



**Monthly Meetings held 4th
Wednesday of the Month**

Mt. Airy School

7:00 PM

No Meetings in

November, December, July and August

All are Welcome!

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A New Year's Resolution for 2017!

After the champagne bottle has been popped and the decorations cleaned up, you might be thinking about your new year's resolution for 2017. You could exercise more....but many gym memberships go unused after a few months. You could give up chocolate but isn't that what we do for Lent? You could resolve to finish reading a book although it helps to start it first.

All kidding aside, what about making a resolution to be more civically active in 2017!

Wait...Don't stop reading! I know this might seem like a challenging resolution but if you start simple, it is achievable. With each new issue of the newsletter in 2017, we will share ideas about how you can get involved. Here's the first one:

"Be in the Know" – know what is going on your neighborhood and Mt. Airy community. Before it gets too cold and everyone hibernates in their homes, take a walk down your street and talk with your neighbors. The simple act of saying hello and can be the start of something bigger.

Once the snow and ice keep us inside for longer periods of time, take some time on the computer and get familiar with a FREE wonderful local resource in social media: Nextdoor.com. Nextdoor is the private social network for you and other community members to talk online. When creating an account, Nextdoor will verify your address before accepting you as a member in the Mt. Airy community group. We currently have 207 members on the Nextdoor Mt. Airy community site and 3,881 in surrounding communities. People are using Nextdoor to quickly get the word out about crime issues, find a trustworthy babysitter, get advice on house repairs, and yes, finally call that nice neighbor down the street by their first name.

We hope you consider this resolution for the New Year.....the rewarding results far outweigh the time you need to accomplish it!

**Need a ride to the Mt
Airy Town Council
Meeting?**

Mt Airy Town Council is able to provide you a promo code to get discounted rides with Lyft. Use Promo Code: **MTAIRLYFT** for \$50 in Lyft credit.

**FREE Holiday Party for Mt.
Airy Adult Residents**

Meet your neighbors, business owners and others that are active in keeping our community moving forward while enjoying live music, delicious food and raffles. The joint choir of LaSalle and McAuley High School will delight us with holiday tunes, a selection of food includes finger sandwiches, hors d'oeuvres of shrimp and smoked salmon, vegetable and relish trays, snacks, desserts and drinks. Join other adults at the Little Flower school cafeteria from 6 - 8pm on Wednesday, December 14. RSVP by Monday, Dec 12 to Claire at ohuy@cinci.rr.com. We hope to see you there!

Play it Safe – Shop Smart this Holiday Season!

From Cincinnati Police Department, District 5

Your personal safety does not have to be left to chance. Though you cannot eliminate all possibilities of becoming a victim, there are steps you can take to reduce the odds during the Holiday Season. An attacker looks for essentially three things when picking a victim:

Vulnerability
Accessibility
Availability

Practicing the following personal safety tips as you go about your shopping errands and daily activities may make you less attractive to a criminal.

1. BE ALERT! Know who is near you and what activities are going on around you.
2. Walk with authority, look ahead and scan your surroundings.
3. Do not walk in poorly lit areas and avoid standing at a bus stop alone, especially at night.
4. If approached by someone in a car, change your direction and enter a crowded store or business. Be alert to someone who asks for directions and/or continues to engage you in conversation.
5. Carry a cell phone and some type of safety device (i.e.: flashlight, whistle, pepper spray, etc.) when walking at night. (Do not display your cell phone or other devices while walking on the street). Call the non-emergency dispatch at **765-1212** if you observe any suspicious behavior.

Shop Locally: Kaho Market

(5553 Colerain Avenue)

In winter we spend more time in our homes. What a great time to cook something new or an international dish during these longer days inside...and what a better place to shop for this meal than Kaho International Grocery in the Mt. Airy Business District.

The real treat is the delicatessen and specialty items. On the sign above the deli counter includes African eggplant – Diakhato, coconut flour, yucca cassava – yucca root and smoked fish to name a few. The specialty items include tea pots, cooking equipment and colorful fabrics that would be perfect for the “hard to buy for” friend or relative this holiday season.

Arouna, the store manager, can help you with any questions and assist with choosing a new food item to try at your next winter meal!



Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly

Little Brothers, located in the Mt. Airy Business District, will celebrate its 20th anniversary of providing services focused on relieving isolation and loneliness among the elderly on Saturday, February 18, 2017 at the 20th Century Theater in Oakley (3021 Madison Rd, 45209). Join us for an evening of fun that includes a served dinner, open bar, silent auction, basket raffle and more! Tickets are \$80 per person. For more information, call (513) 542-7555.



News and Events: Mt. Airy Elementary

(<http://mtairy.cps-k12.org/>)

Friends & family are invited to attend the Holiday Program at 9am on December 15 and 16 (due to increased enrollment, they are having two shows!).

On the 15th, grades 4 - 6 perform and students in grades Preschool – 3rd perform on Friday. Students will be dressed for holiday fun! Please use the gym entrance on the north side of the school for the performances. Hope to see you there!

Let's keep our children engaged during the holiday break: December 19 – January 2! Students receive materials to work on during their winter break. Teachers will offer rewards for fully completed packets returned on January 3, the first day back to school. Don't forget to unplug from your electronics and get outside to play too!

Mt. Airy Citizens on Patrol: Doing the Blue

"Do the Blue" is on the move with our Mt. Airy Citizens on Patrol. Saturday, October 22nd, we held a "good guys" loitering event in our business district along Colerain Ave. to increase visibility and safety in the neighborhood. Along with our District 5 police officers, we talked with neighbors sharing stories, hot dogs & music. Although the weather was a little 'nippy', we had a good group making this a success. This was the first time this anti-crime program was held in Mt. Airy. "Do the Blue" has previously done neighborhood walks and grill-outs in Mt. Airy. Keep your eyes open for more in the future as the weather warms up.



Bottles, Broken Glass and Tires...oh my!

Due to recent efforts by city employees and volunteers our community is a little cleaner! During the week of October 31 – November 4, city employees from the Public Services Department spent time in our community mowing the easements and clearing sidewalks along Colerain Avenue and worked on beautification efforts on other streets. A dumpster was available behind the business district for residents to place their large pieces of trash too.

Knowing that there was still a large amount of trash to remove, Mt. Airy Town Council made a special request to Public Services for another dumpster during a Community Cleanup planned

the next weekend. On Saturday, November 12 from noon - 3pm, 17 volunteers including Mt. Airy residents, removed several truck loads of tires, filled up to 30 large garbage bags of trash and removed grocery carts and other large materials found behind the business district and neighboring streets. Keep Cincinnati Beautiful supplied the gloves, garbage bags, bottled water and free t-shirts for all volunteers! Snacks were provided by CURE and Mt. Airy Town Council.

You can help keep our community clean by calling the Public Services Dept. at 591-6000 or by filling out a service request online at www.5916000.com to report any illegal dumping or street cans that are overflowing with garbage.



A few words from the Town Council President

I hope you are enjoying the holiday season. I know I ate way too much on Thanksgiving.

The town council is busy at work to make Mt. Airy the best neighborhood in town. We are currently working on a few last minute grants to improve the neighborhood. We are also finalizing the NSP fund request from the city. **Residents can vote on the funding at our January 25 Town Council Meeting.**

This is where you get say in how our NSP funds are spent. *Also at the January meeting, a representative of Beaver Creek Interest, LLC will be discussing plans for the old Mercy Hospital property.*

This time of year can bring a lot of issues to members of our community. The cold can cause some people not to be able to go out much. Others may not be able to shovel their snow. I implore you to take a moment to think of a way you can help your neighbor if possible, and don't be afraid to ask for help. We are a community! Be careful on the roads as we will be seeing black ice, take a few extra minutes to safely get where you are heading. I hope to see you all on January 25!

We will be welcoming SORTA (Southwest Ohio Regional Transit Authority) as they make their annual presentation at the February 22 Town Council Meeting.

A Holiday Gift for Mt. Airy Residents!

From an abandoned building to a new Mt. Airy business district parking lot, "The Commons" was an important project in 2016 for Mt. Airy CURE (Community Urban Redevelopment Enterprise) and a welcome addition to our community! Landscaping, lighting and security cameras will delight shoppers and visitors. Once the parking lot is completed, a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be planned to celebrate this first step forward in redevelopment and continued community pride.

In Spring, CURE will erect a Gateway sign at the corner of North Bend Road and Colerain Avenue to welcome all to Mt Airy.

Find out about these upcoming events and projects at the new CURE website mtairycure.com and like us on Facebook. Happy holidays from Mt Airy CURE !

**Mt. Airy Town Council
Board of Directors Elected and Installed**

Daniel McNamara	President
Gladys Pope	Vice-President
Sarah Deane	Treasurer
Belle Walsh	Secretary
Terry Crooker	Board
Greg Betsch	Board
Jasmine Hales	Board
Corless Berry	Board
Erin Morris	Board





The Cincinnati Fire Department is encouraging the public to focus on fire safety when heating their homes during winter, which has finally arrived. Many Americans need to use extra care if they are relying on alternative heating sources to save money on heating bills.

The use of wood burning stoves is growing and space heaters are selling rapidly, or fireplaces are burning wood and manmade logs.

Please keep in mind such heating methods are a major contributing factor in residential fires. Proper installation, use and maintenance of winter heating devices are essential for reducing the risk of fire and carbon monoxide poisoning. Home heating fires in Ohio are often caused by human error, particularly through the misuse of portable heaters, wood stoves and fireplaces.

Nationally, Heating equipment fires accounted for 16% of all reported home fires in 2009-2013 (second behind cooking) and 19% of home fire deaths (second behind smoking materials).

Many heating related fires could have been prevented. You can prevent the loss of life and property resulting from heating fires by being able to identify potential hazards and follow the safety tips contained in the fact sheets below.

Fireplaces and Wood Burning Stoves

- Have a qualified professional check your home's heating system annually. Furnaces, fireplaces, wood stoves and their chimneys should be inspected and cleaned prior to the start of every heating season.
- Allow enough clearance between a wood burning stove and combustible materials such as walls, floors and ceilings.

- A wood stove should be placed on an approved stove board to protect your floor from heat and hot coals.
- Make sure the flue is open before lighting a fire, and never close the flue while a fire is still smoldering.
- Use a fireplace screen to prevent any sparks from reaching out and igniting nearby objects.
- Never use gasoline or lighter fluid to start a fire.
- The immediate area in front of a fireplace (approximately 3 ft.) should not have a rug, carpet or exposed wood flooring.
- When lighting a gas fireplace, strike your match first, then turn on the gas.
- Burn only dry, seasoned wood and dispose of the cooled ashes in a closed metal container outside and away from your home.
- Never leave a fire burning unattended in the fireplace.

Portable Space Heaters

- When buying a space heater, look for a control feature that automatically shuts off the power if the heater falls over.
- Never leave a heater on when you are not in the room or when you go to sleep, and do not leave children or pets unattended around any heating source. Unplug it when you are not using it.
- Don't use an extension cord with an electric portable heater. The current from the heater could melt the cord and cause a fire.
- Don't plug more than one heating device into an outlet.
- Never use electric heaters near water – like in your bathroom or near a water heater.

—Fredrick A. Prather, District Fire Chief

Cincinnati Fire Department, Fire Prevention Bureau

