Ballot issues could mean savings to residents

In today’s difficult economy, every dollar counts in the budget of small businesses and residential households. Recognizing that energy costs have been increasing over the years, Springdale has initiated a plan that has the potential to lower bills for electric and natural gas services. The plan calls for two initiatives that will be placed on the November ballot giving the City the right to negotiate for the lowest rates possible from a variety of suppliers of electricity and natural gas.

In both the Summer 2010 and Fall/Winter 2010 issues of the Springdale Newsletter, articles describing the savings opportunity were presented. Both articles indicated that the City would place two initiatives on the upcoming November 8 ballot to create two separate aggregation programs (one Electrical and one Natural Gas) that could save residents and small businesses on their energy bills. At the June 1 meeting, City Council passed the necessary legislation that placed the two initiatives on the November ballot.

Provided that the aggregation programs are approved by the voters, Springdale will be authorized to seek the best deals on retail electric and natural gas services. This process will permit the City to enter into service agreements to facilitate the sale and purchase of electricity and natural gas for the entire community. This will effectively create an aggregate — a recognized group — comprised of all residential units and small business owners in the City of Springdale. The City has engaged the services of a professional energy broker to help comply with the regulations of the program and to market the group to alternative energy providers. The target of these marketing efforts is wholesale energy providers with the lowest possible electric and natural gas rates.

Government aggregation programs provide an opportunity for residential and small business customers collectively to participate in the potential benefits of electricity and natural gas deregulation through lower rates which they would not otherwise be able to have individually. The aggregation will occur automatically for each person owning, occupying, controlling or using an electric or natural gas load in Springdale and will provide the opportunity for any person to opt-out of the program if they choose not to participate.

The first step in the process was Council’s passing of Ordinances 23-2011 and 24-2011 directing the Board of Elections of Hamilton County to place the following questions on the Springdale ballot at the election on November 8, 2011:

1. Shall the City of Springdale have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located in the City, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity, such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person elects to opt-out?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

2. Shall the City of Springdale have the authority to aggregate the retail natural gas loads located in the City, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the purchase and sale of natural gas, such aggregation to occur automatically except where a person elects not to participate in the aggregation program, all in accordance with Section 4929.26 of the Ohio Revised Code?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

Upon the approval of a majority of the voters, the City will develop a plan of operation and governance for the aggregation programs. Prior to adopting the plan, Council will hold two public hearings to discuss the plan. Before the first hearing, a notice of the hearings is required to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the City. The notice shall summarize the plan and state the date, time and location of each hearing.

By law, the City’s plan must clearly advise and disclose to all affected that they will be enrolled automatically in the Aggregation Program and will remain in the group, unless the person indicates that they do not wish to be enrolled in the program. The plan will describe the exact method and procedures in which those residents can indicate their desire to not participate in the program. These procedures shall also allow any person enrolled in the Aggregation Program the opportunity to opt-out of the program every three years, without paying a switching fee. Any person who opts out of the Aggregation Program pursuant to the stated procedure will default to the standard service offer (which is to receive services directly from Duke Energy) provided under division (a) of Section 4928.14 or division (b) of Section 4828.35, Ohio Revised Code, until the person chooses an alternative supplier.

Questions about the energy Aggregation Programs can be answered by calling the Springdale Municipal Building at 346-5700.

Like Us

Springdale has launched its Facebook page to assist in better communication with residents.
Crews prepare for fall leaf pick-ups

Public Works crews are gearing up for the annual leaf collection program which begins when leaves start to pile up (typically during the second or third week of October). Collection starts on the west side of State Route 4 and alternates weekly.

Due to the overwhelming volume of leaves, occasionally crews fall behind and cannot collect leaves for the entire half of the City in a given week. When this occurs, crews will finish one side of the City before moving to the other side. The seasonal service ends November 30. Starting December 1, residents should bag their remaining leaves for curbside pick-up with their household trash.

A December cutoff is needed in the event of an early snow, which occurred last year, greatly hampering leaf collection. (Some areas did not get leaves picked up until as late as February.)

Do not place leaves in the street since they could block storm water flow. Instead, leaves should be placed off the curb, but not blocking sidewalks or covering fire hydrants. They should be free of other debris, especially branches and limbs. Branches and limbs cannot be collected with the leaves. The City’s “Chipper” program collects branches and limbs separately throughout the year.

Inspections check watercourses

In order to comply with an Ohio Environmental Protection Agency mandate, crews have begun a citywide inspection of storm sewers and watercourses to determine if any areas are having abnormal discharges during dry periods. The work is part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit held by the City of Springdale.

Inspections are limited to dry weather periods and include an evaluation of the general condition of the outfall structure as well as a visual inspection of the watercourse. Watercourses are inspected to identify various issues, including abnormal water levels occurring during dry weather periods.

Information gathered as a part of these inspections will be used in the coming years to further investigate watercourses which contain possible non-storm water related activity.

The City has contracted with Evans, Mechwart, Hambleton and Tilton (EMH&T) to conduct the inspections. Employees of the contractor will carry identification at all times while conducting the inspections. Access to all rear yards and private property which contain watercourses and outlet structures will be required. Inspections will continue through October, as weather permits. Contact the Springdale Public Works Department at 346-5520 for additional information.

Duke installing Smart-Grid

Duke Energy will be installing the new digital meters in the homes of City of Springdale residents between the months of October and December. The meters are intended to allow the customer to better monitor their energy use and costs. Customers will be able to access their energy use in near-real time through their home computer, smart phone or other technology. Instead of waiting on their monthly bill, residents will be able to monitor their previous day’s usage and — if necessary — modify the way their family uses electricity.

Once the system is up and operating to its full capacity, Duke’s employees will no longer need to walk house to house to read the meters, since they can be read remotely. During the initial year of the program, however, Duke employees will continue to manually read the meters to ensure that the remote program is reading each system accurately.

Before crews arrive to install the new meters, each resident should receive a notification postcard. If they are unable to access an old meter, crews will leave a door-hanger and attempt to call the residence by telephone later. In some areas, Duke will hire contractors to help install the units. These contractors will carry identification that shows they are working with Duke Energy.

Since some areas served by underground utilities have pad-mounted transformers, vegetation near the transformer may have to be removed to ensure appropriate clearance is available for work to be performed safely.

To learn more about this program, visit www.duke-energy.com/about-us/smart-grid-faq.asp for Frequently Asked Questions. Specific questions regarding this system should be directed to Duke Energy at 1-800-544-6900 (tollfree).
Neighborhood Watch Program

It’s more than a citizens group... it’s an attitude

Each month, residents can attend a Neighborhood Watch meeting held at the Springdale Police Department. The get-togethers are far more than a lesson on crime prevention. They have become a social gathering where neighbors get to know each other, which — in itself — fosters safer neighborhoods as more people join together to keep a collective and perpetual eye on suspicious activity.

The Neighborhood Watch groups have recently taken a tour of the Lebanon Correctional Institute, a tour of the Springdale Police and Fire Departments and have received training on the proper use of fire extinguishers. Upcoming events will include a tour of the Hamilton County Communication Center, CPR and AED training, and a “toy night” where participants will take a close look at the tools that the police officers use in the course of their job.

The Springdale Police Department hosts four Neighborhood Watch meetings each month at the Police Department. Each of four areas meeting monthly at 7 p.m.

Springdale Neighborhood Watch is a program to encourage citizens to be observant and to call police when they notice criminal or suspicious activity. Neighborhood watch is an attitude; a firm belief that the neighborhood belongs to the citizens and not the criminals, combined with a willingness to be observant and report suspicious activity.

Every Springdale resident is encouraged to participate in their respective Neighborhood Watch group. Stop by the Police Department or call the Community Service Office at the Springdale Police Department at 346-5760 to request an application to join a group. Applications are also available online at the City’s website. Completed applications can be mailed or delivered to the Community Service Office at the Police Department.

Cop-on-Top returns August 5-6

Just one way local officers team up for Special Olympics

Officers from the Springdale Police Department and surrounding communities will participate in the 2nd annual Cop-on-Top building sit-in at the Springdale Walgreens, at the intersection of State Route 4 and Northland Boulevard. Last year’s inaugural event raised more than $5,000 for Special Olympics. This year’s goal of $10,000 is even more ambitious.

The Cop-on-Top fundraiser begins at 6 a.m. on August 5, with an officer remaining on top of special scaffolding (safe weather permitting) for 35 consecutive hours.

The Special Olympics has gained a significant amount of respect for area officers and their commitment to the program. Springdale Police Chief Mike Mathis and Officer Joe Ture participated in “Going over the Edge” in support of Special Olympics on July 26. Over the Edge is an event that gives individuals the opportunity to rappel 23 stories off the Cincinnati Hyatt Regency as an adventurous and daring event to raise money for Special Olympics.

In June, local officers participated in the 25th Anniversary of the Ohio Law Enforcement Torch Run. Officers from Springdale joined with approximately 2,000 officers on six different legs from around Ohio to carry the “Flame of Hope” through 150 communities statewide to Columbus to kick-off the summer games.

Shred sensitive docs free August 13

Residents with large quantities of old tax, financial or other sensitive documents can securely and completely destroy those records without charge at an August 13 shredding service at the Community Center. A mobile shredding unit will be on site from 9 to 11 a.m. so that residents may safely destroy their unwanted documents and records.

This is an opportunity to dispose of large quantities of documents without spending an entire day feeding them through a consumer shredder at home. All material will be shredded by an industrial unit courtesy of Shred Safe, an industrial based shredding company serving area businesses. In addition to documents being shredded, the resulting paper will be recycled.
Residents CAN learn to positively manage a disease to overcome the physical and emotional problems caused by chronic illness during a workshop program called Healthy U Chronic Disease Self-Management Workshop.

A study by Stanford University has shown that people who participated in the program improved their healthful behaviors and their health status, and decreased their days in the hospital. Evaluations completed by participants showed that they also enjoyed the six week long program.

The free workshop series will be offered through the City of Springdale Health Department beginning on Thursday, September 1. The series will continue weekly through October 6. Classes meet from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the Springdale Community Center. Different topics are covered each week so it is important to plan to attend each week. The workshop is tailored to those with chronic illnesses, such as heart disease, arthritis, lung disease and other chronic diseases.

The program is free, but registration is required due to limited enrollment space. To register, call the Springdale Health Department at 346-5725.

In the sweltering heat of the long hot summer, the Springdale Garden Club can relax and look back at a busy year. The season began with its annual tea in March, which raised much of the funding needed for the year’s work ahead.

One major element of the club’s effort was a partnership with the Springdale Parks & Recreation Department; the Public Works Department and the Springdale Elementary School for the Arbor Day celebration at the end of April. A program was presented by the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade classes, along with Student Council members. During the event, the Garden Club handed out brochures on planting and caring for trees. In addition, the Club donated a Saw Toothed Oak Tree that was planted near the playground. The Saw Toothed oak tree is a hard wood tree and should last well over 50 years.

Later, Club members helped several of the students plant seeds and released butterflies into the Butterfly Garden. One of the Garden Club’s spring project was to clean up the three flower beds in front of the Community Center and to plant summer annuals. The Club will hold a planning meeting on August 15, with its first fall meeting on September 12. The September session will feature Naomi Ormes, a floral designer and judge for the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs, who will present a program on caring for and dividing hostas.

For information about the Garden Club, contact Joan Knox at 674-7755 or joanknox99@fuse.net.

Flu vaccines available during annual clinic

Influenza (flu) immunizations will be offered on Tuesday, October 18, from 12 until 3 p.m. at the Springdale Community Center. During the annual Springdale Health Department Flu Immunization Event, seniors with primary health coverage through Medicare B or with Medicare Supplements through United Health Care, Humana, Anthem or Aetna can receive a flu shot with no out-of-pocket expense, thanks to a partnership with Mapleknoll Home Health. Flu vaccination to other adults will be offered for $20 and to children for free.

Call 346-5725 to make an appointment. The event is held during the Business and Community Expo & Chili Cookoff (see page 7), so plan your time to enjoy both events.

Flu vaccinations will continue to be offered through the Health Department after this event at the charge of $20 for adults and free for children.

Plan now to attend the Springdale Fire Department’s 21st annual Open House on October 1. A variety of fun and educational activities will be offered for children and adults. Food and beverages will also be provided. The Open House starts at 11 a.m. and runs until 3 p.m.
**Halloween Carnival**
Saturday, October 29 1:00-3:00 pm
Games and activities for kids age 2 through fourth grade! Adults are welcome to join in the fun with their own costume contest! Free tickets are available beginning Friday, October 2 at the Springdale Community Center. Participation is limited to the first 200 sign-ups.

**Turkey Shoot**
Saturday, November 19 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Join the Springdale teen group for their Annual Turkey Shoot. This free-throw competition is open to the public. Come out and shoot some hoops for the chance to win a turkey! Cost to enter is two non-perishable food items that will be donated to needy families. Winners will be awarded in male and female categories divided from ages 5 and under to adults and seniors.

**Tree Lighting Ceremony**
Sunday, November 27 7:30 pm
The tree at the Municipal Building will be illuminated, officially beginning the holiday season in Springdale. The public is invited to this free event.

**American Red Cross Babysitting**
August 11 & 12
Designed to teach youth ages 11 and older the responsibilities of babysitting. Students learn accident prevention, diapering, feeding, and emergency first aid as well as how to choose age appropriate games and toys, and how to prepare for a job as a babysitter. Call the Red Cross at 792-4000 to reserve your spot.

**Junior Olympics**
Saturday, September 10 • 10:00 - 11:30am
This free event consists of eight (8) competitive events for children ages 12 and younger. Events include basketball shoot-out, cup stacking, scooter races, soccer kick, and more! Awards will be presented at noon for the winning boys and girls in each age group. Call Parks & Recreation at 346-3910 if you’d like to volunteer!
CARDIO KICKBOXING
Tuesday & Thursday from 5:45 pm - 6:45 pm
Saturday from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm.
Call instructor Elaine McKay for more information at 825-7443. Fee: $35/4-weeks, $65/8 weeks, $5/class for walk-ins.

CHAIR VOLLEYBALL
Monday • 10:00 - 11:30 am
Wednesday • 12:00 - 1:30 pm
Everyone is welcome to join us for this fun activity! There are a wide variety of benefits for participants, including improved cardiovascular fitness, increased flexibility, and the opportunity to meet new friends! Players’ ages range from the 50s to 90s and all activity levels can participate.

GET UP AND GO BOOTCAMP
Monday from 5:30 - 6:15 pm
Classes begin September 12
We want YOU… to lose weight, tone up and have fun! Are you bored with your workout or looking for a new challenge? Then it’s time to join Boot Camp! We’ll train anyone at any level from beginner to expert exerciser. Soon you’ll be re-enlisting when you’re burning up to 450 calories per class. Best of all it’s FREE! Just bring a towel or mat and water bottle – crew cut is not required.

JAZZERCISE/BODY SCULPTING
Monday & Wednesday • 5:45 - 6:45 pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday • 9:30 - 10:30 am
Your first class is free. Call instructor Elaine Smith at 575-1620 for class costs or more information.

L.I.F.E.
Tuesday & Thursday • 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
This FREE class will focus on improving your strength to help you safely perform the activities of daily living with improved balance and stability. Whether lifting a bag of groceries or standing up from a chair, every task depends on functional strength for successful execution.

R&B DANCE
Wednesday • 6:50 - 7:50 pm
Friday • 12:45 - 2 pm
Any level of dancer is welcome to come learn the ropes or work on your waltz. This is not just another dance class. You will make friends, burn some calories and have a great time. Taught by Annette Knoll, with many years of experience, you will learn everything from the Cleveland Shuffle and Southern Shuffle to the Booty Call and The Michael Jackson.

LET’S GET FIT
Monday & Wednesday • 10:30-11:30 am
There are many benefits associated with this FREE class including working major muscle groups to increase strength and flexibility, improving strength for daily living, reducing the risk of falls, reduces stress, enhances muscle and endurance. The class follows a video “Resisting Muscle Loss” offered by the Hamilton County General Health District.

LINE DANCING WITH THE HELTS
Monday • 1:00-2:00 pm
This class is a great way to exercise and have fun at the same time! If you can stand, walk, move from left to right and enjoy a variety of music, this class is perfect for you! Wear comfortable soft soled shoes and enjoy learning how to line dance! Call 346-3910 to sign up. Fee: $4 per class.

SLIMNASTICS
Monday, Wednesday & Friday • 9:15-10:15 am
Slimnastics is a FREE fitness class for women.

YOGASTRETCH
Wednesdays (August 31 - 31) • 1:30 pm
This FREE class is the result of partnerships with Personal Touch Home Health Services and Wellspring at Evergreen. The Springfield Parks and Recreation Department is excited to introduce a new exercise class to the Springfield Community Center. YogaStretch is a total body stretching class which includes all the major and minor muscle groups, designed to improve overall flexibility and balance. You can expect gentle stretching to enhance a greater range of movement. Each participant works at his or her own rate and you can sit or stand during all of the exercises (no mat work on the floor). Please call 346-3910 to register for this free class.

ZUMBA
Tuesday & Thursday • 6:50-7:50 pm
Zumba combines high energy and motivating music with unique moves and combinations. It’s based on the theory that a workout should be fun and easy to do, allowing participants to stick with the program and achieve long-term health benefits.
Bible Sticks with Ron Vance  
**Thursday • August 25 • 1:30 pm**  
Come to the Springdale Community Center and experience the beautiful craftsmanship of these wood carvings. In 1988, Ron Vance carved a walking stick for the simple enjoyment of it. This has led him to carving over a dozen sticks with Bible stories and teachings and a ministry in sharing his art work.  

Don’t miss the unique opportunity to see these works of art up close and Ron’s presentation about each carving. Please call 346-3910 to reserve your seat for this FREE presentation.

OVERNIGHT TRAVEL  
**DISCOVER LAKE GENEVA**  
**August 15-18**  
Lake Geneva is a beautiful lake resort that is visited by many Chicago millionaires; this is your opportunity to play with the rich and famous! Enjoy a ride on the U.S. Mail Boat and plenty of free time to do as you would like — shopping, walking the lake, or visiting the Geneva Lake Museum of History. Enjoy a wine tasting at a local vineyard and dinner at Millie’s Restaurant. Next visit Spring Green, home of the House on the Rock and Taliesin. Tour both of these beautiful homes and learn their unique histories. You may register for this trip by calling Joy Tour & Travel at 777-8221.

CAPE COD  
**September 7-13**  
Join us on a lovely late summer trip to Cape Cod. It’s just the perfect time to visit as the peak tourist season is over and the weather is still warm and comfortable. We’ll visit Mystic Seaport where you can see and tour authentic still warm and comfortable. We’ll visit Mystic peak tourist season is over and the weather is Cod. It’s just the perfect time to visit as the Join us on a lovely late summer trip to Cape  
September 7-13

WHEN COAL WAS KING  
**October 17-18**  
The hills of Guernsey County in Ohio are rich in coal history. You will ride the rails, eat a Hobo lunch and dinner, tour an actual company store, visit a coal baron home built in 1905 and the Miner’s Memorial Park. The final stop is to the Wilds-one of the largest and most innovative wildlife conservation centers in the world. You may register for this trip by calling Joy Tour & Travel at 777-8221.

DAYTRIPS  
**KitchenAid, Bicycle & Neil Armstrong Museums**  
**Wednesday, August 17**  
Take a short drive north to Greenville, OH and visit the home of the famous KitchenAid Museum and factory. After the tour enjoy lunch on your own at the Montage Café in quaint downtown Greenville. After lunch you are off to New Bremen to visit the Bicycle Museum and then on to our final stop at the Neil Armstrong Museum. Reservations can be made at the front desk with checks made payable to Springdale Senior Citizens Club.

A COVERED BRIDGE DAY  
**Wednesday, September 28**  
Putnam County, Indiana, is known as Covered Bridge Country. Spend time enjoying the beauty of Lieber State Park, home of Indiana’s largest waterfall, Cataract Falls. Enjoy an elegant gourmet lunch on the Cataract Falls Covered Bridge complete with linen tablecloths, china and flowers. Then shop at the General Store and visit Hilltop Orchids where thousands of orchids are in stock with over 500 always in bloom. Register for this very popular trip by calling Joy Tour & Travel at 777-8221.

Business/Community Expo & Chili Cook-Off  
**Tuesday • October 18 • 11 am - 2:30 pm**  
**Springdale Community Center**

The expo is open to all businesses as well as the public. It’s a great opportunity to showcase your company and support the city! Don’t miss this perfect opportunity to network with other local businesses, as well as get your name out in the community.

Expo is a free public event, complete with door prizes and free chili samples. The SPCA will be on hand with pets available for adoption.

If your business is interested in having a booth or in donating door prizes, contact Julie Matheny at 513-346-5712 or julie@springdalechamber.org.

Sponsored by the Springdale Chamber of Commerce

Veteran’s Day Ceremony  
**Friday, November 11**  
**Springdale Veteran’s Memorial**

In honor of those who have defended freedom, many paying the supreme sacrifice, Springdale will present a special ceremony in commemoration of Veteran’s Day. Last year’s tribute included a performance of Taps by bugler Larry Dupree, musical performances by David Dendler and the Springdale Elementary 4th Grade Chorale, and an address by Mayor Doyle Webster.

Parking is available at the Municipal Complex.

Groups interested in participating in this year’s tribute should contact Jackie O’Connell at joconnell@springdale.org.
Mammogram Van here August 30

The American Cancer Society recommends that women have a mammogram every year starting at age 40. Those under age 40 with a history of breast cancer affecting a mother, sister or daughter, should talk with a doctor about beginning screenings at an earlier age. As a convenience to residents, the Jewish Hospital Mobile Mammography Van will visit the Springdale Community Center on Tuesday, August 30, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. To arrange for an appointment, call 686-3300. A minimum of 15 participants is needed. Insurance will be directly billed (Mammography is usually covered, but to be safe, check that Jewish Hospital is a panel provider with your insurance provider).

Financial assistance may be available by calling 686-3306.

About those garbage cans...

In most cases, garbage cans are not all that attractive. While they are highly useful containers, they cannot be stored in plain sight. Springdale Property Maintenance Code limits where garbage cans may be stored.

Except when placed at the curb for pick-up, they must be stored in side or rear yards. When placed in the side yard, they must be screened from view from the street by a fence, wall or landscaping. When placed at the curb for pick-up, containers, bags and/or waste may not be placed earlier than 6:00 p.m. on the day preceding pick-up. They must be removed from the curb no later than 6:00 a.m. on the day following pick up.

Area eateries win 6-Star status

Every restaurant in Springdale is held to high standards through regular inspections by the Springdale Health Department. Some, however, have gone above and beyond standards by applying for special recognition and demonstrating achievement in meeting criteria for a 6 Star Honor Award. In addition to other standards, applicants must not have needed any follow-up inspections nor received any smoke free violations for their license year. They must also demonstrate that management personnel have successfully completed food safety training. Those receiving 6 Star Honor Award status for 2011 are:

- Jimmy John’s Gourmet Sandwiches
- Maple Knoll — Beecher Place
- Maple Knoll — Manor House
- Ponderosa Steakhouse
- Chick-fil-A
- Red Squirrel Restaurant
- Windows on the Green Restaurant