



The Town Crier

December 2009

Volume 13, Issue 12

Did You Know?



Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule

Christmas Day: (Week of Dec. 20-26)

Waste service will not occur on Friday, December 25. It will be delayed to Saturday, December 26.

New Year's Day 2010: (Week of Dec. 27 - Jan. 2)

Waste service will not occur on Friday, January 1. It will be delayed to Saturday, January 2.

Rumpke will return to its regular collection schedule on January 4, 2010.

For more details or to report a miss call Rumpke at 1.800.942.5030.

Are Portable Space Heaters a Solution?

As the thermometer dips outside you may be thinking about using space heaters to supplement your current heating system. In some cases, small space heaters can be less expensive to use if you only want to heat one room or supplement inadequate heating in one room, but in other cases these little heaters can be quite costly to operate.

Although most space heaters rely on convection (the circulation of air in a room) to heat a room, some rely on radiant heating; that is, they emit infrared radiation that directly heats up objects and people that are within their line of sight. Radiant heaters are a more efficient choice when you will be in a room for only a few hours, if you can remain within the line of sight of the heater. They can be more efficient when

using a room for a short period because they avoid the energy needed to heat the entire room by instead directly heating the occupants of the room and the occupant's immediate surroundings.

Electric space heaters are generally more expensive to operate than combustion space heaters, but they are the only unvented space heaters that are safe to operate inside your home. Although electric space heaters avoid indoor air quality concerns, they still carry hazards of potential burns and fires, and should be used with caution.

For convection (non-radiant) space heaters, the best types incorporate a heat transfer liquid, such as oil, that is heated by the electric element. The heat trans-

fer fluid provides some heat storage, allowing the heater to cycle less and to provide a more constant heat source.

So how much does it cost to operate an electric space heater? A popular infrared space heater claims to use 1.5 kilowatts per hour. If this heater was in operation 24 hours per day for a 30 day period it would result in a charge of \$81.86 (using the Village's base electric rate and power cost adjustment for Nov. 2009). A typical small personal 1500 watt space heater in operation for the same time period would result in a charge of approximately \$88.

Source: http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/space_heating_cooling/index.cfm?mytopic=12600

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Find future meeting dates online at <http://www.minsteroh.com/calendar/Calendar.htm>

Miami-Erie Ditch Petition on to Next Stage

The Auglaize County Commissioners held a public meeting on December 3, 2009 to discuss the Village's ditch petition request to locate, remove obstructions (brush, trash, etc.), provide a deepened outlet for subsurface drainage, install erosion control structures, and stabilize banks on a section of the Miami-Erie Canal. This meeting was well attended by local residents and local officials alike. The outcome was a positive first step forward as the

Commissioners found the benefit of the proposed project to outweigh the cost of the improvements.

During the next step of the process, the County Engineer must make surveys, develop plans and construction estimates for the proposed improvements. These plans will then be reviewed by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. In addition, individual property assessments will be developed for those areas lying

outside the Minster corporation limits. The Village of Minster will be assuming the assessment costs for all affected properties within the corporation limits.

Once the County Commissioners receive the Engineer's reports, a final public hearing must be held within 90 days. If the County Commissioners grant the petition, the Engineer will begin seeking bids for the work. It is anticipated actual work will begin in 2011.

Village of Minster

5 W. Fourth Street
P.O. Box 1
Minster, OH 45865

Administration
419.628.3497

Electric Department
419.628.2850

Parks & Recreation
419.628.3404

Police Non-Emergency
419.628.2378

Street Department
419.628.3404

Wastewater Treatment
419.628.2663

Water Department
419.628.2850

Utility Billing
419.628.2850

FOR THE LATEST NEWS

VISIT US ON THE WEB:

WWW.MINSTEROH.COM

Upcoming AOA Activities

December 3, 2009 _
RSVP

AOA Christmas Lunch
Bunch

\$5 Unisex Gift Exchange
(Optional)

Youth Building—11 a.m.

December 9, 2009
AOA Movie

FJ Stallo Library 1 pm.

January 7, 2010
RSVP

AOA Lunch Bunch
Youth Building—11 a.m.

January 13, 2010
AOA Movie

FJ Stallo Library—1 p.m.

Fourth Street Streetscape Plan Unveiled

At its December 1st meeting the Village Council got its first glimpse of a conceptual plan for proposed streetscape updates to the Fourth Street corridor. The Village has been working with landscape architects from Garmann/Milller & Associates on the design of the proposed improvements.

This new pedestrian friendly environment will include brick tree lawns, trees, decorative light poles, flags, classic pots for various plantings and hanging baskets. The plan also calls for a double clock tower

to be located in Minster Machine Centennial Park. Other proposed improvements include a canal park in the area near the Minster Historical Society Museum to include a tulip garden and park furniture.

The proposed improvements to Fourth Street also calls for the installation of turn lanes at the intersection of Fourth and Main Streets. To accommodate these new turn lanes some on-street parking spaces would have to be eliminated.

Local residents are encouraged to stop by the Administration Building—5 W. Fourth Street—Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm to view the conceptual plan and share their opinions.

The total cost of the street renovation and these proposed streetscape improvements is \$3.6 million. The Village received a \$1.6 million transportation enhancement grant from the Ohio Department of Transportation to cover the cost of the proposed enhancements, plus some of the normal reconstruction costs.

AOA Programs Continue to Gain in Popularity

Parks & Recreation Director Ryan Geise has been very pleased with the growing interest in the Active Older Adults programs. The positive referrals continue to generate new faces at the varied events.

Make sure to add these fun events to your calendar and become a part of all the excitement.

AOA Lunch Bunch: Held the first Thursday of every month at 11:00 a.m. The Village will provide the main dish, all you need to do is bring a side dish to share. Guest speakers are provided and door prizes are given away. Please pre-

register 2-3 days prior to the meal. Come eat, socialize and play cards with friends. Also, Heritage Manor Nursing will be doing blood pressure checks for the group. The Lunch is held at the Scout House (across from Wagner's IGA) unless otherwise noted.



Wednesday Movies: Big screen movie fun the Second Wednesday of each month at the Library. We'll provide the movie, snack and excitement, you just come to enjoy the fun! FJ. Stello Library @ 1pm

Outdoor Walking Club "Rise and Shine Walkers": The program will resume every Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. starting in May 2010 @ Four Seasons Park.

For more details or to register for these great activities call Ryan Geise at 419.628.3404 Ext 107 or e-mail rgeise@minsteroh.com.

Historical Society Plans New Exhibit in 2010

The Minster Historical Society is pleased to announce that they have added Ancestry.com to their research room and it is available to all members working on genealogy. For a small fee, non-members can use this wonderful website as well.

The Historical Society would like to invite the public to view the "Our German Heritage" exhibit which continues into February 2010. In addition, the Christmas tree displays will remain up through the holiday season. Be

sure to stop in and vote for your favorite tree. A special thank-you to the American Legion Aux., Minster Garden Club, St. Augustine- St. Joseph Mission Commission and Religious Ed, and the Minster High School FCCLA for this fine display. Admission is free to the public and the hours are: Tuesdays 10:00 - 2:00 and Sundays 12:30 - 3:00.

The next exhibit will be "Remembering the Korean War and the 1950's Era". The Historical Society is now asking residents

for items related to this place in our history. Clothing, sports of the 50's, all memorabilia, pictures, toys, and things from past businesses are just a few of the items now being sought. The Historical Society will begin accepting items in February 2010. The exhibit will start in March 2010 and run through August 15th.

All exhibits depend on the people of Minster to help make them truly fantastic! The Historical Society extends a special thanks to everyone who donated or loaned items in 2009.