CIVIC ASSOCIATION BREATHES NEW LIFE!

A LETTER FROM CIVIC ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

From the heart, I want to convey my sincerest thanks to Arlene Stuart, Kelley Arthur, Ken Volen and Peggy Yoakam for their dedicated support in Civic Association during 1985. Their influence will be felt for a long time to come. It is now my great joy to introduce to you the new Civic Association officers and board members for the new term: Vice-President; Don Posselman, Treasurer; Peggy Yoakam, and Secretary; Joann Posselman; Those elected to one-year board positions include Glenda Dailey, Dick Busick, Dick Paugh, Howard Balthasar and Ken Volen. (Others will be announced in the December Villager. Members elected to two-year board positions include Betty Beatrice and John Kinkela. Another great surprise at the November 14th meeting was a relative newcomer to Minerva Park, Betty Beatrice, who was generous enough to take over the editorship of the Villager. I have offered the help of those residents who, in the past, have contributed to the Villager with articles, pictures, or drawings and cartoons, so please contact Betty if you have any contributions. Thank you Betty! and GOOD LUCK!

The first committee report of the evening was given by newly-volunteered John Kinkela reporting on the goings-on of Northland Community Council. Of course, the most urgent news is of the zoning issues going on around Minerva Park. These are the two most important dates to mark on your calendar and attend: December 3rd, NCC meeting, 7:30, Minerva Park Community Bldg. Attorney Harrison Smith, representing the Meijer's family will be on hand to make his presentation regarding the impact of this proposed building in our area.

December 12, City of Columbus Development Commission hearing on the proposed Meijer's project on Cleveland Avenue. Your support is crucial in showing the City of Columbus what it is we hope to accomplish in this campaign.

Peggy Holfinger reported from Women's Club that tickets are now available for the Christmas dance to be held at Monaco's Palace on December 14th. See article elsewhere in this issue.

Dick Busick also reported from NCC that the area civic association's presidents' letter to the City of Columbus requesting a task force be established to monitor progress of building in the Northland Area has received good support from the Mayor's office. Martha Trout, liaison to the Mayor will help coordinate this effort.
DECEMBER CALENDAR

3 - NCC - 7:30 - Comm. Bldg.
9 - City Council - 8:00 - Comm. Bldg.
14 - Christmas Dance - 6:30 - Monaco's
23 - Christmas Caroling - 7:00 - Comm. Bldg.

NEWS FROM WOMENS' CLUB

HAVE A CHRISTMAS BALL at Monaco's Palace on December 14th. Social hour begins at 6:30 with dinner at 7:30. Music by the Monaco Family Band! Tickets are $37 per couple and can be reserved by calling the following: Jeanne McKenzie - 882-0890, Judy Horton - 890-4322 or Peggy Dlusky at 882-8562. Call immediately to reserve a table for you and your friends.

THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE consisting of representatives from all arms of Minerva Park reports that plans are being made to landscape our entrance-ways in the spring. If you are interested in helping this group with your time and expertise in flower and shrubbery gardening please feel free to call Barb Wohlfarth, Ginny Gordon, Marge Vance or Kelley Arthur.

MINERVA PARK FLAGS ARE STILL AVAILABLE! and you thought you missed out on them. No such luck! Just call Trish Haaser for yours. Small desk-top size are $4.95 and the large flag including pole is $24.95. Please make checks payable to Minerva Park Civic Association. Phone number is 891-1962.
COUNCIL ACTION

Congratulations to those elected to Council in this month's elections. They are: Dave Blair of Minerva Lake  
Bob Earl of Alder Vista  
Jack Murray of Elmhurst  
Larry Yoakam of Maplewood

Council met Monday, November 11, 1985. Present were Mayor Cockerell, Council members Jerry Brown, Larry Yoakam, Barbara Wolfarth, Don Champney and Jack Murray, Law Director Wile and Village Engineer Rupp.

Mayor Cockerell read a letter of resignation from Dick Hale as Fire Chief only. Jan Dorsey will be acting Chief until a new Chief is appointed.

Ordinance 14-85 was passed as a 30-day ordinance. This will establish a Planning and Zoning Commission, repealing Ordinance 8-85. The Commission will review all applications for building (remodeling as well as new structures) permits as to zoning laws. Their approval would then go to the Building Inspector for review of structural requirements. The Village Clerk may issue the permit when these approvals have been received.

Mr. Murray stressed that LEAVES ARE NOT TO BE PUT IN THE STREETS! Besides clogging storm sewers, they are a traffic hazard.

IN MEMORIAM

John Busellato, long time resident of the Village, died Saturday, October 26th after a long illness. John served the Village and his fellow man as a participant and as a leader. His work was often done at personal sacrifice but always with the interest of his fellow citizens uppermost. After moving to Minerva Park from Chicago in 1959 he quickly became active with the Volunteer Fire Department and served several years as its Chief. After resigning as Chief he continued to serve the Department as an active Emergency Medical Technician and taught and coached the State and International First Aid and Rescue teams representing the Park. His youth team won the International competition in Toronto, Canada in 1973. John also served on the Police Department and on Council from 1970 through 1977. During that time, he was Council President for two years. His death is a loss, not only to his family, but to our community and he will be missed by all who knew him.
I am pleased that we can resume communication to the residents through the Villager once again.

"Thanks" is a little word to convey such a big load, but on behalf of the Village Council and other Village officials, I want to thank those who supported their community with the passage of the 1.9 mill renewal operating levy. This will continue to provide us with approximately $20,000 (twenty-thousand dollars) per year. This is beneficial because of the rising costs confronting us every day, especially with Village insurance premiums this year, utilities, and those items which confront you as a homeowner too.

We have completed a much more effective Slurry Seal program this year than in past years in as much as we had many street cracks sealed prior to the Slurry program. This was necessary due to the severe winter of 1984-85. The program this year cost $24,147.65; somewhat more for this one project than we receive from the 1.9 mill operating renewal as you can see.

We are also continuing our sewer maintenance program with Roto Rooter. This summer we had the sewer lines cleaned in the south side of the Village at a cost of $1,500.00.

We have completed phase 3 of 5 in the abandonment of our sewer plant in compliance with EPA requirements. Our total cost to date is fast approaching $40,000.00. The sewer plant site is now being utilized more or less as our Service Department. We are keeping our equipment there such as our truck, leaf machine, fogging equipment, signs, etc.

We have capped our dam this year, widened and replaced the bridge floor over the dam, installed a new fence in the lake at the dam site, and are now in a better position to control and monitor the water flowing over the dam. There are still some adjustments to be made at the dam before this project is completed. We will maintain the lake at a higher level than in the past.

There have been additional security lights installed this year mostly at the lake areas, and also one at the playground area on Maplewood.

We took advantage of some Federal Revenue Sharing money this year, and renovated the inside of the Community Building, a project that has been long overdue. It is now a building which we are all proud of and hope that you will be equally as proud on your next visit to the building.

As of this writing we are having our 14th consecutive day of rain. This has turned our leaf collection into a real chaotic situation. We need two consecutive days of sunshine to dry out the leaves before we can resume pick up. Hopefully by the time this Villager arrives, the 1985 leaf pickup will be history. I apologize to all— it was unfortunate, but certainly not intended.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE
One of the many and important pieces of legislation that your Council has passed this year is the establishment of a Planning and Zoning Commission. This commission provides us and you with more controls, and affords us all, our constitutional privilege to be vocal. In the past, your neighbor could construct or change, as an example, a fence through perhaps a loophole. Today, we feel we have plugged those loopholes plus many more dealing not only with building and zoning, but with signs, undesirable commercial business, etc.

We are now in the process of advertising for bids for a new refuse pick-up contract for the next two years. Our old contract with Peterson who recently sold to C.O.D. expires 12-31-85. With higher dump fees being assessed recently, we are anticipating a yearly fee of $36,000.00 to pick up our Wednesday refuse.

Hopefully, this has briefly provided you with an overview of where some of your tax dollars are going and what we, as your elected and appointed officials, have been doing. I assure you that we will continue to do the best job we can with what we have to work with.

On behalf of Council, our families and all Village personnel, I want to extend to you 1, an open invitation to attend your Council meetings; 2, a most Blessed Christmas Season; and 3, a healthy and happy 1986!

Sincerely,

James "Buzz" Cockerell
Mayor

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** FIRE DEPARTMENT FRUIT CAKES **

Fruit cakes are now available: 2 lb. cakes are $5.50 and 3 lb. cakes are $7.50. Please fill out the order form below and drop it off at the Community Building or call 882-3375 to place your order. Deliveries will be made as soon as possible. THANK YOU!

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Columbus, Ohio 43229

STAFF: Betty Beatrice

REPORTER: JoAnn Fosselman

ARTWORK: Ray Beougher

SETUP: Betty Beatrice

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SOMETHING YOU'LL BE INTERESTED IN WATCHING...

The following article was submitted by Mary Speck, Chairman of the Legislative Task Force for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and concerns us all. This Commission reviews, recommends and even introduces bills to our State Legislature.

In the early 1970's, a portion of the Westerville School District and other school districts was transferred to the Columbus City School District after lengthy court actions and over the protest of the districts and residents concerned. Later, legislation was passed by the Ohio Legislature placing a moratorium on such transfers. The moratorium presently in effect is scheduled to expire in the fall of 1986. Any action or lack of action by the State Legislature that takes place between now and then will affect every resident of Minerva Park in some manner. This article is written solely to inform you, the residents of the Village, as to what is "in the wind".

Presently, three bills have been introduced into the House of Representatives of the State Legislature. All pertain to the transfer of a portion of a school district's territory after annexation. They are House Bills (H.B.) 586, 626 and 628. Time and space available does not permit a complete analysis of each bill. They do have one thing in common, allowing people to vote on the transfer although the circumstances under which people can vote differ.

H.B. 586 provides that only electors residing in the original (losing) district are qualified to vote on school territory transfers. Which electors can vote is controlled by two different sets of circumstances. These circumstances are determined by an analysis of specific information pertaining to total taxes charged and payable for the preceding year. In one instance, all of the electors residing in the district are qualified to vote. In the other, only those electors residing in the territory proposed for transfer are qualified to vote.

H.B. 626 provides that electors residing in the original (losing) school district are qualified to vote on the question of the proposed transfer (providing the school district has filed and implemented a voluntary desegregation plan pursuant to the policies and guidelines of the State Board of Education.)

H.B. 628 provides that the electors residing in both the original (losing) and the gaining school district are qualified to vote on the question of the transfer of the territory in question providing the Board of Education of the losing district notifies the State Board and the Board of the gaining school district that it wishes to retain the territory in question. The bill further provides that if the original district should win the election, it would have to pay in perpetuity, a certain amount of money to the annexing district, such monies to be determined by a complicated formula. As this is written and to the best of my knowledge, none of the bills have been assigned to committee or have hearing dates been established. This procedure could take place when the legislature goes in session on November 12. The best information available indicates H.B. 586 has little chance. I would anticipate that after the required hearings and many discussions, a substitute bill could emerge. You can influence action by letting your state senator and representative know your feeling.
November is a special month. A month in which we stop to give thanks for a bountiful harvest and to count the many blessings we have received during the past year. In the hustle, bustle and turmoil of modern living, the threat of nuclear war, and the commercialization of our holidays, we often wonder if there is anything to be thankful for. Not so! There is one thing you should be abundantly thankful for – only you and God have all the facts about yourself. Thankfulness could well be the finest sentiment of men – and also the rarest.

There is always something to be thankful for. If you can't pay your bills, you can be thankful you're not one of your creditors. Be thankful if your job is a little harder than you would like. A razor can't be sharpened on a piece of velvet. Even though we can't have all we want, we ought to be thankful we don't get all what we deserve. Yes, we ought to be thankful that we are living in a country where folks can say what they think without thinking. So, y'all just stop and count your blessings and have a HAPPY THANKSGIVING.
DICK BUSICK ON MAPLEWOOD, HAS A "GINGKO" TREE IN HIS FRONT YARD. REPORTEDLY, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, THE LEAVES FROM THIS TREE ALL FALL IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, LEAVING IT COMPLETELY BARE.