January Calendar
13th - Village Council, 8 pm
15th - Minerva Park Community Association, 7:30 pm
20th - Villager deadline, noon

Village Information
* Village council meetings are held in the Community Building on the 2nd Monday of each month at 8 pm.
* Rumpke is our trash hauler. Trash is collected each Wednesday beginning at 8 am except on the major holidays (Christmas, New Year's, Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day) when trash collection is on Thursday of that week. If they miss your trash, their phone number is 800-828-8171. If it is a continuing problem, please notify the community building.
* The community building is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; 9am to noon for Village business. The phone number is 882-5743. After these hours, a message may be left on the answering machine.
* Planning to have work done to your home? Room addition, shed, fence, electrical or plumbing work? Contact the village office to see if a permit is necessary. Our Planning & Zoning Commission meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm to approve building permits.
* If you are interested in zoning issues in the Northland area, the Northland Community Council Development Committee meets in our community building the last Wednesday of each month.

MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION TEAM WORK

TEAM WORK has exhibited a powerful, cohesive, neighborly bond in Minerva Park. The community association expresses deep gratitude to a team of volunteers who very graciously sacrificed their time and energy to solicit a successful membership drive.

Minerva Park Community Association says "THANK YOU" to all residents for their community support and to the following volunteers - Beth Birkbichler, Don Champney, Kim Dooley, Lynn Eisentrout, Charles Graves, Velma Grave, Marty Grosh, Marianne Hobstetter, Sally Hubbell, Anne Hughes, Bea Hulbert, Jim & Rella Kehl, Janet Kohn, Gary Lockhart, Lynne Maslowski, Julie Mangan, Barbara Mascherino, Bill McClure, Pat McKee, Bill and Marla Moore, Gid Mussio, Rick Phelps, Elinor Raub, Pat Sideheiner, Jody Stahr, Margaret Swatik, Alma Thomas, Ralla Wagner and Dee Young. Thank you, again.

Rella Kehl
Membership Chair

The Minerva Park Community Association is collecting dues. We have attempted to collect at each house. If we missed you and you would like to join the association, please send $10.00 to the MPCA, P.O. Box 29070, Columbus 43229.
COUNCIL MEETING
December 9, 1996

Council met in regular session with all members present.
The Planning & Zoning Commission approved a temporary sign permit at its December meeting for 5244 Cleveland Avenue.
The new asst. fire chief, Tim Olinger, was introduced.
Lee Rupp advised that we now have a contact with the City of Columbus in the Erosion & Sediment Control, Jeffrey Cox. He will be watching the development to the south of the Village, and he will also look at Kilbourne Run.
Jeri Wunderle advised that another proposal for pool repairs will be submitted to the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources because the first proposal was sent back for more specifications.
Council decided to get an appraisal of Reserve D (land that sits behind homes on Maplewood) and to research who the land can be sold to, how to advertise it, etc.
Council decided to stay with the MORPC Regional Telecommunications Committee even though the cost will now be $1000. Initial cost was to be about $100.
The mayor advised council that the Village needs to take action now about raising our share of the costs on the Minerva Lake Road project - $114,000. Council tabled until the January meeting.

Committee Reports
Community - Jeanne Blair would like council to define what each committee is supposed to be doing; so that everyone will be clear as to their duties.
Service - Dave Stahr advised that he is continuing his research on dredging the lake, and hopefully, early next year the Village will be able to consolidate all the information and begin public hearings.
Legislation - council passed a number of resolutions and an ordinance. Resolutions were passed to continue the contracts for Narcus Tsiliacos, Law Director, and Lee Rupp, Village Engineer. Council passed a resolution is support of the EMS upgrading to Medic, and money from the general fund was transferred to the newly established Medic Fund to help pay for the cost of upgrading to Medic. Resolutions were passed accepting a COPS FAST grant from the U.S. Dept. of Justice to help pay for 2 part time officers. The 1997 interim budget was passed. The Village renewed its contracts with Franklin County for plumbing inspections and defense of certain indigent defendants coming before the county municipal court.
Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm.

Betty Beatrice, Clerk Treasurer

For those who travel Interstate 270 between Dublin and Westerville, there's good news and, there's bad news. The good news is that two new lanes will be added for each direction of travel resulting in four through lanes on each side. The bad news (maybe) is that construction will take more than three years and is scheduled to begin mid-1997 and be completed in late 2001. I wonder what the traffic flow will be like during those three years! I guess progress has its price.

We have been awarded a supplemental grant from the U.S. Dept. of Justice, under the COPS program, to help pay the wages and benefits for two of our part time police officers.

We met with the county engineers and the contractors who did the Cleveland Avenue construction work to try and convince them to erect additional street signs and to put a railing along the culvert on our side of the street. I hope we were convincing enough to accomplish these improvements.

When you read this, we will be a few pounds heavier and a few dollars lighter. However, I hope you enjoyed the holiday season as much as I did.

My wife told me that whoever said money can't buy happiness, doesn't know where to shop!
This year's judging of the Festival of Lights contest was divided into two parts. One group of judges toured Minerva Park between December 8 and 12, looking for homes to nominate. A second group observed closely the nominated houses on December 14, and decided the winners in each of six categories: Best Picture Window, Best Outdoor Tree, Best Whimsical, Best Religious Theme, Best Outline Effect, Best Entrance Way. None of the winners from last year's contest were eligible in the same category, but they could be nominated and win in a different category.

Winner of this year's Best Picture Window award was Ray Beougher's house at 2621 Maplewood Drive. Ray decorated his window with cute mechanical figures, including Santa and Mrs. Claus, and the whole scene was done very expertly. Several other homes also had decorated their picture windows, frequently making the windows part of the overall design. For instance, Yvonne and Bill Giammarco at 2736 Wildwood featured Santa riding in his sleigh, reindeer, a large outdoor evergreen tree decorated with lights and ornaments, music and decorated windows. The Giammarco's house was a runner-up in both the picture window and the whimsical categories.

The winner of this year's Best Outdoor Tree award was Jean Churchill's house at 2566 Wildwood. The tree strung with vibrant blue and red lights was especially effective when seen approaching from the East. Jan and Don Miller's tall evergreen at 2812 N. Bay was a runner up in this category. Decorated with "old fashioned" lights arranged in a traditional design, the tree brought back memories of past Christmases.

The next category, Best Whimsical, was won by Gerline and Jack Lude's house at 2806 Maplewood. The house featured Santa in his sleigh, pulled by prancing reindeer, with trees and windows festooned with lights. All of this was set to music and presented a captivating scene. June

and Tom Hard's house at 5336 Park Lane was the runner up. Their house featured an amusing scene of Santa climbing a ladder, with a large sign pointing the way to the chimney. The song "Little Drummer Boy" played in the background.

The award for the Best Religious Theme went to Leslie and Richard Crisman's house at 3210 Minerva Lake Road. Their decorations included an elaborate nativity scene cut from wood and carefully painted. The judges were very impressed with the many details of the manger, including the animals and hay scattered around. Another religious scene at 2669 Alder Vista included three brightly-lit wise men, created almost entirely of lights. Many houses included religious scenes mixed with whimsical figures, making this a difficult category to judge.

Best Outline Effect went to Rella and Jim Kehl's house at 2585 Lakewood. The outline of the house, windows, and entrance ways was done meticulously, and the outline effect was very impressive, especially going westbound on Lakewood. The runner-up in this category went to Betty and Marty Grosh's house at 2587 Briar Rose. The house featured bright, multicolored lights on the bushes, blinking lights on the driveway, and a rather unique feature - their outdoor shed was also illuminated with lights!

The award for Best Entrance Way went to Debbie and Bruce Evans at 5266 East Shore. They won for the charming group of carolers they had assembled and positioned behind a fence. The carolers were accompanied by reindeer and pretty wreaths. The runner up in this category was Joan Harper's house at 2934 Berry Lane. The door to the house was covered with shiny green paper with the face of a decorative snowman in the center.

The judges hope that many Village residents took the time to walk or drive the Village streets to admire the creativity and hard work that went into making Minerva Park a winter wonderland. They also recommend that a new category, Best Daytime Effect, be added to next year's contest. The reason is that there are many houses whose decorations are very effective by day, but not so visible at night, and these ought to be included in at least one category. Finally, the judges recommend that the Best Picture Window category be dropped, since awards in this category can generally be made in other categories.
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such as Best Whimsical or Best Outline Effect. The judges also feel that it may be time to provide recognition for the "Best Street" since many more houses seemed to participate this year. These suggestions will be considered by the MinervaFlora Committee later this year.

Tim Curry
Chair, Festival of Lights Contest

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Bonnie Limes
CRS, GRI

11-3 on 10/24/96 between 2am and 4am, person(s) unknown removed approx. $3720 worth of tools from a vehicle in the 3300 block of Minerva Lake Road
11-10 dispatched to the 2500 block of Maplewood, false alarm
11-12 dispatched to the 2700 block of Park Lane Drive, false alarm
11-15 dispatched to the 2500 block of Wildwood, false alarm
11-17 dispatched to the 2600 block of Lakewood, false fire alarm
11-17 at 4am a subject was arrested for concealing a handgun in his vehicle. Handgun was discovered following a routine inventory search after vehicle was impounded
11-17 dispatched to the 2600 block of Lakewood, false fire alarm
11-18 a student was threatened at Hawthorne School while boarding a school bus
11-21 at approx 2:40pm a resident in the 2600 block of Jordan Road was burglarized
12-1 dispatched to the 2900 block of Berry Lane Court, false alarm

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HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
TO.

5th - Nathan Hard
6th - Emily Stehmeyer
20th - Larry Yoakam
22nd - John Moore
28th - Tommy Dooley
31st - Phil Graves

Squad 119 ...
Where are you?

In November, Squad 119 made 46 runs;
27 into Blendon Township and 6 into Minerva
Park. 12 patients were transported to
area hospitals.

Members volunteered a total of 903.25
hours for the month, bringing the total
for the year-to-date to 11942.80. Leading
volunteers for the month were Colin Chong
(95 hrs), Lee Eckert (88 hrs), and Frank
Meredith (80.5 hrs). Frank Meredith leads
year-to-date with 1020.3 hours.

Minerva Park Runs:
11/10 Lakewood Dr PHA
11/15 Lakewood Dr fire alarm
11/17 Lakewood Dr fire
11/23 Maplewood laceration
11/28 Ponderosa injured person
11/30 Cleveland Ave. non-breather

Editor: Betty Beatrice
3201 Minerva Lake Road
899-9246

Contributors: Mary Yost
Ray Beougher

Articles on community news must be
submitted by the deadline. There is a
drop box at the editor's address and
at the Community Building. A
business-card size advertisement costs
$10 and must be prepaid. The Villager
reserves the right to refuse publication
of any item submitted. All items
presented for publication must include
the contributor's name and phone number.