The 4th Annual Christmas Carriage Rides was the best ever, with 317 ride reservations. With volunteers & crew, it is estimated that the event was enjoyed by appx. 350 people!

We were pleased to have a new carriage vendor, Bud Mills from London OH (740-852-5158). He owns the covered wagon and brought his friends from Hamilton OH to help with the others. The three wagons were ably staffed with Tom McCreadie and horses Doc & Bob, Mort Van Gordan with horses Slim & Sally, and Bill Chalk with horses Lorie & Kate.

Bud does more than 60 events of this type annually plus weddings, and this was the best organized they have ever participated in, he said, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Mayor Eisentrout and the many people who helped put the event together. He also wanted to thank the Villagers who were so friendly and courteous.

Gypsy Moths
The Ohio Department of Agriculture will host an Open House on Wednesday, February 8, from 5:30p to 8:00p at the Community Building. Representatives will explain and share information about the Village’s May 2006 Spray Suppression Program to eradicate additional gypsy moth infestations. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Our thanks to Boy Scout Troop #007 for keeping the sidewalks cleared through the light snowfall, helping with trash patrol, and supervising the bonfire. It is led by Scout Master Jim Lake and Assistant Scout Master Dick Busick. Thanks to the EMS for the great hot chocolate, to the many great Minerva Park bakers who brought wonderful desserts, and to various MPCA members who volunteered many hours to make the event such a success.

Young and Young-at-Heart enjoy a light supper of subs, wings, hot soup, and great Minerva Park desserts. Your MPCA dues underwrite this event. See you next year!

Council Vacancy
With the start of the new year, there is a vacancy on Council. If you are interested, submit your resume and letter of interest to the Community Building by Friday, Jan 6. Council wishes to appoint someone to fill the vacancy at the Jan 9 Council meeting.

Cops for Kids Toy Drive
Story on page 4.

JANUARY DATES
5 (7:30p) .......... Planning & Zoning
9 (7p) .................. Council Meeting
11 (7:30p) .......... MPCA Meeting
18 (5p) ............... Villager Deadline
Community Assn
Dues Drive

MPCA Membership Chair Marilyn Herboltzheimer would like to thank the following 2005-2006 Membership Drive volunteers: Barbara Donley, Jim & Rella Kehl, Janet Kohn, Tunnie Martin, Linda Natali, Kathy Ramey, Pat Sideheimer, Steve & Lisa Thitoff, and Tillie Zak.

Also, the MPCA expresses a “special thank you” to the following residents for their additional donations: Lin Branscom, Martha Butler, Charles & Karalee Curry, Lenore Gregor, Kenneth & Peggy Hollenbeck, John & Lori Markiel, Richard & Janice McCreary, Gregory & Jenna McDevitt, Diane Reeb, James & Emily Ross, Robert Rosetti, Dottie Salsbury, and Robert & Barbara Walz.

Medic 119 ...
Where are you?

November 2005

In November, Medic 119 made 58 runs - 18 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 1 into Minerva Park; 28 patients were transported to hospitals.

25 members volunteered a total of 768 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 7,216. Leading volunteers for the month were Scott Burns (164 hours), Tina Quinn (55 hours), and Wayne Miller (48 hours).

MP Runs
11-30 .. Unconscious person
I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Many thanks to all of you who sent us cards, cookies, and candy. They were very much appreciated.

Gypsy Moths: As was mentioned earlier, there have been some gypsy moth infestations scattered throughout the Village. We will participate in a cooperative spray suppression program with the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) in May 2006. The ODA will host an Open House for residents on Wednesday, February 8, from 5:30p to 8:00p at the Community Building to explain what the ODA is doing and why, when the application will take place, chemicals to be used, what - if any - impact there will be on our trees and wildlife, etc. They will have hand-outs and displays, etc. Please call me if you have any questions.

Golf Course: Our Law Director and I met with Joshua Homes representatives to discuss the Project and Development Agreement related to our establishing a Tax Increment Financing District. The property owners and Joshua Homes continue their negotiations.

Residential TIF: The Westerville School Board passed a resolution authorizing its officials to sign the School Compensation Agreement related to our establishing a Tax Increment Financing District. I would like to thank the School Board for their support and look forward to continuing our good relationship with them.

Four Council Members were present at the Regular Council meeting held December 13. The following departmental reports were made:

EMS: Chief Hoechstetter reported MP had been under-reporting Blendon Township runs as Westerville runs because the cloverleaf at 270 and 161 has three jurisdictions; six runs were reallocated from Westerville to Blendon Township. The bay garage door opener needs to be replaced at a cost of $375 after many years of repairing it.

Police: In Chief Hillard’s absence, Safety Committee Chair Chuck Gibson reported that the recently purchased white cruiser was involved in an accident (it slid off 161 during the recent snow storm) and may be totaled. Thankfully, the officer was not injured. We are waiting to hear from the insurance company.

Zoning: Dick Busick reported that 69 cases of zoning code violations have been resolved in 2005, and 25 more are being monitored. Letters are being sent to property owners operating unlicensed businesses in their homes. There was no Planning & Zoning meeting in December as there were no cases.

MP Community Association: Children’s Christmas Party - on Saturday, December 17, from 2:00p to 4:00p. The Fourth Annual Christmas Carriage Rides - on Sunday, December 18, from 5:30p to 8:30p.

MP Swim Club: Nothing at this time.

The following committee reports were made:

Community: See the MPCA report above.

Finance: Councilman Don Champney asked for and received approval for the then-and-now purchase order for Strawser Paving for the amount of $84,878.53. He also asked for and received approval for the warrants paid in December in the amount of $89,837.21.

Legislation: In Councilwoman Pam Park-Curry’s absence, Mayor Eisentrout presented the following legislation:


Resolution 2005-34. Creating a Tax Incentive Review Council, approving Village appointees to such Council, and authorizing the solicitation of county, township, and school members to such Council. First reading accepted. (The second reading was accepted at the Special Council meeting on December 21.)

Ordinance 04-2005. Adopting the MP Economic Development Plan for the purpose of establishing a Tax Increment Financing District and declaring an emergency. Second reading accepted. (This was later passed at the Special Council meeting on December 21.)
November 2005
Complete payments - 29
Village Computer Fund...................  $   145
Village General Fund ........................  4,834
Remitted to the State .........................    610
Total Court Receipts ........................ $5,589
false alarm
11-21 .. 5:05p, Hawthorne Elementary School, 5001 Farview Rd., assault on 11-16 reported
11-22 .. 10:57p, Hawthorne Elementary School, false alarm
11-29 .. 7:43a, Triple A Cash, 5272 Cleveland Ave., false alarm
11-29 .. 8:00a, Good Dog Grooming, 5246 Cleveland Ave., criminal damaging reported

**Clerk-Treasurer’s Report**

If you have questions about the information provided here, please call Suzanne Coulter at 882-5743 (Community Building) or at 891-7346 (h).

**October 2005**
Beg balance general fund .......... $183,847.96
Revenue collected ....................... 25,459.02
Expenses ................................... (58,689.49)
Ending balance ........................ $150,617.49

**November 2005**
Beg balance general fund .......... $150,617.49
Revenue collected ....................... 30,610.02
Expenses ................................... (57,049.22)
Ending balance ........................ $124,178.29

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Wednesday 7:00p
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the Villager Staff

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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.minervapark.org/villager

Next deadline:
Wednesday, January 18, 5:00p

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