**Final Lake Restoration Information Meeting**

Sunday, October 18, 4:00p, Community Building

Minerva Park voters will have one last chance to ask questions about the Lake Restoration project and bond issue at a community meeting Sunday, October 18, at 4 p.m. in the Community Building. Unlike the May meeting, this will be strictly a question and answer session. No formal presentations about the project will be made. Available to answer questions will be Minerva Park Councilman Dave Stahr; bond attorney Rebecca Princehorn of the Bricker & Eckler law firm; Chris Thobe of the dredging firm, Metropolitan Environmental; and Minerva Park village engineer Eric Chenevey. The 17-year $365,000 bond issue will be on the ballot November 3. For a summary of facts related to the lake restoration project, see the article on page 2.

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**MPCA Begins Membership Drive**

Expect more than just beggars to come knocking on your door this month. MPCA volunteers will be out in force delivering new resident telephone and address directories and requesting that you pay $10 for membership in the community association. Your membership dues help us pay for the annual directory, *The Villager* monthly newsletter, Founders’ Day, children’s events, scholarships, new resident welcomes, and sunshine activities.

If your volunteer misses you, please send or mail your $10 check (made out to MPCA Membership) to Cynthia Foster (2671 Wildwood Rd.) or Marilyn Herboltzheimer (2498 Minerva Lake Rd.).

See “Halloween Safety Tips” on page 4.

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The Villager - October 1998

MPCA Elects 1998-99 Officers

The Minerva Park Community Association elected its officers for the coming year at its meeting on September 16. They and the committee chairs for the year are listed below. These new contact names will be listed in the new directory coming later this month.

President ...................................... Nancy Fry ......................... 890-6845
Vice President .............................. Marty Grosh ...................... 899-1815
Secretary ...................................... Jenna McDevitt ................ 523-1603
Treasurer ...................................... Yvonne Giammarco ......... 891-5526
Children's Activities ...................... Tammy Bennett ................ 890-5913
Minerva Flora ............................... Mary Yost.......................... 882-5444
Membership/Dues ........................ Cynthia Foster .................. 899-6705
Newcomers .................................. Jim Kehl ........................... 794-0047
Founders' Day .............................. Lynn Eisentrout ................. 891-0895
Scholarship .................................. Beth Birckbichler .............. 882-2935
Publicity ....................................... Rolla Wagner ................ 895-2236
Sunshine ...................................... Kim Dooley ................... 890-6411
Northland Community ............... Don Champney .................. 882-3318
Council (NCC) .......................... Lynn Eisentrout ................. 891-0895
Representatives ......................... Bob Caley (Alternate) ...... 882-5062

Lake Bond Issue Details

The Project

• A combination of dredging and excavation will remove approximately 24,000 cubic yards from the south lake. The project will begin in March or April and take approximately 3 months.
• The finished depth will range from 5 to 15 feet deep, with much of it at 8 feet.
• The project will also include an aeration system (probably with fountains), erosion control, and restocking with a variety of aquatic life.

The Cost

• The Village of Minerva Park will issue a $365,000 bond for 17 years. The estimated cost to the homeowner of a $100,000 home (value as assessed by the Franklin County Auditor) will be approximately $37 per year, or about 1.21 mils.
• The village has several people, including a professional grant writer, seeking additional sources of funding. If procured, the funds would be used to reduce the entire debt and the number of years that residents would pay.

The State of the Lake

Over the last 25 years, silt has filled in about one-third of the south lake, with the average depth of the remaining lake now between 5 and 10 feet. As the lake continues to fill, it will provide more breeding ground for mosquitoes and will become a smelly eyesore. By 2012, the south lake will no longer support aquatic life. Such deterioration could adversely affect property values throughout the community.

Why Dredge in Spring 1999?

The lake depth and water quality studies are current and paid for. Water quality is still good enough that disposal of sludge doesn’t require hazardous material handling. The village has a free disposal site. Bond interest rates are at their lowest in 30 years.

Minerva Park Police

8-2 ..... 3:26a, Minerva Park Place, false alarm.
8-4 ..... 7:32p, 161 & Farview, stolen vehicle recovered.
8-8 ..... 10:18p, 2600 blk Minerva Lake Rd., false alarm.
Between 8-8 to 8-10 ... 5246 Cleveland Ave., breaking & entering.
8-11 ... 5:08a, 5258 Cleveland Ave., false alarm.
8-16 ... 2:48p, 2700 blk Park Lane Ct., domestic dispute.
8-16 ... 6:31p, Minerva Park Place, menacing threats.
8-16 ... 9:03p, 2700 blk Lakewood Dr., false alarm.
8-28 ... 10:05p, 2900 blk Berry Lane Ct., complaint of criminal trespassing.
8-29 ... 11:54p, 5216 Cleveland Ave., criminal damaging.
8-31 ... 2:58p, 2800 blk Maplewood Dr., expired because of natural causes.
I’ll bet you folks on Minerva Lake Road thought we were never going to get around to tearing up your yards! Well, we did, and now because of the late start, construction may go into the holiday season. I’m going to ask (beg) for your patience and tolerance for the inconvenience this will cause over the next 3 or 4 months. The contractor has been a little careless at times blocking the roadway. Our initial agreement was that the street would never be completely blocked so that the emergency vehicles could always get through. I’ll work on it.

We are now preparing the proposal to complete our water line replacement program. This project will be for the lines on Woodley, Wildwood, and streets in between. We hope this will eliminate most of the water breaks for the next 40 years.

The police cruiser I reported on last month turned out to be less than a great buy. It may need some extensive engine work.

The Minerva Park Fire Department has received another grant from the state to pay for the required continuing education for our medics. These grants have been very helpful.

The operator of the service station on Cleveland Avenue was in to discuss the unsightly appearance of the property and agreed to make the necessary changes to improve the looks of the area. So far he has.

We have a new part-time police officer who is also a physician. He has agreed to provide certain services, such as physicals for the police officers, at no or little cost to the village.

Also on the subject of police services, the Police Department that has also been providing us with LEADS service has notified us that it will no longer do so. This is the system from which we get much of our information concerning people’s driving records, vehicle registration, missing persons reports, and other information from other police departments. So far, of the other departments we have contacted, none of them wants the extra work. We may have to set up our own system.

Council voted to provide a system to eliminate the ponding of water at an area on Maplewood. This has been a nuisance spot for some time.

The council is considering another sign (similar to the ones on Cleveland Avenue) to be erected at the east entrance of Minerva Lake Road.

New legislation passed by council includes:

- A resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the County Budget Commission.
- A resolution to enter into an agreement for the deposit of public funds.
- A resolution to enter into a contract for leaf removal.
- An ordinance to update our codified ordinance volumes.

My wife says, “Women like silent men. They think the men are listening.” (I always do.)

Welcome our new residents at 2686 Minerva Lake Rd.: Richard & Becky Roberts with sons Ben, 13, and Brandy, 12. Their number is 901-2539.

Welcome our new residents at 2621 Maplewood Rd.: Brian & Daphne Beougher (son Nicholas) are residing at 2621 Maplewood Rd. Brian is the grandson of Ray Beougher. Their number is 882-7474.

If you learn of any new residents, please advise the Newcomers Committee Jim Kehl, 794-0047
Safety Corner
By your
Fire Department

Halloween
Safety Tips

Goodness! How did it become autumn so quickly? We are already more than halfway to the shortest day of the year, and the kids are back in school.

It’s time for the annual Halloween Safety tips list. For those of you with access to the Internet, there a few delightful resources out there:
http://www.halloweenmagazine.com
http://reasearchsvcs.com/kpn/hall.htm
These help kids learn the basic rules to follow to safely enjoy this holiday. Halloween Magazine has an on-line game that kids may play to give them experience in making safe decisions while begging. The game includes a certificate of achievement that may be downloaded and printed.

Please plan to join the Community Association for its Halloween Party on October 25. Page 1 lists the scheduling details. Also please plan to pick up reflective Halloween bags your children may use to collect candy at the Halloween Party. Tinaz Tanz and the Firefighter’s Association have graciously agreed to provide them. Thanks very much to both Tina and the Association for sponsorship of this project.

In case the Internet is not an option, here are the basic safety rules:

1. Show your willingness to participate in Beggar’s Night by turning on your porch light.
2. Report any suspicious activity immediately to the police.
3. Do not hand out unwrapped or homemade treats to beggars.
4. If you must drive, exercise extreme care. Be alert for excited kids who may forget to look before crossing the street or have their vision obscured by a costume.
5. Set a time limit for your kids and designate a specific route to follow.
6. Never send a child out alone. Have them go with at least two other kids and send an adult along if the kids are young enough.
7. Have each kid carry a flashlight to see and be seen.
8. Make sure costumes are not inflammable, cumbersome, or block vision. Use make-up instead of masks if you can, make sure your kids are dressed warmly enough, and are wearing comfortable, safe shoes.
9. Put reflective stripes (tape) on costumes to add visibility for motorists.
10. Cross only at intersections and do not cross the intersection diagonally. Never cross the street between parked cars. Be sure to always stop, look both ways, and walk across a street.
11. Do not accept rides from strangers or go in a strange house. Ring the door bell and stay on the porch. Be sure to say “Thank you.”
12. Do not use shortcuts through yards or alleys or walk on people’s grass.
13. Do not play near lit jack-o-lanterns.
14. Have your kids to wait to eat anything until you have looked it over.
15. Discard any unwrapped or homemade treats.
16. Call 911 immediately if you suspect that your kids have received tainted candy.

Stay Well, Stay Safe!
**Letter to the Editor**  
**9-20-98**

As the MPCA announces its 1998-1999 officers and committee chairpeople, I would like to express my gratitude to our outgoing membership chairwoman, Rella Kehl, and our outgoing treasurer, Jim Davis. They have given a wonderful gift - their time - to our community. If you bump into them taking a walk or grocery shopping, please shake their hand or give them a pat on the back for helping make Minerva Park a nicer place to live.

The Membership Committee is now headed by Cynthia Foster & Marilyn Herboltzheimer. Our new treasurer is Yvonne Giammarco. Welcome these folks aboard!

Nancy Fry, MPCA President  
2776 Minerva Lake Rd.

**Letter to the Editor**  
**9-15-98**

The condition of Minerva Lake Road leads one to assume the Russian army has landed. We know the disturbed lawns and the dust are needed to upgrade our water source. This has been an especially dry summer with the grass now a golden brown and the trees shedding their leaves too soon.

Along with the eyesores comes another blight, that of the proliferation of goose poop. A good hard rain would wash our lake walk partly and a couple more would finish the job. However, those blessings are not likely to arrive before late October. In the meantime, the walk is a disease trap.

Goose and duck droppings are carriers of at least two health menaces. One is histoplasmosis, a disease that infects the lungs of youngsters. The other is salmonella, a disease that settles in the digestive tracts of people of all ages.

These problems are brought on by birds using the same area over a long period of time, such as our lake walk. When I see children running through the airborne dust and rolling on the walk, I wonder whatever happened to common sense in the village. The duck’s don’t need to be fed. The geese don’t need to be fed. And the children certainly don’t need the endangerment.

My source for information on the effects of the droppings is no less than Jeff Gilder (or Gilbert) of the Franklin County Health Department. If people want to endanger their children and the children of others, why don’t they just let them go play on the interstates?

P.S. - It is now four months since I brought this problem to the attention of the village council.

Dick Paugh  
2860 Minerva Lake Rd.

**Medic 119 ...**  
**Where are you?**

**August 1998**

In August, Medic 119 made 38 runs with 9 into Blendon Township (exclusive of Minerva Park) and none into Minerva Park. Sixteen patients were transported to local hospitals.

Members volunteered a total of 567 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 8,010.

Leading volunteers for the month were Anthony Huffman (62 hours), Julie Speicher (52 hours), and Michael Ostrander (42.5 hours). Aaron Wilbur leads the year-to-date totals with 883 hours.
DID YOU KNOW?

On Second Thought ...
By Bob Stuart

Contrary to my conclusion in "Minerva Park, Did You Know? Part 7," I now believe that my predecessor was correct when he identified the building. What I called a Bath House was indeed a Powerhouse. I submit this recently discovered photo, taken about 1910. It shows distinctly a "smokestack" rising from the roof of the Powerhouse building. The onion-shaped top, attached to the smokestack, was a spark arrestor and indicated that wood fueled the boiler. Coal or oil did not produce the amount of free ash and soot as did wood, and thus would not have required a spark arrestor. Further research into early records showed that, by the late 19th & early 20th centuries, a simple horizontal single-cylinder steam engine, often called a mill engine, was the workhorse of industry. It was sturdy, uncomplicated, and occupied scant space compared to the traditional beam engine. It generally operated at a steam pressure of 100-120 psig and rotated at a leisurely 250-300 rpm. They found unlimited applications in factories, office buildings, schools, and other institutions, including streetcar lines, where they were directly connected to a 75kW General Electric dynamo (generators) which generated 120-600 volts DC (the photo shows 3 such engines in operation at Pratt Institute, Brooklyn). I speculate that the Powerhouse was constructed somewhere around 1898 when the Columbus Central Street Railway sold its in Minerva Park. In the photo above, note the abandoned "marine slide" to the left, and the path that led up to the staging stairs at the foot of the ride. You can see a couple walking on the path in the photo of the Marine Slide in installment 7.

16th in the series

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Flora Says
By Mary Yost

Heat of Summer

The long hot dry spell has taken its toll on the lawns, the flowers, and the gardeners. A common comment is, “I’ve lost interest.” Perhaps we all need to set aside a spot in the garden for late bloomers so we will have something to look forward to and something that will look fresh and different at the end of a long hard summer.

Last month, I mentioned the grey leafed shrub with blue flowers (caryopteris blue mist), and it is still looking great. It looks best with pink or yellow, which brings me to cannas. Around town, I am seeing lots of dwarf pink ones with big heads full of bloom. I also see some yellow ones plus some with variegated leaves.

Fall blooming anemones are 4’ tall, like some shade, last more than a month, and have daisy-like flowers of white, pink, or purple. Hardy begonias have pink blooms rising above chartreuse foliage. They go to seed and come up late, so it’s important to mark their location and not weed them out. The fall blooming asters also add lots of color. A large bed of mums, such as the Groshes (2587 Briar Rose) have each year, is a real joy to drive by each day. The ornamental cabbages and kale do not color up until after frost, but at that point they make a fine replacement for impatiens or whatever annual you were growing at your entrance.

Plumbago is a rather invasive ground cover with bright blue flowers that have been putting on a show for over 2 months. As soon as the weather turns cool, the leaves will turn burgundy colored. This can be seen at the island on the North Shore Drive end along with the pink fairy roses. Some white vines are also adding their charm around some lampposts (Fulkerson at 2585 Maplewood). In a sunny spot, a silver lace vine will cover a large section of chain link fence in a season.

I rode around looking for something to write up but didn’t find much. Then I came home and looked at last month’s Villager only to discover I had picked the same places again. So again let me compliment Naylor (2709 Wildwood), Webber (2791 Maplewood), Lude (2806 Maplewood), Dawson (2681 Lakewood), and Wright (5239 E. Shore Drive).

I decided to check out mailbox plantings and was impressed by Groezinger (2975 Minerva Lake). The extensive bed contained white petunias, daylilies, ageratum, hot pink petunias and geraniums, portulaca, and much more. Another attractive location was at Jones (2774 Maplewood). Pink sedum, shasta daisies, and pink & white petunias were at the street with pink, white, and purple petunias along the foundation planting.

Maintenance

The flower-bearing stalks on daylilies, hosta, and yucca should be cut to the ground as soon as the bloom is gone. Keep watering trees & shrubs until the ground freezes.
Mon-Sat 12-7
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