

By Mayor Ben Garlich

It has and will continue to be a very busy month for all of us. It seems the Christmas season is very enjoyable but also is very demanding of our time.

I admire those who find additional time during this season to help support others. I want to give special credit to the following groups that give "the extra" this busy time of year. This past Saturday, Kiwanis held Stuff-The-Bus collecting gifts for those less fortunate. M.A.C (Middlefield Activities Committee) held it's annual Snacks With Santa providing free refreshments, crafts and photos with Santa for area children. In the afternoon Mary Yoder's Amish Kitchen hosted their annual, massive Chinese raffle whose proceeds are given to local food cupboards and our Shop-With-A-Cop program. This Saturday the Middlefield Police will be holding their second Fill-A-Cruiser event. They collect non-perishable food items for Christmas food distribution organized by SS Edwards Lucy Parish. Saturday evening our police officers will be shopping with children from 25 families assisting to provide a more enjoyable Christmas. The coordination for these events takes months and many hours of planning. Thanks to all of you that find the extra time and energy to help others.

I recently had the privilege to cut grand-opening ribbons for two new Village businesses Flowers by Emily and His Daughter. Both of these businesses bring a new dimension to our retail base. I appreciate their investment in our community and the additional value. I encourage each of us to remember local business-success depends on our support. I wish them both and all local businesses a successful 2016.

I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to a positive 2016.

Please be informed, be involved, shop Middlefield and visit www.middlefieldohio.com.