



# THE SUMMIT

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

**Have A Safety Question, Concern, Or Have An Idea For A Future Issue?**

**Let me know!**

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## Traveling for the Holidays? Be Prepared

Many people choose to travel by car during the holidays, which has the highest fatality rate of any major form of transportation based on fatalities per passenger mile. In 2017, 329 people died on New Year's Day, 463 on Thanksgiving Day and 299 on Christmas Day, according to Injury Facts. Alcohol impairment was involved in about a third of the fatalities.

Stay safe on the roads over the holidays and every day:

- Prepare your car for winter and keep an emergency preparedness kit with you
- Get a good night's sleep before departing and avoid drowsy driving
- Leave early, planning ahead for heavy traffic
- Make sure every person in the vehicle is properly buckled up no matter how long or short the distance traveled
- Put that cell phone away; many distractions occur while driving, but cell phones are the main culprit
- Practice defensive driving
- Designate a sober driver to ensure guests make it home safely after a holiday party; alcohol or over-the-counter, prescription and illegal drugs can cause impairment

**Find Other Holiday Safety Tips Continued on Page | 03**

[www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)

## Quarter Four Holidays

- October 12 - Columbus Day
- November 1 - Daylight Saving Ends
- November 3 - Election Day
- November 11 - Veterans Day
- November 26 - Thanksgiving
- November 27 - Thanksgiving
- December 10 - Hanukkah Begins
- December 24 - Christmas Eve
- December 25 - Christmas Day
- December 31 - New Years Eve



# Hard Work and Progress

The Summit County Engineer Department has many vehicles but none have showed quite as much wear and tear as loader 40030. This is with good reason though. Built in 1989 and thirty years old, this piece of machinery has been used to move objects, salt, and just about anything else that we needed it to be used for.

Since being hired in December of 2019, this has been the first vehicle I was able to see repaired from start to finish and I must admit I was in shock. When a vehicle comes into the garage looking the way this loader did you can't help but think that its time to throw in the towel, auction it, or better yet maybe just send it out for scrap.

I'll admit that at the time I was new, naive, and didn't know the skill that we had up here in the garage. Sure it would have been easier to purchase a new loader, but at a cost of around \$175,000 to \$180,000 repairing the one we have has been much more fiscally responsible.

Since late January 2020 the garage crew has been working hard to get 40030 back up and running before winter begins and the amount of salt and material needing moved keeps it busy.

When looking at this loader it becomes apparent just how much has been done to get it back up and in working condition. Everything from the engine, to the bucket, and lots and LOTS of body work, this loader is almost good as new.

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Loader 40030 sitting in the weld bay with no engine and rust visably showing on its body.



With the body work and new paint job complete loader 40030 looks good as new!



## Holiday Safety Tips Continued

### Watch Out for Fire-Starters

#### **Candles and Fireplaces**

Use of candles and fireplaces, combined with an increase in the amount of combustible, seasonal decorations in many homes during the holidays, means more risk for fire. The National Fire Protection Association reports that one-third of home decoration fires are started by candles and that two of every five decoration fires happen because the decorations are placed too close to a heat source.

- Place candles where they cannot be knocked down or blown over and out of reach of children.
- Keep matches and lighters up high and out of reach for children in a locked cabinet.
- Use flameless, rather than lighted candles near flammable objects.
- Don't burn trees, wreaths or wrapping paper in the fireplace. Use a screen on the fireplace at all times when a fire is burning.
- Never leave candles or fireplaces burning unattended or when you are asleep.
- Check and clean the chimney and fireplace area at least once a year.

#### **Turkey Fryers**

Be alert to the dangers if you're thinking of celebrating the holidays by frying a turkey. The Consumer Product Safety Commission reports there have been 154 turkey-fryer related fires, burns or other injuries since 2004, with \$5.2 million in property damage losses have resulted from these incidents.

NSC discourages the use of turkey fryers at home and urges those who prefer fried turkey to seek out professional establishments or consider using an oil-less turkey fryer. If you must fry your own turkey, follow all U.S. Fire Administration turkey fryer guidelines.

[www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)

#### **Suggested Supply List For You Vehicles Emergency Kit:**

- Battery-powered radio, flashlight & extra batteries
- Blanket or sleeping bag
- Snow brush and ice scraper
- Booster (jumper) cables
- Emergency flares, shovel, state map
- Extra windshield fluid
- Sand or non-clumping cat litter to help with tire traction
- Fire extinguisher (5-lb, A-B-C type)
- Bottled water or juice / Nonperishable high-energy foods (granola bars, raisins, peanut butter or cheese crackers)
- First-aid kit and necessary medications
- Extra clothing, particularly boots, hats and gloves or mittens
- Cell phone and car charger

[weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://weathersafety.ohio.gov)



## How can we save Halloween and holidays from the coronavirus?

CLEVELAND, Ohio – Sorry, kids. The coronavirus is likely to wreck your Halloween.

Experts say traditional trick-or-treating is risky if COVID-19 numbers don't start dropping. But Ohioans could salvage small holiday gatherings like Thanksgiving at Mom and Dad's, Christmas or Chanukah with the in-laws if they follow the recommendations designed to curb the virus' spread. That means putting on a mask, and not inviting the entire neighborhood over for a party.

Experts believe the pandemic will still be with us for the holidays, so we will still be living with social distancing rules and mass gathering bans. The key to going back to a post-COVID world is a vaccine, and that's not coming this year. But if everyone starts following recommendations to stop the spread, we could save some of what makes the season special.

Plus, we could get creative. We've got plenty of time to plan.

"My gut tells me I don't think the holidays are going to be normal this year," said Cleveland Clinic Dr. Joseph Khabbaza, a critical care and pulmonary physician.

Much about the holiday season depends on how the virus is spreading, Khabbaza said. That depends on Ohioans masking up, keeping their distance and not gathering in big groups. It is possible.

"Three, four months is a long ways away," Khabbaza said. Just six weeks of aggressively following the COVID-19 precautions could lower the numbers "quite a bit to the point where so much would become a lot safer," he said.

And while traditions are comforting, we don't have to do the same thing every holiday. We could celebrate a new way.

For Halloween, maybe homeowners could leave a bowl of candy at the end of their driveway, along with a bottle of hand sanitizer, and wave at kids in cute costumes from their front stoop. Maybe for Christmas, you could plan a social distance snowball fight.

One reader had this suggestion: "For Easter a friend of mine planned who would cook a portion of dinner and then they drove to each of their adult children's houses to pick up and drop off food. She told me it worked well as she got to see everyone briefly and still enjoy a holiday meal where each family member contributed a dish. Fortunately all of her adult children live in town."

Here's a look at how experts believe our holiday season might look, under the best- and worst-case scenarios:

### Quarter Three Birthdays



Oct 01 - Scott Rauch  
Oct 02 - Steve Brunot  
Oct 08 - Tom Simmons  
Oct 09 - Laurie Connell  
Oct 11 - Larry Burns  
Oct 19 - John Fatkins



Oct 22 - Jeff Bell  
Oct 26 - John Sabo  
Oct 26 - David Tomayko  
Oct 26 - Philip Mendiola



Nov 01 - Aaron Zehr  
Nov 01 - Ray Glinsky  
Nov 10 - Mike McKinley  
Nov 10 - Zachary Whitmyer  
Nov 18 - Eugene Wilson  
Nov 21 - Travis DeLuca  
Nov 24 - Joe Paradise

Dec 05 - Aaron Engelhart  
Dec 07 - Tom Quinn  
Dec 12 - Tim Boley  
Dec 17 - John Ketron  
Dec 19 - Roger Boltz  
Dec 23 - Don Trego  
Dec 26 - Tina Merlitti

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## HOLIDAYS AND CORONAVIRUS CONTINUED

### Halloween

Big parties are likely out this Halloween, which falls on a Saturday. And regular trick-or-treating this year would be a nightmare for spreading disease, said MetroHealth Dr. Nicholas Dreher, who specializes in internal medicine and pediatrics. While children don't generally become as ill with COVID-19, and don't spread it as easily, they can get sick, and they can spread the virus. On Halloween, they'd likely be mixing with vulnerable population.

"Who is giving out candy, but the really nice people -- that happen to a lot of times be older," Dreher said. "For that group of people to be talking and touching the same things that literally 100 kids that might come to their door that night is just scary as heck."

Trick or treating would be safer if cases stop dropped significantly to low levels, but everyone would still need to wear a mask, whether they were costumed or not, Khabbaza said.

It could be safer if people asked kids to a pump of hand sanitizer before grabbing candy from a bowl that's been distanced from the home. But doctors are skeptical. How many kids are actually going to follow that rule, at every house, every time? It's impractical, Khabbaza said.

It will be up to cities to decide whether to schedule an annual door-to-door trick-or-treat nights.

### Thanksgiving

A semi-normal Thanksgiving is within reach in Ohio. But as the state's COVID-19 numbers continue to rise, the likelihood of a big family dinner with extended family falls.

Under the best circumstances, with cases trending in the right direction, Ohioans could probably hold a small holiday gathering of around six to eight people, ideally with what experts call your bubble. Your bubble is a group of people who are not in your immediate household, but family or friends who you continue to socialize with normally through quarantine, said Mark Cameron, an infectious disease researcher at Case Western Reserve University. If COVID cases are growing in your community, your bubble should only include your family.

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## Newest Faces Here At The Engineer Department!



### Neal Miesle

**Engineering Project Manager**  
**SCE Main Office**

**Favorite Food:** Spaghetti and Meatballs

**Favorite Movie:** A Few Good Men

**Worst Job you've ever had:** Removing tassels from field corn for hybrid seed producer in Fremont, Ohio



### Kendra Sanner

**Engineering Intern**  
**SCE Main Office**

**Favorite Food:** Cheesecake

**Favorite Movie:** The Lord of the Rings

**Worst Fear:** Spiders

**Favorite Spot To Travel:** The beach!  
(Especially Destin, Florida)\_

## HOLIDAYS AND CORONAVIRUS CONTINUED

The Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade has been cancelled. it's hard to imagine -- even if most Americans only ever see it on TV. The Parade of Roses is also already called off.

### **Christmas, Chanukah and New Year's**

Even if Ohio does everything right and flattens its curve, large family gatherings or big holiday parties are off the table. The minute people start mixing again in large groups, the number will shoot up again, Dreher, the MetroHealth doctor said. To the families who bring 50 second cousins and great aunts together: Your holiday gatherings will need to shrink.

One tip to make those smaller gatherings safer? Instead of having everyone serve themselves buffet-style, appoint one person to serve food. That way, fewer people are touching the same spoons.

For people who live far from where they call home, traveling across the country by plane isn't advisable. Zoom parties will likely fill a hole for people celebrating the holidays away from family.

What about the mad rush of shoppers buying presents? We'll probably be doing a lot of that online. Think of all the packages you'll be sending in the mail.

So what can we do to salvage that most wonderful time of the year?

You may be baking Christmas cookies solo, but dropping them on your friends' porches. Or scheduling a Zoom call to watch a sappy Hallmark movie instead of snuggling with your mom on the couch. Or FaceTiming Santa at the North Pole instead of meeting him at the Mall.

The idea may sound depressing. But rather than calling off everything we love, we've got a few months to figure out how to improvise.

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## Hard Work and Progress Continued



40030's engine removed along with the visible rust on the body.



40030's bodywork completed and engine reinstalled.

A huge shoutout to Duane Hawk for heading up this project. Bill Sosnosky for his great work on the body, Tom Quinn for his repair of the bucket, Jerrod Vansil and Travis DeLuca for all their work repairing the engine and mechanics, and Lori Brown for ordering all the parts needed for the repair.

While work wraps up with 40030, front end loader 224 has been brought in for some body work to get it ready for the winter season. While as much repairs won't go into it like on 40030, the work being done is still VERY impressive

-Aaron Engelhart