



HONORING OUR HEROES ON MEMORIAL DAY

This Memorial Day was very different from past Memorial Day celebrations due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the inability to have any type mass gatherings.

The traditional Memorial Day parade will hopefully be back in 2021 in the City of Piqua; as so many citizens truly enjoy honoring our heroes that have served and serve our country today.

A group of dedicated citizens, **Mike Haines, Ann Adams** and **Tim Robertson**, brainstormed ideas to *distance honor* our veterans and military in some fashion. An idea formulated to have a military convoy of vehicles "drive by" throughout Miami County. With that idea in mind, phone calls were made, a route throughout Miami County was developed and communities were notified of the convoy route.

Admirers lined the route waving their American flags as the convoy of military vehicles made their way past the William Pitsenbarger Memorial, the Don Gentile Memorial and our Veterans Memorial Park. This convoy, made up of several dozen vehicles, made their way throughout Miami County honoring those who sacrificed their lives for our country.

This act of kindness and dedication was appreciated by so many in our Community! The City of Piqua wishes to thank Mike, Ann and Tim for their hard work and dedication and we thank all those who participated in the convoy.

Also, a thank you to Gary Kauffman and Mike Haines for their wonderful photos!



Left: John Schilling playing Taps at the Pitsenbarger statue.

Right: Mike Haines's 1942 Dodge WC51, Brenden Haines in uniform.

Below: Jerry Warren drives his M932A1 past the Piqua mural before stopping at the Don Gentile statue.



PIQUA RECOGNIZED FOR RELIABILITY EXCELLENCE

The American Public Power Association (APPA) has presented the City of Piqua with a Certificate of Excellence in Reliability. This award recognizes utilities that placed in the top quartile of reliability nationwide in 2019, as measured against the U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) data. APPA helps public power systems track outage and restoration data through its eReliability Tracker service and compares the data to national statistics tracked by the EIA.

The 2019 designation was Piqua's 5th consecutive, having now earned the Certificate of Excellence in Reliability each year of the program's existence. Piqua was one of 18 American Municipal Power (AMP) Members to earn this designation for 2019. "Piqua's commitment to reliable electric service is commendable," said Jolene Thompson, AMP President & CEO. "This recognition shows how dedicated Piqua Power System is to serving its customers." AMP serves 135 members in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, Indiana and Delaware.

From a national perspective, Piqua was one of 143 public power systems to earn this recognition in 2019. "These utilities have gone above and beyond to provide reliable electric service to their customers," said APPA President & CEO Joy Ditto. "Maintaining this level of reliability requires strong leadership and a dedicated team of professionals that really cares about serving their community." APPA serves over 1,400 of the 2,000 public power systems that exist today.

LOCAL BUSINESSES RESPOND TO COVID

Piqua would like to once again recognize the businesses who stepped up to fill the heavy demand for personal protective equipment during this global pandemic:

- Evenflo – manufactured plexiglass face shields
- Isaiah Industries – manufactured metal nose strips for face masks
- Queen Exhibits – created a line of products made to aid social distancing practices
- Atlantis Sportswear – produced cloth protective face masks
- Infinity Fasteners – made N95 masks available
- Industry Products – partnered with Fast Lane and Premier Health to create medical gowns
- Quint Custom Signs – produced plexiglass dividers

Piqua began tracking service interruptions in 2004. Power System staff have used this information to identify and implement maintenance and capital improvement projects that improve service to Piqua's customers. The results to date show a reduction of over 100 power outages annually, with the average Piqua customer experiencing a power outage less than once every 4 years. "We realize that electric service is essential and power outages are an inconvenience to our customers. Our employees are focused on identifying and eliminating the cause and duration of interruptions," stated Power System Director, Ed Krieger. "Over the years, animals and specifically squirrels have been our leading cause of outages. We have improved our construction techniques, which has allowed us to reduce animal related outages from a high of 81 in 2006 to less than 30 each of the last 4 years."

When a power outage does inevitably occur, Power System employees are available around the clock to restore service as quickly and safely as possible. On average, the restoration time for Piqua's electric customers that do experience an interruption is less than 60 minutes. "Our employees are among the best in the business. They are well-trained, dedicated and highly-skilled which translates directly to the results our customers experience and expect on a daily basis. I am very proud of our staff and what we have been able to achieve," emphasized Krieger.

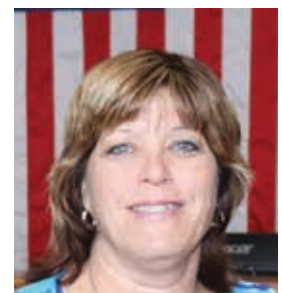
WITH GRATITUDE

The City of Piqua would like to thank David Burtner and Candi Etter for their dedication and years of service to the City of Piqua as follows:

Combined, Dave and Candi accumulated over 76 years of service with the City of Piqua. We wish Dave and Candi many years of enjoyment during their retirement and best wishes always.



Utilities Director
David (Dave) Burtner



Accounting Clerk III
Candi Etter

DID YOU KNOW?

- The number of allowable pets (dogs, cats, etc.) in a household is a limit of 2. Three or more pets require a kennel license.
- Any permanent outdoor structures (sheds, pools, decks, garages; to name a few) require a City zoning permit. Contact Planning & Zoning at 937-778-2049 for information and permit.
- Fences do not require a permit. Please contact Planning & Zoning for height requirements and additional information at 937-778-2049.
- Hazardous public sidewalks are the home-owners responsibility to maintain and repair.
- No inoperable-unlicensed vehicles (cars, campers, boats and trailers) shall be parked or stored on grass areas.

THE DDDRБ MERGES WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Members of the Downtown District Design Review Board have voted to allow their board's responsibilities to be assumed by the Planning Commission. With Planning Commission's acceptance of the DDDRБ's responsibilities, downtown businesses can now receive approvals from one body, saving time and avoiding the confusion of having two separate boards and meetings to attend to receive approvals. Going forward, the Planning Commission will now be responsible for issuing Certificates of Appropriateness for changes in the Downtown Historic District. Two of the DDDRБ's members, Jim Oda and Brad Bulp, have moved to serve the remainder of their terms on the Planning Commission.

25 years ago, national interest in a suburban development pattern heavily dominated, downtowns suffered from disinvestment and abandonment, and the prospects of revitalization seemed dim. The DDDRБ was formed in 1997 to protect historic architecture from being covered in a patchwork of modifications or lost to demolition in favor of more parking or more drive thru's. Their work shepherded Piqua's lovely architectural assets into a safer era, when downtowns are again cherished for their authenticity, community-oriented nature and walkable street network. With more than 100 businesses open, new upper story lofts being constructed, and new mixed use development in the pipeline, Piqua's downtown is bustling.

Piqua has been involved in several planning efforts which have encapsulated the vision and goals for downtown redevelopment. These goals include welcoming downtown residential construction and connecting Main Street to the city's regional bike greenways and the Great Miami River through the redevelopment of Lock 9 Park. The passage of the Code Piqua unified development ordinance will further streamline the development review process in the downtown core. As revitalization efforts continue throughout the region, Piqua will be poised to not only preserve history, but continue to create a living and dynamic downtown environment for the current generation.

NEW BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City of Piqua is excited to welcome several new businesses to the city this year, and to see some of our existing businesses expand to meet growing demand. 2020 has brought extreme challenges for both business owners and employees, and it should be a reassuring sign to all that the entrepreneurial spirit and "bullish" attitude toward Piqua's future has not let up.

Piqua's Opportunity Zone incentive has helped attract Ethan Smith and his fly-fishing custom manufacturing business, Smithfly, which has been featured on NBC's The Profit. The former Knobby's Cigar Shop has been reinvented to become Bellas and Beau Salon.

IDC Spring has expanded their operations on Country Club Road with a \$2.1 million investment, and Bensar Developments has commenced construction on a \$4.6 million industrial building to host future commercial operations. Both of these developments hinged on the combination of economic development incentives,

the availability of highly reliable utility service and the construction of new road infrastructure.

The list of businesses new to Piqua represents a wide variety of industry types and sizes. This results in a more diverse and more resilient local economy. Strength, resilience and flexibility are all represented by our community's businesses.

Bellas and Beau Salon	Marathon Gas on Looney Rd (expansion)
Crayex (expansion)	Patrick Staffing (coming soon)
Daniel Hill Photography	Piqua Crossfit (expansion)
Hannah's Southern Bistro (coming soon)	Premier Health Network Urgent Care
IDC Spring (expansion)	Smithfly (coming soon)
Insight Pipe Contracting	Transition Properties (coming soon)
Kettering Health Network (coming soon)	Village Antiques
Long's Custom Machining	Wright Patt Credit Union (coming soon)

A TRAFFIC CALMING COMES TO MAIN AND MARKET

Residents may already have noticed that crossing Main Street has become a little bit easier lately. Newly imprinted brick finishes and flowered planters have been installed on Main Street near High. These installations create a "traffic calming" feature which is designed to slow traffic down, giving those on foot a safer and more well-defined place to cross. This connection is a step toward roadway design that treats downtown as a district and a destination, rather than an area to speed past on the way to other places. Traffic calming methods such as this one, trade a fraction of a minute of drive time for an exponentially safer and more

comfortable experience for those who are enjoying the downtown area on foot.

Traffic calming should also have a nice economic effect for the roughly 50 local busi-



nesses Main Street hosts. Drivers have just a bit more time to ponder pulling over for a bite to eat or to check out the local retailers they've been interesting in visiting. The improved connection across the street will invite more people to park once and venture on foot to do further shopping and exploration on their visit downtown. Continued focus on the needs of pedestrians in the city's most pedestrian-friendly district will have a positive impact on the health and safety of downtown visitors and residents. The City will continue to monitor the effect of these new features and welcomes questions and feedback from the public.

2020 SPRING AWARDS RESIDENCE PRIDE RECIPIENTS

The following properties and individuals were nominated and awarded the City of Piqua's Spring Residence Pride Awards:

Spring Award Recipients:

Karen Picker 1250 Park Avenue
Wauneta Bell 811 Vine Street
Terry & Billie Lewis 1036 Broadway Street
Christopher & Kaylee Swink 1114 Walker Street
David & Janie Hitchings 803 Camp Street



Karen Picker
1250 Park Avenue



Wauneta Bell
811 Vine Street



Terry & Billie Lewis
1036 Broadway Street

The Residence Pride Award is based on the following criteria:

- ★ Property appearance
- ★ Landscape appearance
- ★ Helpful neighbor in regards to landscape or home improvement project
- ★ Home improvements-general clean-up of a property
- ★ Business owner/landlord property

The Residence Pride Committee meets on a regular basis to select the winners and the Committee encourages Piqua Citizens to submit nominations. Nomination forms are available on the City's website at www.piquaoh.org or the Municipal Government Complex in the City Manager's office or in the Utilities Department. Nominations or questions may also be emailed to: residencepride@piquaoh.org.



Christopher & Kaylee Swink
1114 Walker Street



David & Janie Hitchings
803 Camp Street

Congratulations to our 2020 Spring Residence Pride recipients!

CITY COMMISSION

Thomas Fogt
Commissioner, 1st Ward
Cell: 937-216-1808
Ward1comm@piquaoh.org

Cindy Pearson
Commissioner, 2nd Ward
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Kris Lee
Mayor & Commissioner
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Chris Grissom
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Kathryn (Kazy) Hinds
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