Golf Course Update

By Dave Stahr, Councilman

For the past several years, Council has been working on the golf course issue in an attempt to purchase the golf course and to annex the entire property into the Park...it is actually zoned in Blendon Township, not in Minerva Park. In July 2002, we submitted a purchase contract to the Groezinger family (golf course owners), which was subsequently rejected because they did not wish to sell at that time. We were assured, however, that we would be given the right of first refusal in the event they decided to sell at some future date.

In November 2003, the golf course advised us that a developer had made an offer and we were being extended the right of first refusal to match or better that offer. Based on our total debt capacity, we were unable to do so.

Representatives from Dominion Homes requested a meeting with the Village and subsequently met with Mayor Eisentrouth, Clerk-Treasurer Suzanne Coulter, and me on February 6. At that time, they presented information about their intent for the property and expressed their desire to be annexed into the Village. Additionally, they made overtures of possible financial assistance with infrastructure, street, swimming pool, police, and community building issues.

As might be anticipated, there are several obstacles to overcome and many issues to be addressed. To that end, the Village is currently seeking qualified legal counsel well versed in real estate law. As soon as counsel is retained and we have more information, we will schedule a town meeting to discuss and review the entire issue with the residents. We look forward to sharing the possibilities with you.

Town Meeting

Watch for notification about the location, date, and time.
Scholarship Available

Graduating high school seniors are eligible to win the Nancy Fischer Memorial Scholarship. This $250 scholarship is awarded annually to deserving Minerva Park graduates. The deadline to submit an application and a short essay is April 30, and the scholarship will be awarded in May. For further information or to obtain an application, please call Kathy Martinez at 818-0713.

Easter Egg Hunt

Hawthorne School
Saturday, April 3 - 10:00a

Join us for one of the more popular children’s events of the year. As always, we desperately need volunteers to help with the set-up and running the event. Call Marty Matunas at 898-8152 if you can help stuff eggs or can help during the event.

Lake Clean-Up

April 24 - 8:00a

Free breakfast and lunch for the workers. Please bring rakes, clippers, etc., and join us at the Community Building. If you can work at other times, too, please call Bob Gale at 882-0455.

MPCA Membership Drive

Our thanks to volunteers Don Champney, Barbara Donley, Lynn Eisentrout, Nancy Fry, Bea Hulbert, Jim Kehl, Janet & Carey Kohn, Tunnie Martin, Marty Matunas, Pat Sideheimer, and Thea Wile.

The following residents kindly made donations above & beyond the Membership Dues – Kenneth & Peggy Hollenbeck, Stanley & Anne Kowalkowski, Dick & Janice McCreary, Gregory and Jenna McDevitt, Michael Pojack, Robert Rossetti, Steve & Lisa Thithoff.

We extend a huge thank you to Marilyn Herboltzheimer who has graciously chaired this event for many years. As of January 2004, 69% of the residents have joined the Community Ass’n. Call Marilyn at 882-0455 to pay your $10 dues! We certainly need your support.

MP Runs

1-8 ...... Difficulty breathing
1-9 ...... Difficulty breathing
1-17 .... Injured person

January 2004

In January, Medic 119 made 25 runs - 7 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 3 into Minerva Park; 8 patients were transported to hospitals. Members volunteered a total of 462 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 462. Leading volunteers for the month were Wayne Miller (84 hours), Greg Norton (38 hours), and Brian Hupp (36 hours).

Welcome Our New Neighbors!

Terrence & Karri Chinn are new residents at 4430 Minerva Lake Road - 865-9938

If you learn of any new residents, please advise the Newcomers Committee Jim Kehl, 794-0047
At the regular Council meeting held February 9, two candidates were interviewed for an open council seat—Juan Segovia and Ron Yarano. A third candidate, Blaine Allen, had submitted a letter indicating interest in the vacancy but was not present to be interviewed. After some deliberation, Ron Yarano was appointed for a 4-year term. Ron has made some very positive contributions as a past Council member with his background as a surveyor regarding street, zoning, and infrastructure issues.

Police Chief Hillard reported that the Village will be reimbursed for the entire amount of damages claimed in the accident involving Cruiser #2. The vehicle is in the process of being repaired.

Fire Chief Rick Hoechstetter reported that his department is completing its inventory and is investigating some grant opportunities.

Village Engineer Stu Wilms reported that we have again been turned down for Issue 2 Funding for the Minerva Lake Road Project but have been kicked over to the Small Government Program at the Ohio Public Works Commission. This is a statewide bid with a rating criteria that is different from the Issue 2 criteria and for our district. The Village will need to work to change the grant/loan ratio to receive more points and a better rating to receive this funding. The Village has about 30 days to resubmit the proposal for this grant that will be awarded mid-May. Mr. Wilms, along with members of the Council Streets Committee, is working to find some alternatives to repair Minerva Lake Road if we do not receive this funding for the Minerva Lake Road project, as well as repairing our other streets. The pothole situation throughout the Village was discussed at length. Both I and most of the Council Members have driven through the entire Village and are aware of the vast number of potholes and that some are quite severe. They are scheduled to be filled in the spring. I had received a letter from a resident on Park Lane Court regarding flooding problems on their street. It was determined that 5 of the 8 storm sewers were blocked by debris and would need to be cleaned out. Estimates will be obtained, and this cleanout will be tied into the other already-approved cleanouts to be done once the weather breaks.

Pat Mangan, Planning & Zoning Chair, recommended that the Council approve a variance requested by the residents at 2559 Lakewood Drive for a garage to be built 5’ from the property line. Council granted the variance. The Zoning Board will be reviewing the current fee structure for building, electrical, etc., permits as there has not been an increase for several years. These increases would be to cover administrative costs. The Board will forward its recommendations to the Council for the appropriate legislation to be drafted. There was discussion at the Zoning meeting about composing a pamphlet for new homeowners and for commercial property owners detailing and explaining zoning ordinances pertinent to them.

The following legislation was addressed by the Council:

Ordinance 01-04: A first reading to amend Section 1040.01(B) of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Minerva Park, Modifying the Quarterly Flat Surcharge, and Quarterly Usage Charge for Loan Repayment on the Replacement of the Waterlines.

Resolution 04-01: Appropriation Measure for 2004, revised, waived three readings, passed as an emergency.

Resolution 04-02: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract for hiring a Mayor's Court magistrate, waived three readings, passed as an emergency.

Resolution 04-03: Resolution Designating Voting Representatives from the Village to the Central Ohio Health Care Consortium, waived three readings, passed as an emergency.

As mentioned above, the Fire Department, as well as all the other departments, are currently completing inventories. This has not been done in past years. Our impetus to do so now is that our liability/property insurance agreement is due to be renewed in May, and the Clerk-Treasurer and I would like to seek additional bids. A thorough inventory should be helpful in this process.

Referring to Councilman Stahr’s article updating you on the golf course... As he indicated, we had a first meeting with Dominion Homes, the sales contract is pending, and DH has made an initial overture to the Village for annexation. We are attempting to keep you informed to the best of our ability. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me or any Council member. My office hours...

M, W, F – 8a-1p and 4p-6p
Tu – 7:45a-8:45a
Th – 7:45a-8:45a and 6p-8p
My home phone is 891-0895, and my email address is leisentrout1@aol.com.
MP Moms Group
Meeting the 2nd Wednesday of the month, an informal group promotes friendships of both children and adults in MP. Please call Ann Roderer at 895-6731 if you are interested in joining.

Alcoholics Anonymous
Join us on Fridays, 7:30p, at the Community Building.

Caveat Emptor - Voting information is from absentee ballots & local newspapers. MPCA does not endorse any candidate and is not responsible for content or errors. This recap is provided here so you can become familiar with our own particular ballot before you arrive at the polls. Study the issues. Make up your own mind. Go VOTE!

We are entering into exciting and challenging times for the Village. This column will help keep everyone apprised of the Village’s financial health. If you have further questions about the information provided here, please call Suzanne Coulter at 882-5743 (Community Building) or at 891-7346 (h).

Year Ending 2003
Beg balance general fund ........ $318,266.79
Revenue collected ..................... 647,429.55
Expenses ................................. (738,078.04)
Ending balance .......................... 227,618.30
Transfer out for EMS vehicle ..... (17,159.93)
Final ending balance 2003 ...... $210,248.37

January 2004
Beg balance general fund ........ $210,248.37
Revenue collected ....................... 14,694.04
Expenses ................................... (55,261.67)
Ending balance ........................ $169,890.74

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Republican Primary Ballot

Below is a representation of the ballot you’ll be seeing at the polls this election. Except for the taxes, of course, the “winners” here will appear on the ballot in November’s general election. You may make your selections on this sheet and take it with you to the polls.

Delegate-at-Large & Alternate-at-Large to the National Convention
☐ George W. Bush

District Delegate & District Alternate to the National Convention
☐ George W. Bush

US Senator
☐ George Voinovich
☐ John Mitchell

US Representative
☐ Pat Tiberi

Chief Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ Thomas J. Moyer

Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ Judith Ann Lanzinger

Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ Paul E. Pfeifer

Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ Terrence O’Donnell

Judge - Court of Appeals - 10th District
☐ Michael H. Watson

Judge - Court of Appeals - 10th District
☐ Pat McGrath

Judge - Court of Appeals - 10th District
☐ Susan Brown

Judge - Court of Appeals - 10th District
☐ William A. Klatt

Member - State Central

Committee - Man - 3rd District
☐ Roger W. Tracy

Member - State Central Committee - Woman - 3rd District
☐ Jo Ann Davidson

State Representative - 21st District
☐ Linda Reidelbach

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Michael J. Holbrook

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Julie M. Lynch

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Alan C. Travis

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Pat Smith

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ John F. Bender

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Pat Sheeran

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Guy Reece

Judge - Court Common Pleas (Domestic Relations Division)
☐ Kim A. Browne

County Commissioner
☐ Arlene Shoemaker

County Commissioner
☐ David Goodman

Prosecuting Attorney
☐ Ron O’Brien

Clerk - Court Common Pleas
☐ Amy Salerno

Sheriff
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

County Recorder
☐ Robert G. Montgomery

County Treasurer
☐ Jim Timko

County Engineer
☐ Dean C. Ringle

Coroner
☐ Bradley J. Lewis

Member - County Central Committee
☐ Kevin R. Bacon

Issues

The following issues will appear on the Republican primary ballot. Read the details on page 7.

Proposed Tax Levy - Westerville Schools
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy

Proposed Tax Levy - COSI
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy

Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Increase)
Franklin County Children Services
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy
Below is a representation of the ballot you’ll be seeing at the polls this election. Except for the taxes, of course, the “winners” here will appear on the ballot in November’s general election. You may make your selections on this sheet and take it with you to the polls.

Delegate & Alternate to the National Convention
☐ John F. Kerry
☐ Dennis J. Kucinich
☐ Lyndon H. Larouche, Jr.
☐ Joseph I. Lieberman
☐ Wesley K. Clark
☐ Howard Dean
☐ John Edwards

US Senator
☐ Eric D. Fingerhut
☐ Norbert G. Dennerll, Jr.

US Representative
☐ Edward S. Brown

Chief Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ C. Ellen Connally

Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ W. Scott Gwin
☐ Nancy A. Fuerst

Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Justice - OH Supreme Court
☐ William O’Neill

Judge - Court of Appeals - 10th District
☐ Tom Tootle

Judge - Court of Appeals - 10th District
☐ Deborah P. O’Neill

Judge - Court of Appeals - 10th District
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Member - State Central Committee - Man - 3rd District
☐ Joseph P. Rugola

Member - State Central Committee - Woman - 3rd District
☐ Kathryn S. Malone

Proposed Tax Levy - Westerville Schools
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy

Proposed Tax Levy - COSI
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy

Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Increase)
Franklin County Children Services
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy

Issues

State Representative - 21st District
☐ Abramo Ottolenghi

State Representative - OH Supreme Court
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Stephen McIntosh

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Bill Hedrick

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Beverley Pfeiffer

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ John A. Connor

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Mike Rankin

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Richard A. Frye

Judge - Court Common Pleas
☐ Mark A. Serrott

Judge - Court Common Pleas (Domestic Relations Division)
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

County Commissioner
☐ Paula Brooks

County Commissioner
☐ Mary Jo Kilroy

Prosecuting Attorney
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Clerk - Court Common Pleas
☐ John O’Grady

Sheriff
☐ Jim Karnes

County Recorder
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

County Treasurer
☐ Richard Cordray

County Engineer
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Coroner
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

Member - County Central Committee
☐ No declaration of candidacy filed

The following issues will appear on the Democrat primary ballot. Read the details on page 7.
Independent Primary Ballot

Below is a representation of the ballot you’ll be seeing at the polls this election.
Anyone voting on the Independent Primary Ballot may vote on issues only.
The issues are presented here in their entirety and become binding in this – the March – election.

Proposed Tax Levy - Westerville Schools - an additional tax for the benefit of the Westerville City School District, for the purpose of CURRENT OPERATING EXPENSES at a rate not exceeding 5 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.50 for each $100 of valuation, for a period of two years, commencing in 2004, first due in calendar year 2005.
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy
This means $500 for each $100,000 valuation for 2 years.

Proposed Tax Levy - COSI - An additional tax for the benefit of Franklin County for the purpose of MAINTAINING AND OPERATING COSI, AND PROVIDING FREE ADMISSION TO COSI FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY at a rate not exceeding 0.5 mill for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.05 for each $100 dollars of valuation, for a period of five years, commencing in 2004, first due in calendar year 2005.
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy
This means $50 for each $100,000 valuation for 5 years.

Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Increase) Franklin County Children Services - A replacement of 1.1 mills of an existing levy and an increase of 0.8 mill, to constitute a tax for the benefit of Franklin County for the purpose of SUPPLEMENTING THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE SUPPORT OF FRANKLIN CO. CHILDREN SERVICES AND THE CARE AND PLACEMENT OF ABUSED, NEGLECTED, AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN, at a rate not exceeding 1.9 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.19 for each $100 of valuation, for a period of ten years, commencing in 2004 first due in calendar year 2005.
☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy
This means $190 for each $100,000 valuation for 10 years.

COMPUTE THE TAX FOR YOUR PROPERTY
Go to ... http://franklin.governmaxa.com/propertymax/rover30.asp
Do a search for your property and then click on the LEVY INFO tab to see how tax levies affect you.

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Debbie DeWeese
890-1452 h
291-4663 w

Daniel Rannebarger
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Pam Park-Curry, President

I have lived in Minerva Park for more than 30 years total. My family moved here when I was 8 years old, and I grew up building forts along the stream, sledding on the golf course, ice skating on the lake, and swimming at the new Minerva Park Swim Club! I received a great education in the Westerville Public School system, attending both old and new schools. Old schools included Minerva Park Elementary School, which is now GMAC Insurance at 5212 Cleveland Ave., and new schools included Hawthorne Elementary School and Westerville High School (now South). Minerva Park was then and is now a wonderful place to be a kid.

Many years later after marriage, children, and multiple degrees from Ohio State, I found myself searching the pages of a real estate multiple listing guide for a house. My husband Timothy Curry (a sociology professor at Ohio State) and I knew we wanted to move to a house on a beautiful street, with a big kitchen, a screened-in porch, and room to entertain, so why not see what Minerva Park might have. And there for sale was the home of my best girlfriend, Mary Ann D’Agostino! That was in 1983, and the house was 2559 Lakewood Drive.

There is not enough room here to convey the good fortune we have had in living next door to Steve Laudon and Alison McArthur and watching our daughter Christine grow up with their daughters ... or how grand it is to work in the yard that was made beautiful under the guidance of Mary Yost. My brother and sister both grew up in the Park and live in Columbus, but it is this house in Minerva Park that has become the preferred location for holidays and celebrations because it just feels right.

To paraphrase Woody Hayes, you can never “pay back” ... you can only “pay forward.” I doubt I will ever be able to totally repay my debt to Minerva Park, but I am trying. I served on the Pool Board for 3 years with 1 year as membership chair. I was active in the Community Association for many years before being appointed to council in 1991. I have served on all council committees and most recently have chaired the Legislative Committee where the main responsibility is writing and presenting ordinances and resolutions. I am currently president of council and would serve as Mayor if the Mayor is unable to complete her term. I have a Ph.D. in Sociology from Ohio State and am the Director of Undergraduate Career Services in the Fisher College of Business. Tim and I have three grown children and enjoy camping, gardening, and entertaining with good food, good wine, and good friends. •
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Hardwood Mulch  Special Blends  Black Olives  Sausage 2 items 2.00 4.00 5.00
Straw  •  Gravel  Boulders  (blk, grn)  Pepperoni 8.40 10.40 12.40
Pulverized Topsoil  Clays  Green Pepper 2.00 3.00 4.00
Virgin Topsoil  Pick-up or Delivery  Onion 2.00 3.00 4.00

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Pizza

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Other Items Available:
Bacon, Tomatoes, Hamburger, Pineapple

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the Villager Staff

Editor .................................... Marty Matunas, 898-8152  
Layout & Design ..................... Sharon Bierman, 899-3755  
sbierman@columbus.rr.com ... 899-7731 fax

The Villager is mailed to all MP homes for delivery by the 1st Monday of each month. Residents are invited to submit articles & other items of interest. Use the drop box inside the front door at the Community Building. The Villager reserves the right to refuse publication of any item submitted. All items presented for publication must include the contributor’s signature and phone number. The Villager is online at:  
http://www.dev-bureau.com/access.asp  
username = mpcas password = villager

Next deadline:  
Wednesday, March 17, 5:00 p.m.