

# the Villager



The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Save Your Community Association

Please save your Community Association from an untimely death! If we cannot find new volunteers, we will need to begin eliminating programs and activities. The MPCA needs volunteers to help plan and staff all our upcoming events and several people to hold offices and head committees beginning in October. Open positions will include president, secretary, and Villager editor. We know that community activities are one of the reasons you moved here—please help us keep them alive.

*Nancy Fry, MPCA President*

## Wunderles Receive Duck Award

**Jeri and Jack Wunderle** were presented the 1998 Minerva Park Duck Award March 21 at the Swim Club's annual spaghetti dinner. The annual award is given to individuals who have made a significant contribution to our village.

Longtime residents of Minerva Park, the Wunderles have made numerous contributions that have made our community a better place to live. Among them are Jeri's volunteer service on our EMS squad, her volunteering at Hawthorne Elementary, and help at nearly every children's event. Both of the Wunderles have also worked tirelessly on behalf of the Minerva Park Swim Club.

## Lake Clean-Up

**Saturday, April 24**

**8 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine**

Once a year, residents are asked to help tidy up Minerva Park, so bring rakes, clippers, etc. (we'll provide the gloves) and join us at the Community Building at 8:00a for donuts, orange juice, and coffee. We will discuss which park areas need attention and safety issues, especially because the lake dredging project should be well underway. Lunch will be served for the workers at noon. Come and join your neighbors for a day of fun and service. Call if you have any questions. **Lynn Eisentrout,** 891-0895.



## GARAGE SALE

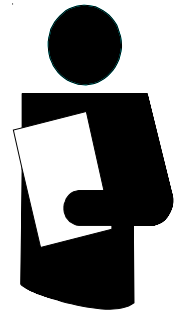
We invite you to join this year's annual MPCA garage sale, held on **Saturday, May 15.** See Page 3 for details.

### APRIL DATES

- 12 (8:00p) ..... Council Meeting
- 14 (7:30p) ..... MPCA Meeting
- 16 (5:00p) ..... Villager Deadline
- 24 (8:00a) ..... Lake Clean-Up

# MAYOR'S REPORT

By Jack Murray



By the time this April *Villager* is in your hands, we should be starting to see a little green on trees and bushes. Although I look forward eagerly to the coming summer months, I still can't convince my wife that it's her turn to do the mowing.

The new water line along Minerva Lake Road is now in operation, but we still have to complete the landscaping restoration. We hope this effort will begin as soon as the weather breaks.

The small yellow flags along the route of the next water line replacement indicate the location of underground utility lines. It is important that these flags are not moved or removed until after construction is completed.

We now have the new signs to replace some old street signs, traffic control signs, and others, such as designated area signs. The new signs are a different size, which means we must get new clamps and different posts. There's that old saying, "If it ain't one thing, it's two or three."

The lights installed at the two corporation signs on Cleveland Ave. are a nice addition, don't ya think?

The Volunteer Fire Department held a meeting on March 6 for the introduction of new members of the EMS. On this same date, a police department meeting was held to update the officers on new laws and procedures. I believe this continuing education process is very important in light of the number of complaints being filed against the police all over the country - some valid and some frivolous.

Our Phase IV water line replacement is underway. We will hold a public meeting for all residents on Woodley Road, Wildwood Road,

North Bay Drive, Westbridge Road, and Cardinal Court. All Minerva Park residents are welcome.

Council scheduled two meetings this month. The first was the regularly scheduled meeting on March 8 with all members present sans one.

Our Planning and Zoning Commission approved a storage shed to be placed at a Minerva Lake Road residence. The gas station at the corner of Cleveland Avenue and Woodley Road is still being reviewed for violations, although the operator has made significant improvements.

We have been notified that the estate of Mary Yost is in probate and includes a gift to the Village, which is to be used for maintenance and improvement of public grounds.

We would like to do something

to improve the pool parking lot and Valley Drive when funds become available.

It appears that a new restaurant, O'Charles, will be constructed near the Home Depot store on Cleveland Ave. & I-270. Also announced were dates for Founders Day on July 24.

A special meeting of council was held on March 15 to approve our final appropriations resolutions for 1999. The resolution was approved with a unanimous vote.

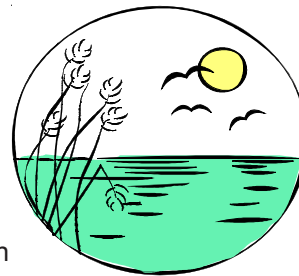
I've heard it said that a man is a real diplomat when he remembers a woman's birthday but not her age.

## Lake Project Hits Snags But Will Recover

The lake restoration project was delayed when the free sludge dumping site became

unavailable when it changed ownership.

The project's coordinator,



Councilman Dave Stahr, said that he and the dredging company were close to finalizing the arrangements for another free site and anticipated that dredging will begin in April.

on Woodley Road, Wildwood Road,



**MPCA Garage Sale  
Saturday, May 15  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Registration deadline: May 10**  
**Cost: \$3 plus 10% of your proceeds**  
**\$5 Late Registration Fee by May 12 (you will not be on the map)**  
**Contact: Anne Hughes, 2777 Wildwood, 891-9329**

It's time to clean out your closets and start digging through your basement and garage in preparation for the annual Minerva Park Community Association Garage Sale on Saturday, May 15. This event always attracts a large number of buyers, so don't miss out!

As in the past, the **registration fee** covers the cost of prominent advertising in local newspapers as well as balloons to mark your mailbox, 15 maps, and a return envelope so you can return 10% of your profits. There is a **\$5 late registration fee**, so please be prompt.

This is one of the MPCA's biggest annual fund-raisers, so please do not cheat your community of improvements and event money by having an

unregistered sale the same day. The Community Association is attempting to fund several projects to enhance the village, and we need your help. We will be watching for unregistered sales and will ask you for a contribution. Those folks who have unregistered sales and do not pay their 10% contribution will not be eligible to participate in the 2000 garage sale.

**To register**, send the attached form and a check for \$3 to "Minerva Park Community Association" at the Community Building, 2829 Minerva Lake Road, or to the event coordinator, Anne Hughes, 2777 Wildwood, 891-9329.

**Registration packets** need to be picked up this year on **Wednesday, May 12 from 7p until 9p at the Community Building**. Late registrations can be made that evening, but *you will not be on the map*. Proceeds can be mailed to the same addresses (do not mail cash!). Please remember to send your 10% promptly.

As always, we need volunteers to help make this sale a success. Please contact **Anne Hughes at 891-9329** if you can help with packet creation and distribution, advertising, or collecting money.

Because we have a very limited number of volunteers this year, we will again ask you to pick up your packets at the Community Building on May 12 from 7:00p - 9:00p. Call Anne Hughes only if you are unable to do so, and she'll try to set up some kind of delivery arrangement.

## Registration

MPCA Garage Sale - May 15, 1999

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$3, payable to "Minerva Park Community Association," for participation in the MPCA 1999 annual garage sale. I will submit a check for 10% of my proceeds by Saturday, May 22, 1999.

## Safety Corner

By your  
Fire Department



# 9-1-1

The 911 system in our area is intended to provide the fastest and best response to all emergencies. It is part of a nationwide system that responds to more than 270,000 calls each day. Many studies have been conducted on 911 services showing that the process works very well as long as it is not overloaded. To help the system function properly, we ask that you remember a few common-sense rules about this service to help us avoid the problems that could overload the system.

- Please use 911 for only true emergencies, such as a serious medical problem, a fire, a life-threatening situation or a crime in progress.
- In cases that require help but there is no current emergency, such as reporting vandalism, call the non-emergency number: **889-1112**.
- Do not program 911 into a speed dialer. This increases the chance for an accidental contact. 911 was designed to be easy and fast enough to call without having to speed it up even further.
- If you dial 911 accidentally, DO NOT hang up. If no one is

waiting on the line when the dispatcher answers the call, two police officers are automatically dispatched to your location. Simply explain the mistake to the dispatcher and that you do not have an emergency.

- In an emergency, call 911 and state the nature of the emergency. Be sure to remain on the line until the dispatcher hangs up.
- Let 911 do its job by letting them ask the questions. The dispatchers are trained to ask questions to prioritize the incident. Make every attempt to speak calmly and briefly. If you are unable to give full information, just stay on the line and the dispatcher will ask you questions that may be answered with a single word.
- Remember that, if a cell phone is used, the call is not placed at the location of the cell phone, but at the cell phone provider's location. The address shown on the 911 dispatcher's console comes from somewhere in the cell phone company. Be sure to give the dispatcher the correct address.

**Stay Well, Stay Safe!**

## Founders Day Details Announced

# JULY 24

### Mark your calendars

The MPCA's second annual Founders Day celebration is sure to be fun for the whole family. The day will begin with a children's parade from the playground to the Community Building and will include a historical presentation by local historian **Bob Stuart**, free food, live music, rides, games, a visit by animals from the Columbus Zoo, a pet show, and a big tug-of-war. There are many opportunities for volunteering - prior to, after, and for short time periods during the event.

That way you can still enjoy the party!  
To get involved, contact  
**Lynn Eisentrout**  
at 891-0895.

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## Fischer Scholarships

The MPCA is pleased to again award two \$250 scholarships to graduating seniors. For details, contact **Beth Birckbichler** at 882-2935.

## MPCA, NCC Honor Kehls and Yost

**Jim and Rella Kehl** and **Mary Yost** received President's Awards at the Northland Community Council's annual banquet February 26. MPCA president **Nancy Fry** presented the awards, which are designed to acknowledge volunteers from the member communities for the time and effort they put into improving their neighborhoods.

**Rella Kehl** has served as MPCA treasurer and membership chair. She directed our most successful membership drive ever, with

her team of volunteers bringing in more than 500 paid family memberships last year. **Jim**, a past MPCA vice president, is our wonderful newcomers greeter. As Nancy said at the banquet, it seems he meets our new residents before the moving van drives away. Both Kehls volunteer for many of our other community projects.

**Mary Yost's** award was given posthumously in appreciation of her years of hard work in Minerva Park gardens and as Minervaflorea chair.



## Garden Tour Planned

The MinervaFlora Committee is tentatively scheduling a garden tour sponsored by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department for July 10-11 or for July 17-18. As in previous years, the Saturday date will be for Minerva Park residents and their guests. The Sunday date will be open to the general public. If you are interested in showing your garden or in helping with the event, please call as soon as possible ... **Bob Gale at 882-8622** or **Jeanne Blair at 882-8467**.



Angela's  
Pizza



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Fri - Sat 4:30p to 12:45a

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April 1999 Minerva Park Villager  
expires 6-30-99





## Village Views

*"Village Views" is an open forum for community discussion. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the Minerva Park Community Association or the Villager's editorial staff. Letters are published based on available space and interest to the community. To be considered, letters must be submitted by the published deadline and include a name and phone number.*

### **Letter to the Editor 3-16-99**

As a former council member and former member of the Zoning & Planning Commission, I believe that we need to commend Betty and Tony Beatrice for their interest and involvement in governmental activities of the village.

Criticism directed toward the Beatrices is totally unjustified and without foundation. We, as residents, should thank them (not crucify them) for taking the time and interest to protect the Village and its residents in bringing matters concerning governmental activities to our attention.

With exception of the Beatrices, very few residents attend council meetings. Because of that, unfortunately, many residents have no concept as to resolutions being passed by council or their consideration of how tax monies are distributed, long-range goals, potential tax increases, budgeting matters, etc.

Currently, I am no exception. However, I plan to begin attending more meetings.

We have a wonderful, unique community and I strongly urge increased activity of residents at council meetings held the second Monday of each month at 8:00 p.m. It will be informative, and I know the Mayor and council members will appreciate our input as residents.

**Paul Hastings**

2777 Minerva Lake Road

### **Open Letter to All Citizens 3-18-99**

In response to the March *Villager* letter demanding me to "put up or shut up," I feel the need to "put up." I wish the writer had addressed the issue of whether an elected official (our council president) acted properly and in the best interest of the village. The problem was her continuing relationship with an admitted friend and ex-court clerk of the village who filed a lawsuit against the village seeking financial damages. This is not a personal attack but a question about an elected public official's conduct in office.

Let's review some chronology:

1. The court clerk was hired for 9 hours a week (previous clerks completed these same duties within this amount of time for many years).
2. With Ms. Eisentrout's support, the court clerk lobbied for and was granted more hours - 27 per week.
3. After several months, it was determined that cash monies, reports, and records were not being turned in as required, and a 1996 State of Ohio audit cites the court clerk for various irregularities. A subsequent audit shows she never took any corrective action.
4. Three different clerk treasurers, one being a CPA, discovered problems in the court

clerk's reporting habits. Ms. Eisentrout, council president and finance chairperson at the time, was aware of all these problems, however, continued to support the court clerk and place blame elsewhere.

5. The mayor scheduled a meeting with the clerk court and, although not invited, Ms. Eisentrout attended the meeting with the court clerk.

6. A second State of Ohio audit in 1997 was scheduled, and the court clerk resigned before it took place. The second audit not only showed no corrective measures were never taken by the court clerk since the previous audit, but they now find \$28,000 in village court money cannot be verified because the records were erased/ deleted from the court clerk's computer hard drive.

7. The court clerk subsequently filed a lawsuit against the village. Technically, the village, its officers, and its council members would all be defendants.

8. The village council had discussions & meetings about the lawsuit with Ms. Eisentrout present. Council president and the ex-court clerk (defendant and plaintiff) were still meeting and socializing.

9. Three of the five council members were completely unaware Ms. Eisentrout was a friend if the ex-court clerk, and the other two thought she had since distanced herself.

10. Ms. Eisentrout never advised anyone of the continuing friendship until I "called" her on it at the January 1999 council meeting. Then, and only then, did Ms. Eisentrout reluctantly admit to the friendship and advised the friendship would continue, regardless of a lawsuit against the village.

The ethics test involves three areas: full disclosure, not even the appearance of a conflict of

interest, and actions consistent with statements.

Both letters in the March *Villager*, by their own admission, were written by friends of Ms. Eisentrout. And, by the way, the response has been 10 to 1 agreeing with our opinion in the February issue.

The March letter writers' statements (truly personal attacks) can be documented to be completely false. It is contradictory for Ms. Shannon to state "Let's stop these personal attacks," when - in fact - she made personal attacks against Betty and me that are totally unfounded. The most glaring error, for the newer families in the village, is the accusation that Betty had done nothing for the village. There is no need to state or defend Betty's record of accomplishments within and outside the village over the years. Her record is easily documented and a matter of public record.

Betty and I are well informed because we have been involved in areas outside the social activities (although social activities are important), and we have contributed more than our fair share. We each have attended more council meetings than all the current council members, except for the mayor. Ms. Eisentrout once stated, "You have to hold our village council's feet to the fire." I don't believe we should have to do that. Again, these are her words - not mine. I truly wish people would take an active role in the village government and attend council meetings. They would then understand the activities of each member and the function of government. Ms. Shannon should not confuse the governmental body with the Community Association body. The governmental body is not responsible for "stuffing Easter

eggs."

All of my statements on the council president & ex-court clerk relationship can be corroborated with public records, council minutes & recordings, or Ms. Eisentrout's own admissions. As I stated in January, she can be friends with whomever she wants. Just don't expect me to believe she is acting in the best interests of the village when she supports, defends, socializes, and hides this relationship from other council members.

I beg to differ with anyone who thinks our council president's actions are insignificant and says, "No harm's been done!" We don't know that, do we? I question why Ms. Eisentrout thinks the voters should believe she would be capable of leading the village as mayor. Again, with respect to the statement, "No harm's been done," how does anyone know that? The lawsuit is still pending.

At the March meeting, council members were asked again what is appropriate behavior for council members. They held a "special" meeting but indicated they had not discussed the council president's behavior regarding the Nash lawsuit. They did agree that the council president should abstain from discussions and voting on this lawsuit. The specific behavior of a council member would not be addressed.

I leave the final decision up to Minerva Park residents. What is appropriate behavior for an elected official?

**Tony Beatrice**  
3201 Minerva Lake Rd.

**Remember**

When registering your vehicles, remember to specify Minerva Park as your residence. The village gets money and you save some!

**Editor's Note**

*Council president Lynn Eisentrout volunteered to remove herself from any dealings with the Regina Nash lawsuit at a special meeting of Minerva Park council on February 15, 1999. And, according to Minerva Park Clerk-Treasurer Suzanne Coulter, the \$28,000 in missing funds have been almost entirely accounted for.*

**Medic 119 ...**

Where are you?

**February 1999**

In February, Medic 119 made 45 runs with 13 into Blendon Township (exclusive of Minerva Park) and 4 into Minerva Park - 23 patients were transported to local hospitals.

Members volunteered a total of 822 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 1553. Leading volunteers for the month were **Jim Rhodes (72 hours)**, **Anthony Huffman (64 hours)**, and **Michael Ostrander (54 hours)**. **Anthony Huffman** and **Michael Ostrander** are tied for year-to-date totals with 114 hours each.

**MP Runs**

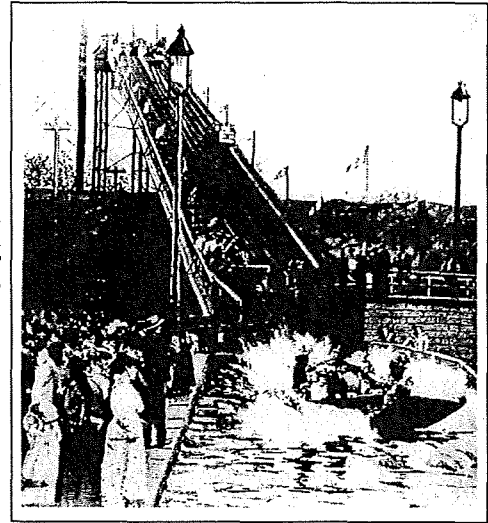
- 2-5 ..... Jordan Rd., nose-bleed
- 2-5 ..... Cleveland Ave., difficulty breathing
- 2-9 ..... Minerva Lake Rd., allergic reaction
- 2-13 .... Cleveland & Greenapple, motor vehicle accident

## MINERVA PARK

## DID YOU KNOW?

Continuing our walking tour of the wonderful Minerva Park, we now cross the Rustic Bridge to the south side of the lake. (Electric arches spanned the bridge to the Casino.) By the second year of operation the Opera Casino, Carrousel, Scenic Railroad, horseback riding and the boat dock draw patrons to this side. But before we get half way across the bridge, we wait in silence for the next group to come screaming down the Marine Slide and splash across the clear water. It is just as delightful to see as it was to ride.

This is a 1897 view of a Marine Slide outside Paris, France.

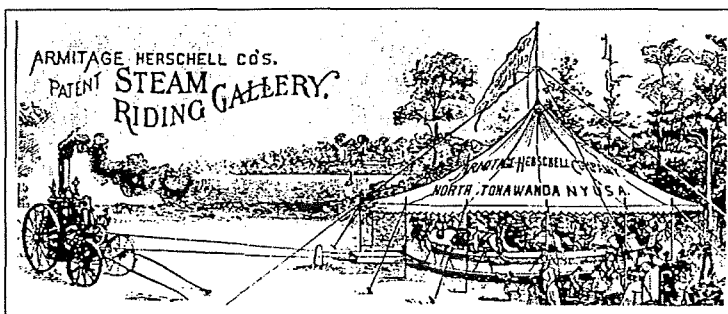


## OPERA CASINO

Just to our left as we leave the bridge was the original (Opera) Casino at Minerva Park, under the management of Professor J. Kellar. This building was constructed especially for the performance of light operas during the afternoons and evenings. The (Opera) Casino was a small, half tent and half frame structure, highly decorated with **chromos**, and situated just south of the scenic railway. It doesn't appear after the "Grand" Casino Theater was build so I assume it was replaced.

*Historical note---Chromos, also call oleographs or chromolithographs, were color lithographs produced by preparing a separate stone by hand for each color to be used and printing one color in register over another. Sometimes as many as 30 stones were used for a single print. The technique was pioneered in the 1830's but came into wide commercial use in the 1860's. It was the most popular method of color reproduction up to the end of the 19th century, when more efficient techniques rendered it obsolete.*

## CARROUSEL or Merry-go-round



The Carrousel or Merry-go-round was also called the "Steam Riding Gallery." It too was located on the south side of the lake and was a portable device manufactured by the Armitage-Herschell Machine Co. of North Tonawanda, New York. This particular type of merry-go-round ignored the usual central post which had always been a basic feature in earlier and later carrousel construction. Instead it employed a circular track, laid on the ground, on which the device would

revolve. It was rotated by a slender cable which fitted into the rim of the revolving platform and led to a small steam engine, standing a few feet away. A rocking motion was imparted to the horses by the track wheels. A small organ, placed on the revolving platform and belted to a track wheel, played music when the device was in motion. Attached to the organ was a life-sized dummy which appeared to be turning the crank. A large canvas top, supported by poles and secured by guy ropes attached to stakes driven into the ground, covered the entire machine.

*There is a story that while trying to move the Merry-go-round it fell into the south lake, near the northeast corner of the lake. Fifteen years ago an individual had said that he even saw the machine sitting on the lake bed, tilted toward the north. Does anyone have further information about this?*



# DRIVE CAREFULLY!

With spring in the air, there will be more children playing outside - and gardeners mowing and standing

along the street to admire their yards. Please watch your speed when driving through the village ... our police officers will be!



## Minerva Park Police

- 2-2 .... 12:03p, 2500 blk Briar Rose, false alarm.
- 2-8 .... 4:15p, 5300 blk Ponderosa, aggravated burglary.
- 2-20 .. 10:47a, 5001 Farview Rd., false alarm.
- 2-22 .. 5:20p, 2700 blk Wildwood Rd., telephone harassment.
- 2-23 .. 7:52p, 5200 blk Cardinal Ct., false alarm.
- 2-25 .. 3:43p, 5306 Cleveland, aggravated menacing.
- 2-26 .. 10:45a, 5216 Cleveland Ave., auto theft reported.



## Villagers

### Welcome Our New Neighbors!

**Donald Cox** is a new resident at **2812 Lakewood Dr.**, employed at Air-Touch Cellular. Phone **882-9926**

**Tim & Margie Benadum, Joshua (10), Caleb (9),**

**Abigail (8), and Hannah (6)** are new residents at **2558 Minerva Lake Rd.** Phone **523-3119**

**Bill Hastings & Pat Polvino** are new residents at **2545 Woodley Rd.**, corrected from March 1999 *Villager*.

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

Advertise in the Villager ... 794-3862

### the Villager Staff

- Editor** ..... Felicia Busick, 794-3862  
2769 Minerva Lake Road
- Layout & Design** ..... Sharon Bierman
- Advertising** ..... Felicia Busick, 794-3862
- Contributor** ..... Bob Stuart

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, April 16, 5:00 p.m.**



Minerva Park **CLASSIFIED**



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Your Expectations with a Genuine  
Commitment to Your Best Interests."*

- Longtime Resident of Minerva Park
- Selling Homes in Minerva Park for the past 15 Years
- Past President of the Northeast Area Realtors Association
- Member of the Columbus Board of Realtors \$25 Million Club



**Bonnie Limes**  
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Joe Walker & Assoc.




**RESIDENT**  
for 31 years!

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*Minerva Park Furniture Gallery*  
32 Rooms Furniture, New, and Fine Antiques  
In Business for Over 22 Years



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**Villager Advertising**  
It costs only \$15 per month to reach more than 700 households with a business card-size ad in the *Villager*. Discounts are available for half year and full year prepaid. Call Felicia Busick, *Villager* Editor, at 794-3862.