MPCA Needs Volunteers to Help Plan Events

The Minerva Park Community Association is busy organizing its family-focused activities for the spring and summer. And, while we are pleased that so many of you have supported the association by paying your $10 dues, we also want to reiterate that our events and services take a great deal of planning and many volunteers to make them a success. Your dues pay for materials - not for staffing.

Worried that volunteering is too complicated or will take too much time? There are activities that anyone can do. For our annual Egg Hunt, we will need individuals to source the materials, stuff eggs, and set up and staff the event. For Founder’s Day, which replaces the July 4th party, we need people to make phone calls, source materials, plan activities, and set up and staff the event. Many residents have requested that we hold a parade, but without more people to help, we just can’t do it.

We frequently hear from residents that our events and the sense of community are what they like best about living in Minerva Park. Please do your part to keep these events alive. If you can help us, please contact the chairperson listed next to each event.

Saturday, March 27
Children’s Easter Egg Hunt
Nancy Fry, 890-6845

Saturday, April 24
Lake Clean-Up Day
Lynn Eisentrount, 891-0895

Saturday July 24
Founder’s Day
Lynn Eisentrount, 891-0895
Felicia Busick, 794-3862

Support Food Bank in 1999

Please help the MPCA support the Mid-Ohio Food Bank by bringing non-perishable food and household products in bags marked “Food Bank” to the Community Building this month. The collection is being made in conjunction with an ongoing drive by the Northland Community Council, which delivers the goods on a quarterly basis.

If you are unable to bring your bags when the building is open, please contact one of our NCC representatives: Don Champney at 882-3318, Lynn Eisentrount at 891-0895, or Bob Caley at 882-5062. They would be happy to pick up your donation at your home.

Lake Restoration Bond Update
Council Selects Lender and Issues Bond

At its January meeting, Minerva Park council selected National City Bank to hold the $365,000 17-year lake restoration bond. A bond has been issued at a rate of 4.8%.

National City will hold the entire bond for the full term in their portfolio without offering it in smaller pieces to investors, keeping administrative costs at a minimum.

FEBRUARY DATES
8 (8:00p) ........ Council Meeting
10 (7:30p) ......... MPCA Meeting
12 (5:00p) ........ Villager Deadline
14 ...........................................
January weather was quite a challenge for most of us trying to get around. It is fortunate we didn’t have any power outages. I think we should commend the township for the excellent snow removal job they did on our streets, although I did receive several complaints from folks that the plows piled up snow in front of their driveways (we can’t please everyone!).

Our water line replacement program on Minerva Lake Road turned into a seemingly endless project. The contractor blames the state (ODOT) and Columbus for changing the rules, and the freezing weather hasn’t helped. At this point, we should be hooked up to the new line by the end of January. As we move toward completion, we will begin the last phase of our water line replacement on Wildwood, North Bay, Woodley, Westbridge, and Cardinal Court. We hope this project can be started earlier and completed by the last of October 1999. We’ll see how it goes.

Councilwoman Pam Park-Curry presented a plaque honoring Mary Yost at Mary’s home. She was mentioned in last month’s report.

The new copier has been delivered and is now operational. I hope this one lasts as long as the last one did.

The January council meeting began with the election of a council president. The two nominations were for Marty Grosh and for Lynn Eisentrount. Marty declined because of his being absent from the village for the next two months (heading south for the rest of the winter). Lynn was elected president.

We still have not resolved the suit with former Officer Rodock. His claim for damages and mental anguish is to be heard at a hearing yet to be scheduled.

We are finally moving forward in our efforts to put a village corporation marker on the east end of Minerva Lake Road. The location originally selected turned out to be on Columbus property. We are now in negotiations with the property owner on the north side of the street. The markers on the east end of Minerva Lake Road will soon have lighting and landscaping installed, which should make them even more attractive.

A committee has been formed to investigate the future of the village and the Minerva Lake Golf Course. The golf course is currently not a part of the village, but we would like it to be.

There were four resolutions and an ordinance presented to council at the January meeting.

- Resolution 98-36, petitioning the mayor and police chief to place traffic control devices at the intersection of Minerva Lake Road and North Bay. The second reading was passed.
- Resolution 99-1, authorizing the mayor and clerk-treasurer to enter into a contract with Franklin County Health Dept. to provide plumbing inspections. Passed.
- Resolution 99-2, authorizing the mayor and clerk-treasurer to extend the contract with the Franklin County Commissioners to provide electrical and HVAC inspections. Passed.
- Resolution 98-21, for the acceptance of the position of police surgeon. Failed.
- Ordinance 1-99, authorizing the issuance of a bond for $365,000 for the lake dredging project. Passed.

A preacher once told me, “Always forgive your enemies ... nothing annoys them more.”

The police made a total of 1,156 runs in 1998: 557 dispatched and 599 not dispatched.
To the Citizens of MP 1-12-99

We have been attending village council meetings for several years. At the January 1999 meeting, Lynn Eisentrout was elected council president by a unanimous vote of the five council members present.

We would like to share our thoughts with you about the vote. Regina Nash, former MP court clerk, has litigation pending against the village. Ms. Eisentrout admitted to meeting and socializing with Ms. Nash, even at the present time. We believe this is a conflict of interest and threatens the integrity of the village.

Ms. Eisentrout sees no conflict of interest and advised, “I can be friends with whomever I want.” We totally agree with her, but she also took an “oath” to serve the village when she was elected to council, let alone being the council president. With her position, she has access to privileged information, and we would assume, at least we hope, that council (Ms. Eisentrout included) have had some discussion on the litigation.

An ethics committee came up with three conclusions for elected officials: (1) they must make full disclosure, (2) there must not even be an appearance of a conflict of interest, and (3) their activity must be consistent with their stated opinion. We see Ms. Eisentrout failing in all three. We asked for her resignation at the council meeting and are asking for it again.

We would appreciate your input. Drop us a note and tell us ... were we or are we out of line feeling betrayed by our council president?

Anthony & Betty Beatrice
3201 Minerva Lake Rd.

Open Letter to Councilmen Busick, Grosh, and Stahr 1-15-99

On behalf of Northland Community Council and the Mid-Ohio Food Bank, thank you for your spontaneous display of generosity at Monday night’s council meeting in signing over your council paychecks for the benefit of the hungry families in Franklin County. A community’s level of concern is measured by acts such as this, and it makes me proud to be a resident of Minerva Park!

Don Champney
5386 Park Lane Ct.

Letter to the Editor 1-11-99

I would like to publicly thank Mary Yost for her many years of volunteer work in Minerva Park.

I had the privilege of meeting Mary over 10 years ago, when I was The Villager editor and she began the MinervaFlora column. She always spent a considerable amount of time researching and writing her column each month. I can attribute my interest in gardening to Mary. I think she inspired a number of other residents, also. I will miss her monthly column in The Villager.

She also spent numerous hours planning, planting, and caring for the many gardens in the park. One can walk along the lake or along the playground and say, “That’s the trees Mary planted.” We will remember her for years to come because of the natural beauty she planted.

Thank you for a job well done!

Betty Beatrice
3201 Minerva Lake Rd.

Great Peach Cobbler

Easy to prepare and deliciously sinful, this recipe hails from South Carolina, whose peaches are available from May through mid-September. Growers harvest approximately 240 million pounds yearly of 100 varieties from over 20,000 acres! Peaches are called “clingstone” or “freestone,” according to how difficult it is to remove the pit.

Fresh peaches aren’t in season now? Not to worry. Rely on frozen peaches to bring summertime memories.

In a bowl, gently toss peaches, 1 c of sugar, & extract; set aside. Pour 1-1/2 c sugar, divided, 1/2 tsp almond extract, 1/2 c butter, melted. Mix 3/4 c all-purpose flour, 2 tsp baking powder. Pinch of salt. Mix well. Pour evenly over butter (do not stir). Top with peach mixture. Bake at 350°F for 50-55 minutes or until golden brown. Serve with ice cream if desired. Yield: 8 servings.

This recipe is from “Taste of Home” food magazine, the August/September 1998 issue. If you wish to subscribe, call 1-800-344-6913.
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Coupon
February 1999 Minerva Park Villager
expires 4-30-99
The winner of the Best Outdoor Tree award in the 1998 MPCA Festival of Lights contest was listed incorrectly last month. We congratulate Jeff & Mary Oberlander, 2922 Berry Lane Court, who moved to the village only in October - right house, wrong name! Sorry for the error.

Best Outdoor Tree
Jeff & Mary Oberlander
2922 Berry Lane Court

The judges thought this tree was most effective, with its bright strands of white lights casting a cheerful welcome to the courtyard.

Safety Corner

By your Fire Department

We really hope this is too little, too late, but ... if you will be out in the cold, please take a few simple precautions to stay safe.

Experts recommend the use of "layered" clothing. The first layer should be a fabric such as polyethylene, which stays warm even if wet. The next layer should provide insulation, such as polyester fleece, wool, or cotton (if you must). As the temperature plummets, a layer of down, in a vest or coat, may be added. Finally, the outermost layer should provide a wind stop. Many of these fabrics are also breathable, so that any moisture that builds up is not trapped.

The best fabrics for this layer are sold under brand names such as Gortex and Ultrex. Also important to the "layered look" is a hat, preferably one that covers the ears. Most experts agree that about half of lost body heat departs through radiation from the head. Finally, gloves and footgear appropriate to the task are important components.

The advantage to the layered system is flexibility. As the temperature rises or as you warm up because of exertion, you may loosen layers or remove them altogether and still not lose all of your insulation.

The primary objective in dressing properly for the weather is to avoid the two primary cold-weather injuries: hypothermia and frostbite. Hypothermia is the cooling of the body's core temperature, and frostbite is actual freezing of flesh. If either of these conditions occurs, summon help immediately.

There is a great difference in treatment for these two conditions. We recommend that frostbitten extremities be soaked in lukewarm water while you are waiting for help to arrive. Treatment for hypothermia is another task entirely. Because significant metabolic changes occur as the body's central core temperature changes, a victim of hypothermia should be (1) kept dry and insulated to prevent them from getting any colder and (2) hospitalized to be rewarmed.

Welcome

Our New Neighbors!

Windy Hoover, with Joel (10) and Cassidy (5), are new residents at 2601 Wildwood Rd. Please welcome them.

Mark Abbott & Dave Cremer now reside at 2550 Minerva Lake Rd. Dave is from Perrysburg OH. 895-2159.

Todd & Sharon Walter with Amanda (13), Shane (11), Nicholas (7), and Emily (4) have moved to 3042 Minerva Lake Rd. from Tiffin OH.

If you learn of any new residents, please advise the Newcomers Committee Jim Kehl, 794-0047

Does someone in your family have a special birthday coming up? Have you received an award or promotion? Please tell us about it! Send notices by the deadline to: Villager Editor 2829 Minerva Lake Rd. or drop your notice in the box on the door at 2769 Minerva Lake Rd.

All submissions must include a name and phone number.
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the Villager Staff

Editor ........................................ Felicia Busick, 794-3862
2769 Minerva Lake Road

Layout & Design ..................... Sharon Bierman

Advertising Sales ..................... Felicia Busick, 794-3862

Contributor ............................ Rick Hoechstetter

The Villager is distributed to all MP homes on the 1st Monday of each month inside a plastic hang bag - either alone or with advertising flyers. Residents are invited to submit articles, letters to the editor, & other items of interest. Use the drop box at the Community Building or on the Editor’s front door.

A business-card size advertisement costs $15 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.

Next deadline:
Friday, February 12, 5:00 p.m.