

Mayor's Message

School is back in session, summer is coming to a close, and our city continues to thrive! From the Duck Tape Festival to the opening of Cabela's, the first full season for the aquatic facility, and the upcoming Fall Into Avon Festival, Avon is never a boring place to be. And Cleveland Magazine agrees, as many of you know, our community was rated the #1 suburb this year. This is because of the many residents who continue to work together to improve our community, our excellent school system, first-class police and fire services, and various businesses that call Avon home, and much more!

In its first full season, the Aquatic Facility welcomed over 55,000 visitors, and it was truly a great season! The lily pad attraction opened this summer and the pool welcomed a few swim meets to the pool.

With all the excitement in our community, I'd like to thank all of the residents for their patience during our road construction. The Chester Road corridor is open, and we've completed work on Nagel Road south of the interstate. We appreciate your understanding as we continually work to make our roads safer and more efficient for all residents and visitors.

I'd like to announce that at the August 9 Council Meeting, Council and I proclaimed the Sunflower as the Official Flower of the City of Avon. This Proclamation acknowledges the impact that the Prayers from Maria Foundation, created to



Sunflower proclaimed official city flower at the August 9 Council Meeting.

raise funds to support childhood brain cancer research, made locally to the community. In 2014 the fields of flowers along I90 transported visitors by the beauty of the scene, resulting in thou-

sands of dollars in donations toward research for the disease.

One of things that makes me proud to serve as Mayor is the number of residents who volunteer in our community to make it a better city. Our residents are one of the excellent pillars of our community, and one of the many reasons Avon is such a great place to call home. Thank you to all of those who volunteer their time in many capacities around town!

In addition, I would be remiss not to thank the small businesses in our community for all that they do to attract visitors to Avon. Our city was built on small businesses, and we continue to value those same businesses today as they grow with us all.

It continues to be an honor to serve as your Mayor, and I'm very grateful for the privilege. We're looking forward to an exciting Fall in Avon. I hope to see you around town!

Sincerely,



Bryan K. Jensen



Mayor Jensen presents Prayers from Maria Foundation founders, Megan and Ed McNamara with city proclamation on August 9, 2016.



Avon Police Officer, Michael Reinker, stopped to talk with Lauren, Ryan, and Kaitlyn Fischer about bicycle safety.

Police cite youngsters for wearing helmets

AAA and Avon Police officers partner to encourage bike safety

Out on his normal patrol, three young residents caught the attention of Avon Police Officer Michael Reinker one Sunday afternoon this summer.

The Fischer kids, Lauren, Ryan and Kaitlyn, were riding their bicycles and wearing their helmets. Reinker stopped to talk and congratulate them for following proper safety procedures and rewarded them by giving each one a positive "citation" for doing the right thing.

"This program is part of a grant working in conjunction with AAA and several local businesses in town," explained Avon PD Chief Richard Bosley. "When our

officers see children riding their bicycles and wearing a helmet he or she stops to speak with them and give them a citation. The citation becomes a voucher for ice cream that the child can take to either McDonalds, Wendy's or Mitchell's."

Not only is ice cream part of the reward, AAA enters the child in a drawing to win a free bicycle. "We've been part of this grant now for a few years," said Bosley. "The first year we participated in this program a child from Avon was the lucky bicycle winner!"

Patrolman David Layne coordinates this effort for the department. Vouchers expire August 31 once kids are back in the classroom again.

Lois Shinko recognized

We're excited to announce our second recipient of the Mayor's Volunteer Service Award, Lois Shinko. Ms. Shinko has been a resident of Avon for over 40 years, and a proud business owner for even longer in our community. Her involvement in Avon started when she founded Shinko's Country Store in the 1970s, and has been helping our community prosper ever since.

As a graduate of Avon High School, Shinko relocated to Westlake for a short time before relocating back to Avon with her husband to raise their children. She recalls when she first came to Avon how most buildings from the turn of the century had not been maintained. After the Shinko's renovated the century home for their business, it empowered others to do the same and bring a vibrancy back to the community. Their store was one of the first businesses in the area of

town, which she named the French Creek District and what we all call that area today.

Lois is currently a member of the French Creek Foundation and the Landmark Preservation Commission here in Avon. She was also a member of the Avon Bicentennial Commission. Lois loves being a part of the community and giving back however she can. As a citizen that goes above and beyond, she's been an exemplary part of our community. When asked what she loves most about Avon, she said "you know everyone in the town, and the sense of community is next-to-none." She loves meeting new people and talking about Avon's past and history, as well as helping educate and inspire fellow community members.

Thank you to Lois for her continued support of our community, and all that she has done!



Volunteer Service Award winner, Lois Shinko, poses with last quarter's winner, Clint Gault, at a recent French Creek Foundation meeting.



Intersection of Jaycox and Detroit Roads

Construction report

Improvements to Chester and Nagel Roads are completed, on time and under budget. Westlake closed Avon Road once again.

Jaycox, northbound, between Detroit and Chester was closed August 8. The southbound lane will remain open until roadway widening is completed by November 1.

Pavement repairs to Rt. 83 from Detroit to Mills Road will begin soon, and Rt. 83 to Avon Lake will be repaved between September 11 and November 1.

Finally, ODOT will be making some improvements to the on and off ramps of I-90 at Route 83. A new right turn lane on to I-90 going east at Route 83 will be constructed before winter.

We know there will be many inconveniences and some noise with all these improvements. We'll make every effort to keep them to a minimum. Your patience during these projects is greatly appreciated.



Sponsored by the City of Avon Fire Department and the Avon Senior Center

Three things Avon residents can do to help safety forces reach you quickly in case of an Emergency.

1. Install a reflective address sign on your mailbox.
2. Request the Fire Department mount a high security, pick proof lock box near your front door so Emergency Medical and Fire Personnel can enter your home in the event of an emergency call from you.
3. Keep an up to date File of Life folder on your refrigerator with all your medical information including current medications.

Paper Shredding
Avon City Hall
Saturday, October 1, 2016
9 AM—12 PM

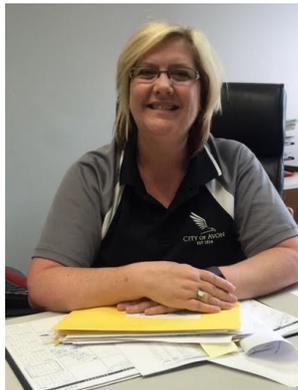


City welcomes new Clerk of Council and Recycling Coordinator

Barb Brooks is not new to city administrative work. She brings 13 years of experience to Avon as the former Clerk of Council for the City of Rittman.

Rittman is a very small city in Medina County with a population of less than 7,000 residents. Not only was Brooks the Clerk of Council, she was the secretary to the City Manager, the Zoning Clerk and the Planning Commission secretary.

Brooks is the mother to three grown children; a daughter and two sons, one of which is a soldier stationed in South Korea. Her husband recently retired from ODOT.



Barbara Brooks

"I left Rittman because I was interested in focusing in on one area of local government," said Brooks. "Avon is a great community. People are friendly and there is everything imaginable available within a very short drive," she continued. "You don't have to drive 30 miles just to go to Lowes!"

When asked what challenges she faces with her new position Brooks noted the Recycling Program which is new to her. Also trying to learn everyone's name. "I'll get it," she laughed, "it will just take a little time."

Contact Sandy at the Avon Senior Center
440-934-2417
for more information.

Avon Pride Day 2016



Eagle Run 2016



Avon Duck Tape Festival 2016



Memorial Day 2016



Multi-Year Reunion 2016



Avon benefits from growing partnership with Murray Ridge

The City of Avon has made a commitment to develop a partnership with Murray Ridge Production Center Inc. (MRPC Inc.), Lorain County's largest employer of persons with disabilities for more than 30 years.

riences, workers are able to earn an income and benefit from increased self-esteem as they become more independent and self-sufficient.

"I first became aware of the resources offered by MRPC while volunteering

After finding success as a member of the Avon cleaning crew, Shari Reitenbach, wanted to take on more responsibility. She heard about a new job that was opening up at the Aquatic Center and wanted to apply. Her instructors taught her the required skills then helped her develop a résumé. Finally, staff role played the interviewing process with her. Sheri applied and was hired. Now she can be found at the top of the new big water slide checking to be sure swimmers are tall enough to go down it.

Many other Avon businesses are working with MRPC including Cutting Dynamics, Inc. (CDI), Parker Hannifin, and Westlake Tool & Die. "It is my hope that more companies and organizations consider them [MRPC] when they have onsite or production needs," said Mayor Jensen. "As our city's partnership with MRPC continues to grow, it becomes clear that these resources make huge differences in the lives of our citizens, our businesses and ultimately our entire community."



The Mayor meets Shari Reitenbach at the top of the big slide.

Workers are trained in a variety of skills to fulfill labor and subcontract needs. Using the motto "We Can," work teams arrive at designated locations on time and well trained for the tasks at hand.

MRPC provides cleaning services for City Hall and the Avon Aquatic Facility. On site work crews of 20 workers perform tasks necessary to exceed health standards and provide safe, clean facilities for city workers, residents, and visitors.

These employment opportunities help strengthen our economy. MRPC employees become part of the local workforce. Through their work expe-

for the Special Olympics" said Mayor Jensen. "I look forward to finding more ways to engage MRPC within our city to provide inclusive employment opportunities for all of our citizens."

"Murray Ridge helps individuals thrive to their fullest potential while filling the needs of the company/ organization that it serves," said David Blevins, sales and marketing manager for Murray Ridge. "Our work with Avon highlights our ability to meet needs across many industries and organizations. It's a perfect fit that benefits Murray Ridge, our workers and the City."

Learn more about the growing partnership with Avon and ways MRPC Inc. can help you by visiting www.MRPCINC.com or 440.324.4992 and ask for David Blevins.



MRPC workers completing Parker Hannifin contracts.

Avon Eagles Swim Team 2016



The sailfish is the fastest fish in the ocean, often travelling at speeds up to 68 miles per hour. If you were at the North Coast Summer Championship in North Olmsted July 29 – 31, you may have been sure youth swimmers from the Avon Eagles Swim Team were moving just as fast. In its inaugural year, the Eagles swam against teams from Avon Lake, Bay Village, Mills Creek, North Olmsted, Rocky River, Westlake and Amherst in this regional competition.

Stories of swimmers' successes at their first Championship abound. Tommy Lipinski, age 8, swam strong into first place in the 25 breast

stroke. Stacy Barnhart, age 10, stroked like a pro to earn first place in the 25 free style. In the 50 freestyle competition, Liz Koziarz, age 12, never missed a breath and brought home first place in the event.

“Every one of our 172 kids is amazing,” said Coach Grace Kelly. “Before this team formed, at least 50% of them had never been part of organized swimming. Watching them learn, improve and bond as a team is the best – and most fun – we could have.”

Typical of many Eagles swimmers, Emma and Eva Molenaar, ages 8 and 9, weren't sure swimming was their activity of choice. With the encouragement of coaches and parents, the girls never missed a five-day-a-week practice and eagerly swam their way through meet after meet. Emma, Eva and many others are already looking forward to next year's team.

“Our Eagles parents, the coaches and the swimmers show us what happens when we all come together,” said Aquatic Center Director Tom Fattlar. “The Aquatic Center continues to serve the needs of our youth, our families and our visitors in ways we only dreamed it would be.”



From left to right: Jack Beatty, Sarah Gilcher, Grace Kelley, Teresa Bell



Clare Doverspike





**36080 Chester Road
Avon, Ohio 44011**

Fall Into Avon

THE WEEKEND AFTER LABOR DAY

IMPORTANT DATES

- September 6 ~ Pool Closed for Season
- September 10 & 11 ~ Fall Into Avon
- September 11 ~ Patriot's Day Remembrance
(Police Station at dawn)
- October 31 ~ Trick or Treat
- November 6 ~ Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 8 ~ Election Day
- November 11 ~ Veteran's Day
- November 24 ~ Thanksgiving Day
- December 3rd ~ Christmas Tree Lighting

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askme@cityofavon.com

City Main Website
General Information Email

440.937.7800 City Hall
440.934.1222 Fire Department Non-Emergency Line
440.934.1234 Police Department Non-Emergency Line
440.934.6106 Avon Parks & Recreation Department
440.934.7633 Avon Aquatic Facility
440.934.2417 Avon Senior Center

Nominate a child for a special sleigh ride with Santa. See details at www.frenchcreekfoundation.com

Photos courtesy of Robert Tuneberg ~ *The Villager*,

Nolan Andersky & Shurtec

