



April, 2023

Claridon News & Notes

Hello Claridon!

Thank you for signing up for Claridon News & Notes. The more everyone knows, the more we achieve that old-school sense of community.

Your Electric Bill and NOPEC

On June 1, First Energy will increase rates to about 10.2 cents/kwh. If you pay direct to them, at the minimum, this will be what you will pay. I called NOPEC to see if they had rates for Claridonites ready to go. They do. They are guaranteeing a 6.45 cents/kwh for 6 months. Everyone who was enrolled with them before their license was suspended will be re-enrolled with them starting June 23 so, the guaranteed rate is from June 23 to December 23.

NOPEC is an aggregate energy agent. Claridon has been a NOPEC community since 2001. NOPEC has given our township many grants through the years. The grant in 2021 paid for our street light transition to LED. Being a part of NOPEC has saved homeowners energy costs through the years however, last summer, due to NOPEC's negligence and oversight, residents that had fixed rates through NOPEC paid way more than those who paid direct to First Energy or paid through another aggregation company. What they did resulted in PUCO suspending or revoking their license. After several hearings, PUCO reinstated their license. Further, NOPEC uses one single energy supplier, NextEra Energy Services. They are not shopping multiple suppliers to insure the lowest rates. This causes me to pause and look into other options.

This Monday, April 3 at 6:00p during our regularly scheduled trustee meeting, Mr. Scott Belcastro, founder and owner of Trebel Energy LLC will be a guest speaker. Trebel Energy is an aggregation company too, except they shop no less than 11 energy suppliers to insure the lowest rates for their communities. I encourage residents to attend. Mr. Belcastro is well versed in this industry and can answer questions. I'm not saying Trebel is the answer nor am I saying NOPEC is not the answer, but it's prudent to try to discover if better options exist.

HOW TO GET OUT OF NOPEC: I've been asked this question a lot. First, one way that folks THINK they are opting out is by signing up on PUCO's 'Do Not Aggregate List'. This is NOT how to opt out because on that same sight, <https://puco.ohio.gov/utilities/electricity/resources/electric-do-not-aggregate-list> it says this;

- Customers who register on the do not aggregate list will not be removed from electric governmental aggregations that they are already enrolled in.

The only way I can see to opt-out for certain is to wait for the mailing from NOPEC. They do not have the opt-out form available as of the date I'm composing this Claridon News & Notes. You can call their customer service number with any questions at 855-667-3201. As I mentioned, more questions will be answered at the Claridon Trustee meeting this Monday, April 3 at 6:00p at the Claridon Administration Building as we explore our options. See you there!

The Future of Claridon Zoning

Claridon Zoning Commission meets at 7:00p on the 4th Monday of each month at the Administration Building. They are in the process of revamping our antiquated Zoning Regulations. For now, they are generally updating them however, in order to truly amend them, we need to know the will of our residents.

HOW CAN WE DISCOVER THE WILL OF CLARIDONITES?

By way of a survey via U.S. Postal.

Our current land use plan is going on 30 years old. Information from the plan dictates the contents of Claridon's Zoning Regulations. The foundation of the plan is based upon the will of the residents of Claridon. This means a survey must be drafted to discover the will of our residents. We are seeking residents to help us discover the right questions. We have an older survey we can use as a template as well as recent surveys from other east Geauga townships. The group will discuss several different aspects that speak to the dynamic of the township in terms of how it should be zoned. We'll discuss current strengths, weaknesses, challenges and more. Be a part of the future of Claridon Zoning. Email me if interested.

JTiber@ClaridonTownship.com You can call me with any questions at 216-276-8342

Three Claridon Groups

Currently, there are residents that are part of the Claridon History Group and the Claridon Cemetery Group. We are always looking for more. There is a third group that I desperately need folks to sign up with. **The Claridon Events Group.**

Claridon has four (4) events a year;

- Senior Trash Pick-up Day (the second Thursday each May)
- Trash Drop-off Day (Second Saturday morning of May each year)
- 'Get Down with the Town' (First Sunday evening of August each year).
- Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

**See more information below*

If you enjoy helping to plan events, thinking of ideas, setting up and more, then contact me! If you like the thought of a community gathering and believe it should always happen and keep growing, contact me! We need Claridonites to help with this. Why? Because with your help, Get Down with the Town will be better AND, the more folks that help, the more certain the tradition will continue. This is a great way to get involved with your community (including children!). I REALLY look forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance!

Claridon Roads

We collect the least amount of road and bridge money than any other township in the county. We've been collecting the same outside millage for 30 years. The paving of Taylor Wells road (north of 322) has funds already allocated and will be paved this summer at a rate of \$1,049,000. That is going to drain us. There will not be enough funds to pave any other roads indefinitely. We'll continue to operate as lean as possible and we will be on the constant look-out for grants that can subsidize our persistent lack of funds for the maintenance of our roads.

Residents Over the Age of 59

Trash Pick-Up Day is Thursday, May 11. To register, call the Department on Aging at 440-279-2130. Call on weekdays between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. Deadline to register is May 4.

- **The Claridon road crew and the Department on Aging crew cannot** enter homes/garages. All items must be placed outside the home/garage by Wednesday, May 11.
- **Limit to 10** household items per home.
- **Claridon Twp. will take:** Furniture, mattresses and couches. These items **MUST** be wrapped in plastic and taped securely or they will not be taken. This is to prevent possible bed bug transferal (or other pest). Appliances (refrigerators will be accepted without Freon), car batteries, lawn mowers, and up to 6 passenger tires off the rim, wood, pipe or other large items should be Reduced to 6' or less in length. Small items must be bagged, boxed, or bundled – no LOOSE materials will be collected.
- **Claridon Twp. will NOT take:** liquids, paint, or other hazardous materials, construction/remodeling debris, rocks, yard waste, or household garbage and items that can easily be disposed of in the resident's weekly curbside pickup.

Trash Drop-Off Day 2023

Trash Day will be Saturday, May 13 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. Per usual, drop-off will be at the township maintenance building located at 14000 Mayfield road. Aquilla Village residents and Claridon residents only.

Eligibility: You must be an Aquilla or Claridon resident.
Please bring your driver's license as this rule will be enforced.

Instructions:

- **Multiple trips discouraged.** If you would like to request a second trip, please talk with a Claridon associate prior to departing from your first trip. Please be prepared to self-drop off, however, if you are limited in your ability to self-drop off, we are here to help!
- **Claridon Twp. will take:** Furniture, mattresses and couches. These items should be wrapped in plastic and taped securely or they will not be taken. This is to prevent possible bed bug transferal (or other pest). Appliances (refrigerators will be accepted without Freon), car batteries, lawn mowers, and up to 6 passenger tires off the rim, wood, pipe or other large items should be reduced to 6' or less in length. Small items must be bagged, boxed, or bundled – no LOOSE materials will be collected.
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After dropping off, please stop in the maintenance building to say hello while enjoying coffee and a donut!

Memorial Day 2023

Our Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony will be Monday, May 29. Be a part of something special as we honor the names of those who served our great nation with courage and honor. It is high honor to call a name of a soldier and we would like to give that opportunity to a family member or friend to call the name of their loved one. They and residents will have opportunity to express your desire to do so the morning of the parade.

As usual, children can get involved by patriotically decorating their bikes and your golf carts as well as place carnation flowers at the grave site after a name is called.

We will gather at Arm's Trucking and march to East Claridon Cemetery promptly at 9:00 am. Immediately following the march back to Arm's, you are welcome to join together at Claridon Center Cemetery for the calling of the names.

We look forward to seeing you at this worthy community event.

Get Down with the Town, Year 3

Our 3rd annual community gathering will be August 6 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Claridon Recreation Park. There will be a couple of food vendors, a D.J. and more. It's important for Claridonites to get to know fellow Claridonites. If you are interested in being a part of the planning and decorating of this event, please let me know. I can use the help!

Closing

As always, please don't hesitate to contact any of the trustees should you have any questions, concerns, insights or if you wish to simply get involved. Thank you and on behalf of fellow trustees Roger Miller and Cooper Sherman and our fiscal officer Paula Hietanen and the Claridon team have a wonderful spring season!

Jonathan Tiber
Claridon Township Trustee
216-276-8342