Jim Carney and Lisa Kay have worked tirelessly over the years to make the Winter Wonderland festival at Kamms Plaza shopping center a successful event. Jim is the managing partner of the plaza, which his family has owned for 50 years. Lisa has been the property manager at the plaza for 20 years. On December 2, Councilman Keane, joined by civic leaders, held a special ceremony, thanking Jim and Lisa for all their hard work and dedication. Thanks again, Jim and Lisa.
Cleveland Water Moving to Monthly Billing

Beginning in January 2017, Cleveland Water will be transitioning accounts from quarterly to monthly billing. Once the transition is complete, water meters will be read monthly, and all consumption and other related charges will be based on a monthly rate.

To determine when you will receive your first monthly bill, all you need to do is look on the top of your current Cleveland Water bill and find the "Account Summary" date. Then use the table on the right to determine when you will receive your first monthly bill.

For more details call 216-664-3130 or visit www.clevelandwater.com

Frequently Asked Questions

Will More Frequent Bills Mean Estimated Readings?

Not! The vast majority of Cleveland Water customers have been upgraded to our Automated Meter Reading (AMR) system which electronically provides daily and hourly readings from your water meter so your bills always reflect your actual usage.

Will My Bill Be Different During The Transitional Period?

No, however, some customers may receive a bill that is pre-rated for their last quarterly bill or their first monthly bill just until the transition to monthly billing is complete.

Will My Water Bills Look Different?

The only difference to the look of your bill is the graph will reflect one month of usage instead of three. On the first monthly bill the graph will only include one line for the current month. The monthly bill history will build up with each month until it displays a total of 13 months’ usage on every monthly bill. Water charges and related fees will be adjusted based on your actual monthly usage.

Sewer District Billing to Change January 2017

Starting January 2017 the Northeast Ohio Sewer District (NEORSD), like the water department, is going to monthly billing rather than quarterly.

At the same time, sewer bills are increasing to fund major construction projects underway or planned to eliminate heavy storm overflow (raw sewage and rain water) from flowing into Lake Erie, as dictated by the U.S. EPA. Most people will see about a $4/month increase.

Below are some ways to reduce your bill:

• The Homestead Rate Program is for customers 65 and older (or totally disabled customers) whose income is less than $32,500. You can apply at any time, but the renewal deadline is March 11.

• Summer Sprinkling Program lets residents get a break on their bill from May 1 through Sept. 30 - the time when water usage usually increases. During those months, residents pay whichever is lower – your winter bills or your summer usage. Everyone who lives in a one through four-family residence qualifies. No annual renewal required.

• Wastewater Affordability Program is for customers whose income is at or below 200% of the poverty level. Those residents can see their rates reduced by up to 40%. The annual income limit for a family of four can’t be more than $48,600, for example. Call Cleveland Housing Network at 888-901-1222. Call this number for crisis assistance as well.

For details about these and other cost-saving programs or for more information about new monthly Sewer District billing, call 216-881-8247 or visit www.neorsd.org.

Money Saving Assistance Programs (All programs are subject to eligibility qualifications)

HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program)
E HEAP (Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program)
PIPP Plus (Percentage of Income Payment Plan Plus)
Dial 216-518-4014

Cleveland Housing Network offers programs to help you catch up on past-due utility bills, address a "shut-off" crisis, and establish affordable monthly payment plans.

HWAP/Cleveland Housing Network Housewarming Program
Dial 1-888-377-3774 ext. 2

Dominion Gas customers who qualify for HEAP also qualify for the Housewarming Weatherization Program. The program includes a heating inspection, and repair if necessary, attic and sidewall insulation, and energy education to reduce your bill. Homeowners or renters may apply. Check online for an application at www.cmnet.com/weatherization.aspx. Fixed applications cannot be accepted.

Cleveland Division of Water Affordability Program Water Discount (WAP)
Dial 1-888-901-1222 or 216-774-2342

The Affordability Program may give you a 40% discount off your quarterly water bill. You must be the deeded homeowner and occupant between the ages of 18-64 years old. All applications will be processed through Cleveland Housing Network.

Water Bill and Waste Collection Discounts
Dial 216-664-3130

Seniors age 65 and older and adults with disabilities qualify for special discounts on their water bills. If you are eligible for the Water Division's Homestead program, then you automatically qualify for a reduction on the city’s waste collection fee. If you would like additional information about the Water Division’s senior utility discount programs, please contact the customer service department.

Homestead Exemption: Dial 216-443-7050

This is a property tax reduction program for qualifying homeowners. To qualify, you must be at least 65 years of age or totally and permanently disabled; own and occupy your home (having your name on the deed or estate) as of January 1 in year of application. Applications are available from the auditor’s office beginning the first Monday in January until the first Monday in June. Individuals 65 and older are subject to income guidelines.

Free Tax Preparation Dial 2-1-1

Avoid costly tax preparation fees and collect the Earned Income Tax Credit. You can schedule a private appointment. Open year-round to low and moderate income families.

Energy Efficient Refrigerators Available
Dial 1-888-377-3774, Ext. 1

If you think your refrigerator is an energy hog, or your electric bills are too high, you may qualify for free assistance through several electric conservation programs offered through the Cleveland Housing Network. These programs are made available to low-income households through Ohio's Electric Partnership Program (EPP), Cleveland Public Power (CPP) and First Energy (CEI).

If you are a homeowner or renter and you meet basic eligibility requirements, DHS will send an auditor to your home to monitor electric usage. If the auditor decides you qualify, they will measure and collect usage and determine if you qualify to receive some or all of the following:

• Compact fluorescent light bulbs (in high use areas only)
• Refrigerator and/or freezer replacement (if appliance is deemed inefficient)
• Energy-saving education to reduce utility bills
WEST PARK BRANCH Upcoming Events

**Kids' Café**
FREE healthy, nutritious bagged meals for kids thanks to a partnership with the Cleveland Food Bank.
**Monday - Friday • after school**

**Bouncing Babies**
Bouncing babies and books, Oh my! During this special lap-sit story time, babies from birth to 18 months will develop pre-literacy skills while listening to stories, songs and playful rhymes! 30 - 45 minutes
**Tuesdays, January 3 - 31 • 10:30 a.m.**

**Wee Read and Play!**
Continue to develop your toddler's language and social skills! Parents or guardians with toddlers 18 months to 3 years of age are invited for stories, active songs, rhymes and time for play! 30-45 minutes.
**Tuesdays, January 3 - 31 • 11:15 a.m.**

**Fashion Club**
Learn about fashion, sewing, and accessories. Jan. 3 and 17, Feb. 7 and 21.
**Tuesdays, January 3 & 17 • 3:30 p.m.**

**Super Activity Fun Time, Hooray!**
Join us for exciting activities every week.
**Wednesdays, January 4 - 25 • 4:00 p.m.**
**Saturdays, January 7 - 28 • 4:00 p.m.**

**Retro Movie Madness!**
Enjoy popcorn and movies on a big screen during Winter Break! All movies below begin at 2 pm:
- **Tuesday, January 3:** Labyrinth  
- **Wednesday, January 4:** Gremlins  
- **Thursday, January 5:** Back to the Future  
- **Friday, January 6:** Tron

**Remembering Martin Luther King**
Martin Luther King, Jr. will be highlighted in January. His historic “I Have a Dream” speech will be presented. Handouts, books and crossword puzzles will be provided. Birthday treats will be enjoyed.
**Thursday, January 12 • 4:00 p.m.**

**After School Drop-in Crafts**
Holiday and fun general crafts to make and take! Monday - Friday.
**January 12 - February 29 • 3:30 p.m.**

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**CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

**Great Lakes Area Boilermakers Apprenticeship Program**

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Union, Local #744 in Cleveland, is accepting applications for the union’s apprenticeship program.

The union will receive applications at its office at 1435 East 13th Street, Cleveland, from 8:30 am to 11:30 am and from 1 pm to 4 pm on the following days:
- **Wednesday, January 18, 2017**
- **Wednesday, February 15, 2017**
- **Wednesday, March 15, 2017**
- **Wednesday, April 19, 2017**
- **Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

Applicants invited into the apprentice program are subject to drug testing and must supply a copy of their birth certificate and high school diploma/G.E.D. Applicants also must demonstrate that they have access to reliable transportation. **Call Local #744 at 216-241-2085 for more information.**

The boilermaker trade consists of highly skilled craftsmen and women who erect and maintain various types of pressure vessels, including boilers, blast furnaces, pollution control equipment, and numerous other tanks and pressurized containment vessels in the construction industry.

Apprentices are trained in special skills such as welding, cutting, rigging, tank erection and blueprint reading.

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**Wellness Avengers**
**A Ten-Week Family Physical Activity Program**

Wellness Avengers is a collaboration between Cleveland Clinic and the West-Park Fairview Family YMCA to promote physical activity among children and their families. Each session, children and their families will exercise together and learn important health and wellness tips. We will spend Tuesdays in the gym and Thursdays in the pool.

**Topics include:**
- Healthy eating  
- Portion size  
- How to navigate a grocery store  
- Why we need to exercise  
- How to deal with stress  
- The importance of sleep  
- How to stay fit and healthy

**SCHEDULE**
Wellness Avengers meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 - 7:30 pm for 10 weeks. The next session begins January 17 - March 23, 2017.

Assessments include height, weight, body mass index (BMI) and blood pressure at the beginning and end of the program.

WHERE Program will be held at the:  
West-Park Fairview Family YMCA 15501 Lorain Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44111

COST $20 Per family  
INCLUDES Weekly fun, family-friendly activities, weekly time in the pool, healthy tips on nutrition, exercise and wellness from YMCA Health and Wellness experts and Cleveland Clinic Children’s Caregivers

**For more information or to register,** contact the West-Park Fairview Family YMCA at 216 941 5410 or visit www.clevelandymca.org/west-park-fairview
Happy New Year
Best wishes to you and your family for a happy and peaceful 2017
From Councilman Martin J. Keane and the Ward 17 Staff

Ward 17 Highlights from 2016

Coffee with Cops at Dunkin' Donuts on Lorain Avenue
October 14th

Aging Mastery Program Commencement at Gunning Recreation Center June 27th

Oatey Company’s 100th Anniversary and Global Headquarters Grand Opening October 10th

First District Safety Fair & Asphalt Cinema August 19th