

# Village of Middlefield Update

By Mayor Ben Garlich

The nights are cool and the leaves, although beautiful, seem more abundant this year. I was cleaning my lawn, and while I was working I was thinking about my neighbors and this neighborhood where I've lived since the late 70s.

Over the years, the neighbors have changed and four of them, that I grew to admire and respect, have passed away.

These neighbors were Charlie Hall, C J Ohl, Arnold Porozynski and Andy Koynock. As I thought back about the four of them, I remember a couple of conversations we had on different occasions that showed how much they enjoyed living in our neighborhood and the Village of Middlefield. Andy in particular moved here from a home that was not in a village and was on a large piece of property. He expressed to me, many times that the services provided in this Village were outstanding. Village employees pick up my leaves from the curb; they take excellent care of the streets in inclement weather; annually, they pick up my larger trash items at no cost, they pick up my Christmas tree from the curb after use; rarely do I drive down the street and not see a police officer, and EMS response time is recorded at less than five minutes for an average call. The services and safety provided are remarkable.

I hope none of us take for granted the amenities and safe environment we enjoy as residents of the Village of Middlefield. They are made possible through strong employment of our local businesses, responsible residents and a Village work force that takes pride and ownership when providing superior service.

Veterans Day is just around the corner. My father was a veteran, for which I am very proud. He saw and experienced life-changing activity that unless we've experienced it, we cannot relate. As I've mentioned in many articles, the freedom we enjoy in this country gives me goose bumps and I feel fortunate to be born in this great country. I pray we never forget the cost of this freedom and the sacrifice of those who serve and protect. We owe them the utmost respect and gratitude.

I again encourage you to vote for those local, state and national candidates that will work to protect the freedom we so often take for granted.

Please be involved, be informed, shop local and visit [www.middlefieldohio.com](http://www.middlefieldohio.com).