



Council Update – December 10, 2015

Community Affairs Department

The end of the year is growing close and I am very pleased with the programs that we have offered and will continue to offer for our residents in 2016.

Groveport's Tree Lighting and visit with Santa Claus was a huge success. Approximately 400 people attended this Annual Event. The Secret Santa Shop was another success this year. Children were able to go into the shop and pick something out for a loved one for a cost of \$1.00 or a can good per item. The items purchased were crafts that were donated or made throughout the year. The shop collected \$115.00 in cash for the Center for Groveport Madison Human Needs and three large boxes of can/box goods for the Groveport Food Pantry. Children were able to sit on Santa's lap, make an ornament out of felt and receive a block of ice with their name carved in it.

A local resident donated over 500 slightly used books a few months ago. We were not really sure what to do with them and after much thought we decided to set them out on Santa Night for children to go through and take home as many books as they would like. By the end of the night there were not many books left. We decided to leave the remaining books out over the week end for anyone to look over and take home. As of last Monday morning there were only 50 books left. During the Friday night event and watching the children and parents looking over all of the books I had a good feeling about most parents wanting to instill reading habits in their children. All parents want bright and smart children and as parents we want to boost children's learning potential simply by making books an integral part of their lives and thanks to one of a local resident, we helped with making books an important part of many children's lives.

Program Coordinator Alba MacHarrie reached out to the schools once again to see if she could help out in anyway with any classes. It was decided that it would be nice for Alba to come into the schools and do an art project. The children over the last few weeks have been taking the Measure of Academic Progress and State Reading Assessment test and this would be a good distraction from testing. Alba will be going to the school at three different times to do an art project. She will be making snowflakes out of paper for the children to take home.





The December Art Gallery is full of dolls and bears from Linda Henry Boving Originals of Canal Winchester. Linda started her career as a commercial artist. She began designing collectible over 25 years ago. That career started in 1980 at world famous doll designer, Lee Middleton's kitchen table where she learned to sculpt her first doll. Her skills include sculpting porcelain and vinyl dolls, one of a kind fairies and mermaids and creating original mohair bears.

