

HIRAM COMMUNICATOR

DECEMBER 2023

"ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT"



PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

The Planning & Zoning Commission did not meet on December 5th. There was no new business to come before the Commission.

CONGRATULATIONS



Outgoing Mayor Lou Bertrand administered the oath of office to Mayor elect Anne Haynam at the December 12th council meeting. Congratulations to the Mayor-elect and newly elected council members Keith Holmes and Ed Frato-Sweeney.

Thank you for the many years of service each retiring official has given to the Hiram community. Best wishes to Mayor Bertrand (44 years of combined community service) and retiring council members Frank Hemphill (12 years as council member), Paul Spencer (24 years as council member and P&Z chairperson) and Thomas Reitz, Esquire (25 years as the Village Solicitor). (Photo courtesy of Dave Dreimiller.)

FROM THE HIRAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Hiram Police Department is now accepting requests from the residents of the Village of Hiram to perform welfare checks by contacting Village residents during emergency situations that may arise, such as extreme heat, cold, natural disasters, or power outages. All information is confidential. Should you have any questions please contact the Hiram Police Department at 330-569-3236.

WINTER SIDEWALK CLEARING



From the Village Administrator – Please be advised that per Village of Hiram Codified Ordinance 901.01 winter sidewalk cleaning and salting is the responsibility of the property owner. The Street Department's primary concern is the plowing and salting of the Village streets. Although the Street Department has in the past cleared residential sidewalks, it is not the Department's priority or responsibility. Thank you.

FROM THE HIRAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Hiram Fire Department wants to wish you and your family a Safe and Happy Holiday Season, and offers the following suggestions to keep your holiday safe:



*When purchasing a live tree look for signs of freshness. A fresh tree is green. Needles will be hard to pull from branches when bent between your fingers. Fresh needles don't break if bounced on the ground, and a minimum number of needles should fall off.
*To keep your tree fresh, cut off about two inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better absorption of water, keep stored outside the house till you're ready to decorate and keep the stand filled with water.

* When placing your tree, make sure it is kept away from sources of heat, like fire places or heat vents, and out of the way of traffic, * Check out your lights before placing them on the tree. Look for worn or frayed wires and broken bulbs. Make sure you do not overload extension cords. * Take care when using candles. Keep them away from flammable decorations. Place them where they cannot be knocked over or reached by children. Do not leave lit candles in an unattended room. * Make sure your smoke detectors are working properly. If you'll be traveling to visit family and not sure if they have smoke detectors, take one with you.

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Ohio has experienced many warmer than normal days this fall. Though we may be ready for more seasonable temperatures it's still hard to think of the cold winter weather headed our way and the added financial pinch of high heating bills that will soon be a reality for all of us. Many in our community will find themselves in need of assistance paying those bills. **The Home Energy Assistance Program, HEAP, is available to help eligible Ohioans pay their home energy bill.**



The benefit is applied directly to a customer's utility bill or bulk fuel bill. The amount of the benefit is determined by the number of people in the household, the heating source, and the region of residence. **To find out if you are eligible for help with your home heating bills contact the Community Action Council of Portage County, Inc. at (330) 297-1456 or the Home Energy Assistance Program at 1-800-282-0880, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** You can also visit HEAP Ohio's website for more information and application forms at www.development.ohio.gov and type HEAP into the search box.

2023 HOLIDAY CALENDAR

The Hiram Village offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

December 25th – Christmas Day
January 1, 2024 – New Year's Day
January 15, 2024 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 19, 2024 – Presidents' Day