

By Mayor Ben Garlich

We've enjoyed another great weekend in Middlefield Village. Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup>, the police were busy filling a cruiser in front of the Save-A-Lot at Harrington Square and Wal-Mart stores entrances. It was manned by police officers some of their wives, some Village employees and high school students serving this community. The cause provides food for less-privileged local families during the Thanksgiving season. I've participated in this the last few years, and this particular Saturday was special for a few reasons. The weather, usually not the best, was excellent which created much better conditions for those collecting the food. I do not have the final results, but I know by the volume of food collected, it exceeded prior years. People in this area were extremely generous and it was interesting listening to their remarks as they donated out of love and compassion for others. All who gave are to be commended and the effort is certainly appreciated.

This week, Dave Kiraly and Councilman Carl Hornung finished putting the final touches on the decorating for the Tree Lighting, which will take place on Nov. 29. downtown in the mini-park. The service crew prepared the area with the required power to support the additional lights, which will illuminate all four corners in the downtown area. The Lighting, at 7 p.m., will include holiday music by the Cardinares, the lighting of the tree and lighting up downtown. Free hot chocolate and cookies will be served to all in attendance. Come prepared to enjoy the holiday spirit at our first annual Middlefield Village Tree Lighting.

We are meeting this week to make final plans for the winter Christmas fireworks display in partnership with Great Lakes Outdoor Supply. The fireworks will be held on Dec. 21 in the downtown area. We appreciate the support and cooperation from Great Lakes Outdoor Supply who has generously donated their facilities and parking lot for many community events from the Shop with a Cop Car Show, Summer Fest activities and the weekly Farmers Market. Many activities are being planned for this day to highlight the Christmas season.

As always, I encourage you to shop local, be informed, be involved and visit us at [www.middlefieldohio.com](http://www.middlefieldohio.com)