEWS

HEMLOCK TRAIL GROUNDBREAKING



On June 2nd, the City "officially" broke ground for the long-awaited Hemlock Trail. Several of the City's Elected Officials along with those organizations and/or individuals who helped bring this trail to fruition were present. In addition to those who were specifically invited because of their involvement, another 75+ people joined the event, some came from afar, some on bikes, and some with strollers, and one very special guest even flew in....the CVNP Bald Eagle...but they were all there for the same reason...to celebrate this new trail together with our community. [Read More...](#)



CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS RELOCATING TO INDEPENDENCE

Recently, Chesterland-based Fairmount Santrol announced its merger with Unimin Corporation, a Connecticut based minerals company. This newly combined company created an industrial mining company with about \$2 billion in annual revenue and will be called Covia Holding Corporation. Covia intends to move its headquarters to a 30,000 square foot office space in the Summit Office Park. [Read more...](#)



PLANNING PROCESS FOR DOWNTOWN PROJECTS CONCLUDES

Over the past few months, the City has been working through a planning process designed to determine the future of the former Independence Middle School property and develop plans to remake the Brecksville Road streetscape from Selig Drive through downtown Independence.



The final Public Meeting regarding the Community Greenspace and Brecksville Road Streetscape was held on Wednesday, May 23rd with approximately 40+ residents attending. Jeff Kerr of the Environmental Design Group presented the final conceptual plans based on all the input they have received throughout the planning process.

The conceptual plans and recommendations for both projects have also been presented to City Council members for their comments and consideration. City Council will begin discussing the implementation of plan recommendations during an upcoming Council Workshop scheduled for late-July.

To review all the project materials and final conceptual plans, please refer to the City [website](#) or [contact](#) Jeremy Rowan, Economic Development Director at 216.524.4131.

INDEPENDENCE COMPANIES WELL REPRESENTED ON THE LIST OF TOP WORKPLACES

According to a list by the Plain Dealer/Cleveland.com, Independence is proud to be home to several [Top Workplaces](#) in Northeast Ohio. The Independence companies with this honor include the following:



- [Aerotek](#)
- [American Fleet Services](#)
- [CBIZ, Inc.](#)
- [Cleveland Clinic Health System](#)
- [Fleet Response](#)
- [Hospitality Restaurants \(Delmonico's Steakhouse\)](#)
- [Hylant Group](#)
- [Independence Excavating](#)
- [Nations Lending Corporation](#)
- [Precision Environmental](#)
- [Redwood Living](#)
- [The TalentLaunch Network](#)
- [Total Quality Logistics](#)
- [Walthall Rea CPAs](#)

Congratulations to each of these outstanding companies on this great accomplishment!

HOME DAYS 2018



The City of Independence is holding its annual Home Days on Friday, August 3rd from 6 - 11 PM and Saturday, August 4th from noon - 11 PM. The parade starts at noon on Saturday and runs along Brecksville Road. This year the Home Days theme is "Indy Rodeo." This popular event features live entertainment, great food and rides for the kids.

For more details information about the Home Days schedule, please visit the City of Independence [website](#).

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.

Engineering consulting firm, [Crawford, Murphy & Tilly](#), has opened a new office in the Spectrum Building, 6060 Rockside Woods Boulevard North.

[Loricus, Inc.](#) has relocated its office from downtown Cleveland to Summit 3.

[Sandler Training](#) relocated its Twinsburg facility to the Spectrum office building, 6060 Rockside Woods Boulevard North.

Bringing Louisiana style seafood boils and Vietnamese pho noodles to Independence, [Lobster & Pho](#) is opening in the Rockside Corners Shopping Plaza on July 3rd.

[DuCharme, McMillen & Associates](#) recently relocated from North Olmsted to Corporate Plaza II, 6480 Rockside Woods Boulevard South.



Mayor Togliatti recently welcomed Independence Wealth Advisors LLC's owners at their new office in Corporate Plaza II, 6480 Rockside Woods Boulevard South.

[Spins Bowl Independence](#) and [Verso Craft Kitchen & Bar](#), 5619 Old Brecksville Road hosted a grand opening event on April 12th.



Elite hip hop dance company, [ELEVATED](#) recently opened a new location at 6950 Brecksville Road. In addition to being the home to the ELEVATED Dance Company, instructors offer a variety of dance classes and cardio sessions that are open to the public.

ODDS & ENDS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Independence Fire Department has an active fire safety inspection program that involves inspecting every business at least once a year. While the Independence Fire Prevention Bureau attempts to identify all safety violations at the time of these annual inspections, sometimes things change between inspections.

The State Fire Marshal provides an excellent checklist to assist businesses with assessing fire safety. Please refer to the [Business Fire Safety Checklist](#) throughout the year to keep your business and employees safe.



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [Lt. Don Reis](#) in the Fire Prevention Bureau at 216.524.5886.

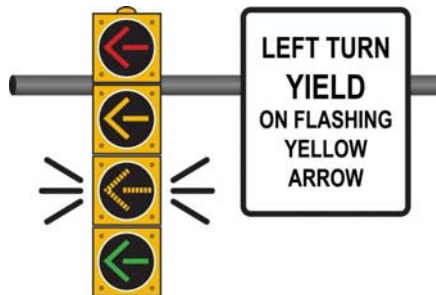
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Reminder about the flashing yellow arrows on Rockside

Significant upgrades have been made in the Rockside Road and I-77 area. Additional capacity has been added to the southbound entrance ramp and a second left turn lane was added for westbound Rockside traffic during peak hours for southbound I-77 access.



The traffic signals were also upgraded and coordinated to maximize traffic flow through the area. One of the new functions that may be unfamiliar to some drivers is the flashing yellow left turn arrow. A solid green turn arrow indicates that turning traffic has the right of way, a solid yellow arrow indicates that the signal is about to turn red. A flashing yellow arrow, which remains active much longer than the solid yellow caution signal, means that a left turn is permitted, but turning traffic must yield the right of way to oncoming traffic from the opposite direction.



If you have any questions regarding the flashing yellow left turn arrows, please contact [Chief Michael Kilbane](#) at 216.524.1234.

CONTACT THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

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Independence Around Town
Economic Development Newsletter



Second
Quarter
2018

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