Lake Project Hits Snags But Achieves Goals

As happens with any large undertaking, the village’s $365,000 lake restoration project ran into a few challenges. But as the first phase of the project is wrapping up, village officials are pleased with the outcome—a healthier and more attractive lake.

Councilman Dave Stahr, who has overseen the project since the beginning, has worked closely with the dredging company, Metropolitan Environmental, to ensure the project is done as completely and as cost effectively as possible. Stahr reported that the project’s primary objectives have been achieved.

When the project began, two-thirds of the lake was less than one foot deep, and it contained silt islands at the western end that trapped debris and served as a breeding ground for mosquitoes. After dredging and excavation, the lake is now 3-12 feet deep, and the western end has been cleared. More than 5.6 million gallons of sludge were dredged and removed, and about 4,000 cubic yards were excavated. These totals represent nearly 100,000 gallons and 3,000 yards more than the original contract amount.

The next step for the village is to install three aeration fountains and a catch basin near Cleveland Avenue, which will prevent city debris from reaching the lake. Shoreline improvements, restocking, and landscaping are expected to begin this fall. To reduce future build-up in the lake, the village will continue to help homeowners along Kilbourne Ravine find funding for erosion control measures, Stahr added. So far, four residents have received state grants of $2,700 each.

Stahr said he is thankful to the many residents who supported this effort to preserve the lake for future generations. “It is the hope of the council that the lake will serve as a showplace of the village for years to come,” he said.

Despite the project’s success, it has not been without complications. Early logistical challenges necessitated a few compromises, including excavating rather than dredging the westernmost section of the lake. Because the area contained so much material that would be difficult to dredge, the village opted for less expensive excavation, allowing more sludge to be removed for the same price. When it was later discovered that the excavated material could not be taken away cost effectively, the sludge was mounded onto the reserve area behind three Minerva Lake Road properties, removing a number of trees and changing the area’s topography. The area, visible from the dam end of the lake, will be graded to blend in with the hillside and planted with ground covers, shrubs, and trees.

Later, as the dredging project approached the contract’s volume limit, it became clear that all the areas would not be done unless

LAKE continued on page 2.
LAKE continued from page 1.  
some sections originally slated for 
dredging were excavated instead. 
Council voted at a special meeting 
July 1 to approve the diversion of 
$4,500 from another part of the 
total bond amount to cover 
evacuation of the southeastern 
shore and a stretch of shoreline 
just west of the Community 
Building.  This reallocation of 
funds will reduce money available 
for such improvements as land-
scaping but will not increase the 
total cost of the project to resi-
dents.  Rumors about the project 
being over budget were false, 
Stahr stated.  
If you have any questions 
about the lake, call Dave Stahr at 
890-8819.

Council Votes to 
Remove Old 
Playground Equipment
Minerva Park Council voted at its 
July meeting to remove old 
equipment to make room for the 
new play structure at the Maplewood 
playground.  No residents opposed 
the plan to remove the existing slide 
and monkey bars.  Tear-down was 
scheduled for the week of July 19 
with the installation of the new multi-
level wooden structure to follow.  The 
village will keep the swings, horses, 
picnic table, benches, and trees as 
they were.

Food Bank 
Collection Continues
Thanks to everyone who has 
contributed non-perishable food to 
our NCC collection for the Mid-Ohio 
Food Bank.  The drive will continue 
through the end of the year.  To 
participate, bring items to the box 
inside the front door of the 
Community Building.  Please mark 
your donations “Food Bank.”

Pet Care - 15-year-old 
boy will care for your pets 
while you are away.  Dogs 
& cats in your home ... 
other small animals can 
be cared for in my home. 
Four years’ experience, 
reliable, responsible.  Call 
Steve at 891-2532.

Lost - Light tan umbrella 
and a pair of reading 
glasses.  
Please call 882-5186.
MAYOR’S REPORT

By Jack Murray

Just when I thought I had the trash pick-up days and the holidays all figured out, the trash people decided to disagree as to when Independence Day should be celebrated. So, for those who had to keep their trash another week, sorry about that. We hope to do better next year.

Following a public hearing on our Year 2000 budget, it was approved by council. If we do not have any major, unexpected expenses, we should be able to meet all our obligations for the year.

The Y2K computer scare is still a concern of many. We have all heard mixed reviews on the Y2K challenge – some predict dire consequences, while others predict no impact at all. The truth is, no one knows for certain what effect the Y2K transition will have. From the information presented at the various seminars I’ve attended, it appears that most of the important functions have been taken care of. (So, I’m not going to worry until my lights go out New Year’s Eve.)

The considerable preparation for the Founders Day celebration resulted in an excellent program.

The people who put the program together should be commended.

July Council Meeting ...

The Northland Community Council, which is made up of 23 northeast communities, reported that they met and discussed the Morse Road revitalization program. A Columbus council representative reported that $5 million has been set aside for this project. Mr. Jacobs said he is going to remodel Northland Mall and maintain it as a Class A mall.

The Planning & Zoning Commission reported that a storage shed was approved for a Minerva Lake Road residence. A variance request for a fence was disapproved by council several months ago, but it is being reintroduced on the basis of special circumstances. The parking of too many vehicles at the service station at Cleveland Avenue and Woodley Road has improved.

There were some favorable comments from citizens in attendance concerning the council and other Village officials. This doesn’t happen very often. Some new playground equipment should be installed in the park area by the time you read this. This equipment will replace some of the older pieces.

The lake dredging should be completed by the first of August. There was some damage from the trucks on our street, parking lot, and path across the dam, which must be repaired.

A contract with McKinney Landscaping has been accepted for the fall leaf pick-up program in the amount of $13,500.

We will erect speed restriction signs at the pool parking lot. This was done in response to complaints made by a few individuals of excessive speeds.

A contract with American Electric Power was approved to furnish Minerva Park with the necessary power for public lighting.

My Grandpa used to say that life is subject to change without notice.

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You’re Invited ...

All MP residents and their families & friends are invited to meet at the pool for an evening of food & fun for all ages.

Adults ......................... $8
Children 5-12 ........ $4.50
Children under 5 ...... Free

Saturday, August 28
MP Pool
5:00p - 7:00p ...... Food Served
6:00p .................. Auction Begins
Got a bunch of orange stickers on your recycling bin? You’ve probably tried to recycle something our refuse collector, Rumpke, won’t take. Here’s a list of what they consider recyclable:

**Paper:** magazines, newspapers, telephone books (on a seasonal basis).

**Boxes/Cartons:** fluted cardboard packing and pizza boxes, children’s drink boxes, milk and juice cartons with gabled lids.

**Glass:** clear, green, and brown bottles and jars.

**Plastics:** plastic containers marked with #1 or #2.

**Metal:** aluminum beverage cans, clean aluminum pie plates and foil, tin/steel cans used for soup and tuna, etc.

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Gourmet Baskets
Baby Baskets
Wine & Roses

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**Angela’s Pizza**

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(just south of Route 161)

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$2 OFF

Coupon
August 1999 Minerva Park Villager
expires 10-31-99
6-13 .. 9:10a, 5000 blk Maplewood Dr., domestic violence complaint.
6-4 .... 11:36p, GFS, 5400 Cleveland, false alarm.
6-5 .... 11:35p, GFS, 5400 Cleveland, false alarm.
6-17 .. 12:32a, Inkeep Brothers’ Printing, 3193 E. Dublin-Granville, false alarm.
6-17 .. 8:30a, 5300 blk Parklane Dr., criminal damaging reported.
6-19 .. 8:30p, 3000 blk Minerva Lake Rd., dog running at large.
6-21 .. 7:05a, 2800 blk Alder Vista Dr., unauthorized use of motor vehicle on 6-14 reported.
6-23 .. 12:55p, Quick Stop Payless Gas Station, 5216 Cleveland Ave., domestic violence complaint.
6-24 .. 1:30a, Inkeep Brothers’ Printing, 3193 E. Dublin-Granville, false alarm.
6-24 .. 9:30a, Tinaz Tans, 5364 Cleveland Ave., theft on 6-22 reported.
6-24 .. 5:15p, 5300 blk Parklane Dr., criminal damaging reported.
6-26 .. 10:30a, 3200 blk Minerva Lake Rd., false alarm.

June 1999
In May, Medic 119 made 38 runs with 8 into Blendon Township (exclusive of Minerva Park) and 5 into Minerva Park - 22 patients were transported to local hospitals.

Members volunteered a total of 724 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 4,512. Leading volunteers for the month were Anthony Huffman (98 hours), Brian Newcomb (72 hours), and Thomas Ruggles (54.3 hours). Anthony Huffman leads the year-to-date totals with 390 hours.

MP Runs
6-19 .... Cleveland Ave., unconscious person.
6-23 .... Cleveland Ave., ill person.
6-24 .... Maplewood Dr., PHA.
6-24 .... Lakewood, injury.
6-30 .... Wildwood Dr., diabetic illness.

A business-card-size ad in the Villager costs only $15 and reaches more than 600 households. For details, call 794-3862.

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

Medic 119 ...
Where are you?
Minerva Park

CLASSIFIED

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**Window & Door Factory**

Michael J. Rosati  
General Manager

3981 Parkway Lane  
Hilliard OH 43026  
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614-823-0466 voice mail  
614-876-1993 fax  
1-800-686-8767

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**Shoemaker Rental & Sales**

2591 E. Granville Rd.  
(61 at Cleveland Ave.)  
614-882-7451

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- Closed Wed & Thur

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32 Rooms Furniture, New, and Fine Antiques

In Business for Over 22 Years

5200 Cleveland Ave.  
Between Morse & 161  
Columbus, Ohio 43231

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**Advertise in the Villager ... 794-3862**

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**The Villager Staff**

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

**Layout & Design**  
Sharon Bierman

**Advertising**  
Felicia Busick, 794-3862

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, August 20, 5:00 p.m.