



Harrison Insights

Businesses • Image • Neighborhoods • People • Prosperity • Services

Montgomery County, Ohio

Mark your calendar for October 16

Northridge Homecoming Parade to Celebrate 'Polar Bear Strong'

Pack up the kids and join your friends, neighbors and local officials at the 55th annual Northridge Homecoming Parade on Sunday, October 16. The day will include many traditional events – but with a community-focused twist.

Immediately after the parade, you're invited to the school grounds for a car show, sales by local vendors and crafters and a Community Resource Festival where you can learn about resources available to help local residents. The organizations will have games and activities for kids.

We hope you join in the fun!



When

Sunday, October 16

Parade - 2 p.m.

Car Show and Community Resource Festival immediately after parade until 6 p.m.

Where

Parade route is along North Dixie Dr.

Post-parade activities on school grounds - 2011 Timber Ln.

Please note: There is no RAIN DATE for this event.



School Zone Rules Are Being Enforced



With school back in session, it's a good time for a review of school zone laws. First, slow down to the school zone speed limit of 20 miles per hour. If you're approaching a school bus with flashing red lights, you must stop when driving from either direction until the children are safely off the street and the school bus lights stop flashing. The yellow flashing lights signal you to slow down and prepare to make a complete stop. (This does not apply to multiple-lane or divided highways.)

Commander Studying at FBI National Academy

Harrison Township Sheriff's Office Substation Commander Brad Daugherty is currently attending the FBI National Academy, a prestigious opportunity extended only to law enforcement officials of high standing and outstanding credentials.



To attend, a participant must be nominated and meet rigorous criteria. In addition to education, experience and character requirements, the nominee must "exhibit an interest in law enforcement as a public service, a seriousness of purpose, qualities of leadership and the confidence and respect of fellow officers," according to published standards.

Captain Daugherty's studies will span 10 weeks and focus on several dimensions of leadership, including the investigation of violent crimes, critical incidents, forensic science, communication skills and at-risk employees.

Among the attendees are officials representing local police and fire departments, military police organizations and law enforcement agencies from all US states and territories, as well as 160 international partner nations.

"I believe this training will make me a better leader of the deputies in Harrison Township," said Captain Daugherty. "By being a better leader, I can better manage and hold my deputies to a higher standard, in service to the township's residents and businesses."

Township Calendar 2022 - 2023

Township offices are closed on the following dates:

October 10	Columbus Day	Trash service REGULAR SERVICE
November 24 & 25	Thanksgiving	Trash service delayed one day
December 25	Christmas Day	Trash service REGULAR SERVICE
January 1	New Year's Day	Trash service REGULAR SERVICE
January 16	Martin Luther King Day	Trash service REGULAR SERVICE
February 20	President's Day	Trash service REGULAR SERVICE

Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule

Board of Trustees' meetings are held twice a month at the Township Government Center:

First Monday – Workshop Meeting at 5:30 p.m.; General Session at 7 p.m.

Third Thursday – Workshop Meeting at 10:30 a.m.; General Session at 12 p.m.

All meetings except executive sessions are open to the public, and citizens are welcome to attend.

Trustee President Georgeann Godsey and Bobby Evans at National Night Out. The informal setting encourages police-community partnerships.



Event Brings Police, Residents Together

Harrison Township residents and law enforcement officers came together on August 2 for National Night Out. The event promotes police-community partnerships.

With burgers fired up on the grill, kids lined up for games and blue snow cones and dancing music filling the air, Sheriff's deputies took advantage of the informal environment to talk to township residents, hear their concerns and share information on community safety.

Members of the Harrison Township Fire Department were also on hand with a fire engine and medic unit on display, while the Sheriff's Office brought its SWAT vehicle and police K-9 Riggs.

The event took place at Shiloh Church, 5300 Philadelphia Dr.

Fire Department Promotions



Lieutenant Seth Dodds was promoted to battalion chief. His son, Hagen, pinned the new badge to his coat.



Three part-time firefighters were promoted to full-time positions. Pictured here (L-R): Interim Chief Mike Crist, FF Robert Collins, FF Garrison Willoughby, FF Jacob Lynch and Chief Mark Lynch.



FF Charles Sampson was promoted to lieutenant. Pictured here (L-R): Fiscal Officer Craig A. Jones, Trustee Roland Winburn, Lt. Sampson, Trustee Georgeann Godsey and Trustee Danielle Bradley.

Grants Strategy Pays Dividends

The Harrison Township Fire Department's policy of aggressively pursuing outside funding is paying off with two major grants totaling \$115,000 recently announced:

- A \$75,000 grant will pay for a new, battery-operated extrication tool to allow firefighters to remove victims trapped in car crashes and other scenarios. The new equipment replaces models that were decades old.
- A \$40,000 grant will allow the department to launch a community risk-reduction program that includes the distribution of smoke detectors to the public.



Crist Named Interim Fire Chief

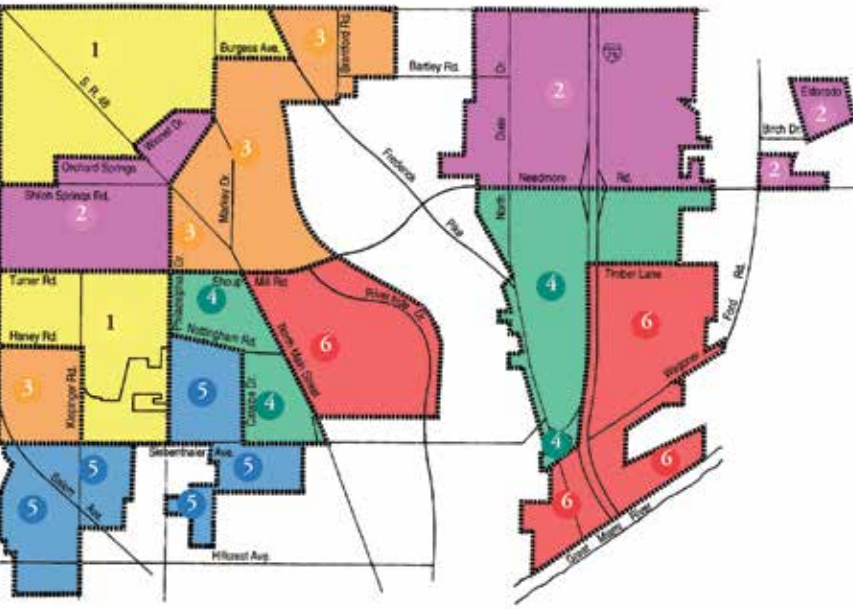
Harrison Township Fire Department veteran Mike Crist has been appointed interim fire chief. He replaces Chief Mark Lynch, who retired in July after 35 years of service.

Having started his fire service career in 2000 as a volunteer, Crist was hired by Harrison Township in 2001 as a part-time firefighter/EMT and the following year was promoted to full-time as a firefighter/paramedic.

After earning numerous certifications and a degree in EMS and fire administration, Crist was promoted to the rank of lieutenant in 2007 and battalion chief in 2018. Since then, he has also served as the department's training officer and EMS manager. In addition, he has excelled as grant administrator, acquiring more than \$500,000 in outside funds for special fire department projects and equipment.

Chief Crist is an active fire, EMS and rescue instructor throughout the state and an advocate of firefighter safety and survival through advancements in firefighting gear.

Leaf Collection Starts October 17



Harrison Township is proud to provide residents one of its most popular and practical services: convenient curbside leaf collection, twice a season.

The schedule is organized by leaf collection zones. To find your zone, refer to the map on this page or find it on the Harrison Township website at harristownship.org/175/Leaf-Collection. Look up your street name and then the zone.



	Week of	Week of
Zone 1	October 17	November 28
Zone 2	October 17	December 5
Zone 3	October 24	December 12
Zone 4	October 31	December 19
Zone 5	November 7	December 26
Zone 6	November 14	December 26

Keep this schedule in a handy place throughout the season. Also, please help us help you by following these guidelines:

- Pile your leaves curbside by 7:30 a.m. on the Monday of your scheduled week.
- Avoid piling your leaves around parked vehicles, trees, poles, signs, culverts and ditches.
- Don't mix other wastes such as brush, tree limbs, other yard waste, garbage, grass clippings and animal wastes with your leaves. These items clog the machinery and slow down crews.
- Have your leaves piled curbside before the leaf collection equipment arrives. Don't try to rake or blow your leaves as crews are trying to collect the leaves.
- If you want to bag your leaves and place them curbside, you can call the Services Department at (937) 274-6871, and they will pick them up as soon as possible.
- You may also put your leaves in your Rumpke trash containers or overage bags purchased at the Harrison Township Government Center for \$4 apiece. Leave them out for collection on your regular trash collection day.
- If you have questions about leaf collection, please contact the Services Department at (937) 274-6871.



Sinclair Park Waterway Project

A major project to remove vegetation, trash and storm debris from the waterway between Main Street and Harrison Township's Sinclair Park has been completed. This clears the way for drainage to feed directly into the Stillwater River unimpeded.

A grant from the US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service paid 75% of the project cost, and Harrison Township paid the remainder.

Prescription Drug Take-Back - October 29

Not sure what to do with your unused prescription drugs? Here's an easy way to get them out of your home and dispose of them safely:

Bring your unused medications to the prescription drug take-back event being hosted by Harrison Township Sheriff's deputies on Saturday, October 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the township Government Center, 5945 North Dixie Dr.

It will be set up as a drive-through, so you can simply hand your medications to the waiting deputy.



Scouts' Honor: Volunteers Clean Up River

Volunteers removed 600 pounds of trash and debris from the Stillwater River on June 20. They represented Boy Scout Troop 402, the Harrison Township Services Department and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.

Starting at the Englewood Dam and finishing near Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark, volunteers canoed the water in kayaks, pulling limbs, litter and more from river.

Among the volunteers was former Sheriff's Substation Commander Captain Dave Parin and his son, Wyatt, who led the Stillwater River Cleanup as a Boy Scout troop project.

To thank Wyatt for his service, the Harrison Township Trustees presented him with a proclamation.



Boy Scout Troop 402 project leader Wyatt Parin.

"Along with helping the environment, we hope to educate participants about the value of the river as a valuable natural resource," said Services Director Merle Cyphers. "We believe our efforts and investments today will pay environmental dividends in the future."



Love Northridge Does it Again

For the sixth year, the Love Northridge cleanup event brought together some 30 volunteers to clean up 20 of the community’s worst trouble spots. They cleared brush, picked up trash, removed tires, pulled weeds and loaded 13 dumpsters for hauling away.

Keep Montgomery County Beautiful provided equipment trailers, while Bladecutters provided two roll-offs and the township added 11 roll-off dumpsters as well as leaf and tire collection.

Thanks to all project organizers at Heavy Metal Church of Christ and beyond, as well as all volunteers!



Community Cleanup Months

It’s official.

Every May and September will be Community Cleanup months in Harrison Township. These are typically months when many residents clean up their own properties, the township’s nuisance abatement activity intensifies and community cleanup events are organized by volunteer organizations such as Love Northridge and neighborhood groups.

This past September, the first ever event took place in the Ft. McKinley and Shiloh areas. The township strategically placed 10 amnesty dumpsters for residents to dispose of unwanted trash.

Residents responded by filling the dumpsters with trash and tires that were then disposed of by the township.

To suggest cleanup locations in May, contact Regina Moore at rmoore@harrisontownship.org.



Neighbors Welcome Demolitions

Tornado-Damaged Condos

Three years have passed since tornadoes raged through Harrison Township, wrecking everything in their wake. Now one more hurdle in the long cleanup process has been cleared.



Lofty Oaks



Five badly damaged condominiums on Lofty Oaks Lane along the Stillwater River were demolished in August. Harrison Township trustees had declared these condominiums to be dangerous properties with unsecured structural damage.

“Thank you for taking this step toward the recovery of our community,” commented one resident on social media.

Polk Boulevard House

Local residents reacted with exclamations of “Yay!” over the township’s demolition of the property at 6832 Polk Blvd., which was destroyed by fire a few years ago. The township also recently removed unsafe, unsightly structures on Lodell Avenue, Edgeworth Avenue and Neff Road.

Lodell Avenue Houses

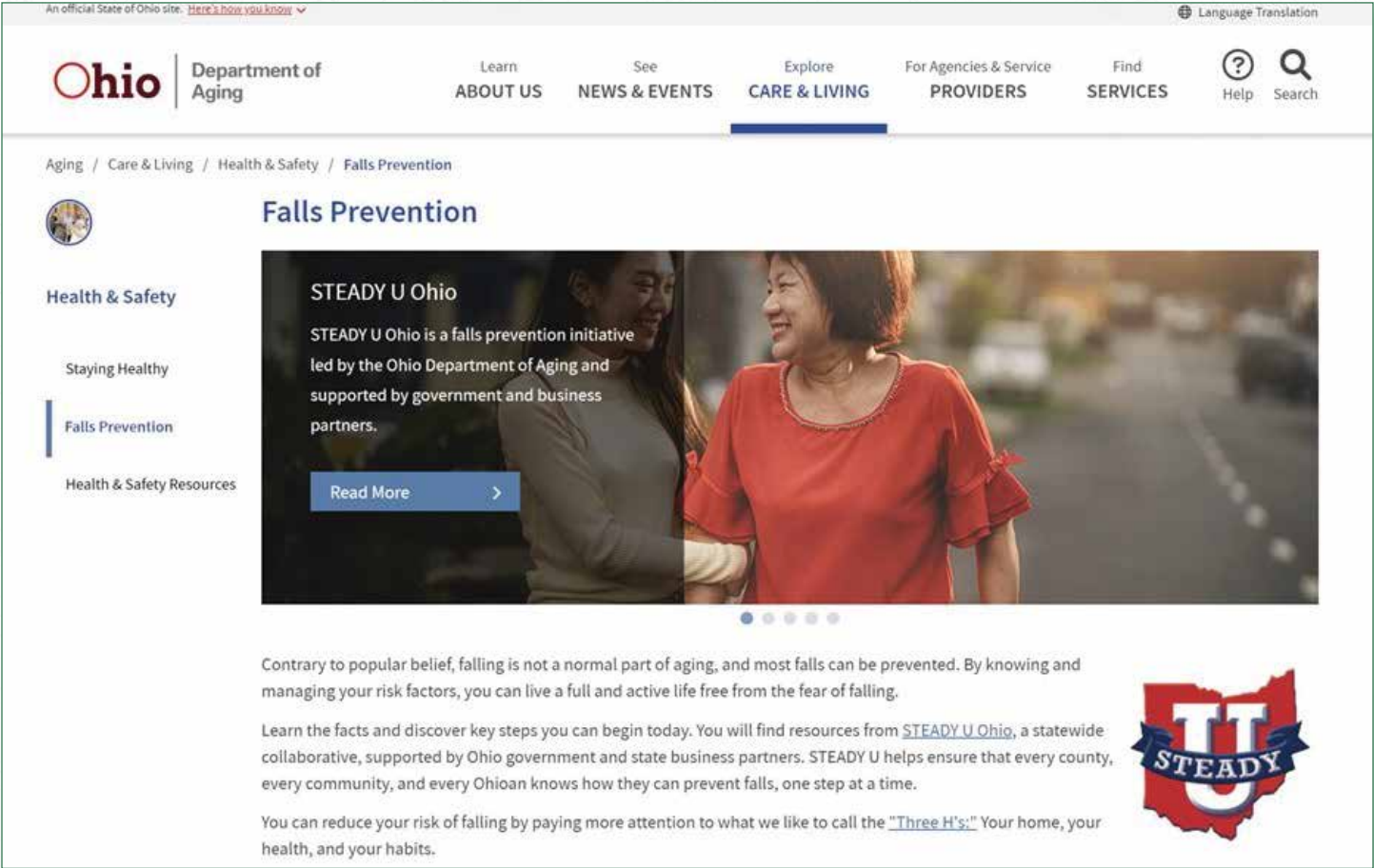


Township Bans Fireworks

Harrison Township trustees recently took action to ban the “discharge, ignition or explosion of fireworks with Harrison Township.”

Trustee President Georgeann Godsey explained the policy, stating, “We are a densely populated

urban area with homes and businesses located close together. Our residents asked that we ban fireworks due to safety reasons (potential damage to adjacent buildings), inability to control the noise and the health of those who live in our community. The (state) legislation was very broad, and may not have considered county versus city, but it gave us the opportunity to decide, and we chose to ban them.”



Fall is for Fall Prevention

Falls among elderly Ohioans have hit epidemic proportions, according to the Ohio Department of Health. Overall, more than 30% of people age 65 and older fall each year. At 70 and older, the elderly population accounted for 53% of all fall-related medical emergency service calls.

In addition to exercise routines that improve strength and balance, research has shown that fall-related injuries can be reduced by about 25% by simply making a number of inexpensive fixes at home.

Here are suggestions for modifications that can make a difference and are relatively inexpensive:

- Remove floor clutter and throw rugs.
- Rearrange furniture to improve the flow of foot traffic.
- Install handrails along indoor and outdoor staircases.
- Install grab bars near showers, bathtubs and toilets.
- Improve lighting in hallways, stairways and outdoor walkways.
- Install night lights to illuminate the way to the bathroom at night.
- Add nonslip mats and treads to bathroom floors, outside decks and outside steps.

The Ohio Department of Health has launched the Steady U program, to raise awareness and provide strategies for preventing falls. Visit the website at aging.ohio.gov and navigate to "Featured Information" to learn more.

Grant to Promote Township's Age-Friendliness

Harrison Township is working to become a livable community, to promote health and sustainable growth and to contribute to the well-being of its residents in all stages of life. A \$10,000 grant recently received from the Dayton Foundation's Del Mar Healthcare Fund sets in motion an initiative to bring the community closer to those goals.

The grant opens the door for the township to participate in AARP's and the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Communities Network. Through this initiative, AARP staff and volunteers are working throughout the US to engage and mobilize communities, share expertise and deliver technical assistance.

"The timing of this initiative is perfect," said Township Administrator Kris McKlintick. "We recently completed a strategic plan that calls for increasing the age-friendliness of our entire community, which will also enhance our residents' overall quality of life."

The grant will fund the assessment stage of the project to determine the needs of senior adults living in the township using surveys and meetings. This important step will be critical to identifying the strategies that will result in improvements for seniors' lifestyles.

A key objective throughout the process will be keeping the public, especially older residents, informed to ensure their voices continue to be heard.

"We are excited to join AARP's Age-Friendly Communities network," said Trustee President Georgeann Godsey in accepting the grant. "Harrison Township is committed to ensuring we have a livable community to promote health, achieve sustainable growth and contribute to the well-being of its residents in all stages of life."



This project is funded by a grant from DMH-Dayton, Inc. Fund of the Dayton Foundation, on behalf of MVRPC's Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities.

Make Your Voice Heard

Harrison Township officials want to hear from you. Last winter, they launched a series of community meetings as part of the strategic planning process. By learning about citizens' concerns and ideas, the trustees and staff can take actions to plan for and address them.

The next community meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25, from 6-7:30 p.m., in the community center, behind the Government Center. Discussions will focus on community safety and the process for dealing with neglected and deteriorating properties. Check the township's website for more details.

Thank You for 70 Years, Brentlinger's!

What began seven decades ago as a simple farm stand – a wagon prominently positioned in the front yard of a Needmore Road farm and stacked daily with fresh corn on the cob for sale – has evolved as a Harrison Township business icon.

Brentlinger's Farm Market began with Norman and Mary Brentlinger, whose family tradition of dairy and livestock farming spanned generations. They decided in 1952 to try selling sweet corn from their front lawn to supplement their income.

Fast forward 70 years. So popular is Brentlinger's Farm Market today that some loyal customers can't go more than a few days of the summer without stopping to restock on farm-fresh produce. Sweet corn is the main attraction, although beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, squash, apples and more are available. Some customers come from as far away as Lima in Ohio as well as Indiana and Kentucky.

One man stops daily to buy corn and shows his appreciation by sending pizzas to Brentlinger workers every Saturday. Another brings cold drinks to the them on hot days. Others bring corn-themed gifts from their travels.



Linda (Brentlinger) Dawes says she was born with an ear of corn in her hand.

The sweet corn is grown on 100 acres in Clark County. Norman and Mary's sons, Tom and Raymond, keep the farm running, while their sister, Linda Dawes, is in charge of the farm market at the corner of Needmore Road and Webster Street.

"I grew up with an ear of corn in my hand," said Linda, 69, who began working at the stand at age 10.

A team of nine employees, including Linda's husband, Tony, plus a few retirees and students, make up the staff of the entire farm and market operation.

In high demand, Brentlinger's sweet corn is sold wholesale to several restaurants and markets, including Brunk's Meat Market on North Dixie Drive and all Dorothy Lane Market stores.

Although Linda isn't making predictions about the farm's future, she said she and her brothers intend to continue farming as long as they can. She feels a sense of gratitude for the support and success they've enjoyed over the years.

"Harrison Township has always been very good to us," she said.

HarrisonTownship.org

Welcome, New Businesses

Harrison Township welcomes these new businesses that have opened their doors in our community:

Family Auto Discount
3936 Salem Ave.

Fresh Start Behavioral Health Inc.
7030 N. Main St.

Reflections Group Home
3872 Boggs Ave.

Z-Rated Powersports
7032 North Dixie Dr.

Thank you for choosing to locate in Harrison Township!



Blood Drive a Success

According to the Community Blood Center, every blood donation can save up to three lives.

That said, township employees recently became life-saving heroes, stepping up to donate 18 units of blood for the first-ever blood drive at the Government Center.

Interested in hosting a blood drive at your place of business? The CBC makes organizing it easy with the planning tool available at its website, givingblood.org.

Congratulations, St. Rita's Church, on 100 Years

On January 15, 1922, the first Roman Catholic Mass was celebrated by Father John F. Lampe in a rented schoolhouse classroom on the corner of what is now Philadelphia Drive and North Main Street. Four years later, the first parish school – a two-room schoolhouse – opened with an enrollment of 38 students.

From these humble beginnings, St. Rita's has grown to become an outstanding asset to the Harrison Township community.

In honor of its 100th anniversary, the church is planning several events, including a Mass of Thanksgiving with former pastors and priests at 4:30 p.m., on November 5. An additional event – the date has not yet been set – will feature a presentation and discussion of St. Rita's history. Stories of St. Rita of Cascia and Sister Dorothy Mae Stang, a social justice activist killed in Brazil in 2005, will be shared. An ice cream and cookies reception will follow.

The parish office can be reached at (937) 278-5815 for more information.



Church Honors Township Firefighter

Harrison Township Firefighter/Paramedic Ike Ricker was recently honored with St. Rita's Blue Coat Certificate of Merit at the church's annual Blue Mass on September 10.

FF Ricker spearheaded the development of an honor guard

program within the township. He was nominated by his colleagues, who wrote, "Firefighter Ricker's leadership, dedication, professionalism and compassion have impacted many lives and is a true example of selfless actions."



5945 N. Dixie Drive
Dayton, Ohio 45414

Georgeann Godsey, President

Danielle Bradley, Vice President

Roland Winburn, Trustee

Craig A. Jones, Fiscal Officer

Kristofer McClintick, Township Administrator

Administrative Offices: 937-890-5611

Roads and Services Department
937-274-6871

Fire Department Admin. Office
937-274-4351

Sheriff's Officer (D-10) Admin. Office
937-890-9581

Non-Emergency Dispatch: 937-225-4357

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Safe Exchange Zone Available

Need a safe public place to complete an online sale or purchase, or child-custody exchange without the fear of being victimized? Law enforcement officials encourage citizens to use a safe exchange zone for such transactions.



Harrison Township now offers a safe exchange zone in the parking lot of the Harrison Township Government Center, 5945 N. Dixie Dr. The area, which is identified with a sign, is also lighted and under 24-hour video surveillance.

Halloween is Coming!

Calling all superheroes, pirates, kittycats, fairies and all other trick-or-treaters! Beggars' Night for Harrison Township has been set for Monday, October 31, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Parents, be sure you help your kids follow all the safety rules. Motorists, slow down and watch out for youngsters as you drive on this night when they're likely to be distracted. Residents, please turn on a porch light to let trick-or-treaters know you're passing out treats.