9th Annual
FOUNDERS DAY

Saturday, July 22 — 5:00p to 8:00p
at the Pool

Join us for the largest social event of the year! Residents and their guests are invited to join the good times and good food at the 9th Annual Founders Day celebration at the pool. Take a dip if you wish, but come enjoy the fun, children’s games, good music, great food (catering by Carfagna’s), and superb Minerva Park desserts. You may bring chairs for additional seating. Call Bob Gale at 882-8622 to volunteer for set-up and clean-up details. There is no charge for MP residents and their guests. Support your Village and meet your neighbors! See you there!

Family Fun Night

Family Fun Night at the pool was a great success with nearly 240 people in attendance! The 10’ sundae was a hit - as always. Even the adults enjoyed the whipped cream-eating contest. Young and old alike had a great time. Were you there? We’ll see you next year.

Evening of Wine & Cheese

Saturday, July 8
9:00p to midnight
Minerva Park Pool

Minerva Park residents and their guests are invited to an Evening of Wine & Cheese, hosted by the MPCA Pool Committee. Bring some wine to drink or share. Appetizers and background music will be provided. You are invited to swim, if you wish. The cost is $5 per person, payable at the door. Unlike Family Fun Night, this is a quieter, more intimate adults-only evening — come and unwind. Reno’s Florist will donate a beautiful flower arrangement as a special give-away. This is another great opportunity to meet your neighbors! See you there!

Family Fun Night at the pool was a great success with nearly 240 people in attendance! The 10’ sundae was a hit - as always. Even the adults enjoyed the whipped cream-eating contest. Young and old alike had a great time. Were you there? We’ll see you next year.

JULY DATES

8 (9p-midnight) .... Wine & Cheese
10 (6:30p) .......... Budget Meeting
10 (7p) ............. Council Meeting
12 (7:30p) .......... MPCA Meeting
19 (5p) ............. Villager Deadline
22 (5p - 8p) ........ Founders Day
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MAYOR’S REPORT

Lynn Eisentrout

2006 Street Repair Project - Some of you who live on the streets to be repaired may have seen our engineer and his associate on site about the second week of June, taking measurements and noting specific problem areas. We are going to be on a very tight schedule to complete this project before school begins and will make every effort to keep the affected residents informed to minimize any inconvenience.

Gypsy Moth Spray - There has been some residual infestations on the south side of the Village, one quite severe. The Ohio Department of Agriculture has sent letters to those residents still affected and is working with them to try to resolve this problem. The United States Department of Agriculture has been consulted as well, while we continue to monitor the situation. Hawthorne Elementary School will be expanding their parking lot to include a turn-around for the school buses and to add much-needed parking spaces. The first pre-construction meeting is to be held Tuesday, June 20.

Jeff and Paula Inskeep, owners of Inskeep Printers, came before Council to discuss the possibility of a new building to house their business and possibly other tenants. They are currently located on the service road at 161 and Farview Drive and within the Village boundaries. Sewer capacity, a rezoning of the property, purchasing the neighboring property for expansion, parking requirements, traffic, and concerns for the school were discussed at this preliminary “look-see.” The Inskeepers and their architect will keep us informed.

2007 Budget

Councilman Ron Yarano and his family recently traveled to Mississippi to aid victims of the hurricane that had so devastated the area. Ron, a surveyor, worked with the residents to rebuild their homes. His wife Jo and their daughter Sarah worked in the field with him, while daughter Kate helped a local church with a major reorganization project. We are proud to recognize this outstanding volunteer effort on the part of Ron and his family.

All Council members except Ron Yarano were present for the regular Council meeting held June 12, 2006. The following departmental reports were made:

Police - Chief Bobbie Hillard reviewed his monthly report. There was a kidnapping (a person was restrained) in the course of a robbery. The chief asked that residents lock their cars at night because some cars that have been left unlocked and parked in driveways and on the street overnight have been ransacked. Bike and foot patrols will be increased throughout the Village this summer.

We have been receiving very positive comments about the June 12 article in the Dispatch regarding the report from the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, listing the resident-to-police-staff ratio, ranking Minerva Park and Sharon Township highest in the state. However, there were two errors in the article: The Village has 5 full-time officers, not 6, and our population is closer to 1,300 (1,282) than 1,200. If you did not see the article, it’s available on the Village website at http://www.minervapark.org/2006/security_measure.htm.

EMS - Chief Rick Hoechstetter reviewed his monthly report.

The pool is going to the dogs? Are you interested in bringing your doggie(s) to the pool for an end-of-the-season doggie dip? Call 891-2166 to express your interest.

Engineer - Mike Flickinger reported that the pothole repairs have been completed with the last repair located at the corner of Minerva Lake Road and Westerville Road.

Planning & Zoning - Code Enforcement Officer Dick Busick reviewed his monthly report. Three cases are now in the Franklin County Environmental Court. Note that the July 6 Planning & Zoning meeting has been changed to July 13 because of the holiday.

Minerva Park Community Association - Board Vice President Lisa Craddock-
Thitoff reported that Founder’s Day will be catered by Carfagna’s and held at the pool, July 22 (see page xx for details). There was some discussion at the May MPCA meeting about the benefits of erecting bat boxes to attract bats for a more natural way to control the mosquito population. (Presently, we contract with Blendon Township to routinely spray throughout the summer months.)

Northland Community Council - Representative Karen Cogley attended the June meeting and made the following report: The 161 area was discussed—the clean-up scheduled for the first part of the month was not well-attended and will be rescheduled, the need for revitalization of the commercial areas, and mowing needs to be done on a more routine basis. There was discussion about light rail, the National Night Out has been scheduled for August 1, the Marathon Pipeline tree cutting project, the Fourth of July Committee is seeking volunteers to hand out flags at the beginning of the parade, and they may have a Candidate’s Night this fall.

The Pool - Councilman Jeff Rigg reported for pool committee chair Steve Thitoff that as of June 10, 155 memberships had been sold, up from 61 at this same time in 2005, and a total of $1,550 in guest fees had been collected. The new vending machines have been received well by the public and are doing a brisk business. Family Fun Night is July 8, 9:00p to midnight.

The following committee reports were made:

Community - Councilman Jeff Rigg had nothing further to add.

Finance: Councilman Don Champney asked for and received approval for the warrants totaling $57,613.10.

Legislation - Councilwoman Pam Park-Curry asked the Council to consider the following legislation:

Resolution 2006-04 - To make appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the Village during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007. Second reading accepted. NOTE to the residents - I had forgotten to include the first reading of this piece of legislation in last month’s Mayor’s Report. My apologies for the oversight.

Resolution 2006-05 - Declaring the necessity for and submitting the question of a Replacement Tax Levy for purposes of providing for the current expenses of the Village. First reading accepted.

Resolution 2006-06 - Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to request a certification and estimate of revenue from the Franklin County Auditor’s office for a 3.2 mill Replacement Tax Levy. First reading accepted.

Resolution 2006-07 - To proceed with placing the issue on the ballot for a Replacement Tax Levy for purposes of providing for the current expenses of the Village. First reading accepted.

Resolution 2006-08 - To make appropriations for the expenses and other expenditures of the Village during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2006, as an emergency. Three readings waived, rules suspended, passed.

Resolution 2006-09 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract for the collection and removal of rubbish, trash recyclables, garbage, and yard waste from the residences of the Village. First reading accepted.

Safety - Councilman Chuck Gibson had nothing further to add to the police and EMS reports.

Service - Councilwoman Sharon Bierman reported that the trash contract expires on August 31, and bids will opened on August 4 at noon at the Community Building.

Streets - There was nothing more to add. •
May - MP Police Officers made 3 felony arrests and 20 misdemeanor arrests; 21 people were transported to the Franklin County Jail.

5-2 .... 8:51a, Hawthorne School, 5001 Farview Drive, older couple creating a disturbance about the voting location
5-2 .... 7:23p, 2600 blk Woodley Rd., false alarm
5-5 .... 11:30p, 2500 blk Woodley Rd., telephone harassment reported
5-9 .... 4:27a & 2:32p, Gordon Food Service, 5400 Cleveland Ave., false alarms
5-11 .. 3:55a, Business Professionals of America, 5454 Cleveland Ave., false alarm
5-15 .. 2:27p, Minerva Park Nursing Home, 5460 Cleveland Ave., theft from a shed reported
5-18 .. 9:59a, 2700 blk Wildwood Rd., false alarm
5-18 .. 5:200 blk Cardinal Ct., theft reported
5-19 .. 6:00p, Hobo Pizza, 5256 Cleveland Ave., auto theft reported, vehicle recovered a few hours later, parked across the street from the business
5-19 .. 6:45p, 2900 blk Kernwood Dr., missing person
5-20 .. 2:10p, Business Professionals of America, false alarm
5-22 .. 11:21a, Payless Quick Stop, 5216 Cleveland Ave., theft during 5-20 to 5-22 reported
5-23 .. 4:35p, Heartland Cash Advance, 5290 Cleveland Ave., aggravated robbery & kidnapping
5-27 .. 11:55a, 2600 blk Minerva Lake Rd., false alarm
5-27 .. 3:11p, Business Professionals of America, false alarm •

Golf Tournament
August 8, The Turtle Golf Club (formerly Little Turtle Country Club)
5400 Little Turtle Way - Westerville
Support businesses of the Northland Area Business Association at this 3rd annual NABA golf tournament. All proceeds from the day’s events will assist NABA in its “Shop Northland First” mission of making Northland a great place to do business and helping your Northland-area business grow. Contact event organizer Chuck Wolfe with all your inquiries. You can call him at 614-337-9620 or email at wolfeassoc@yahoo.com.

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Minerva Park Police

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).

April 2006
Beg balance general fund updated $234,101.09
Revenue collected ................................ 26,954.21
Expenses ........................................ 57,850.90
Ending balance ................................. $203,204.40

May 2006
Beg balance general fund updated $203,204.40
Revenue collected ................................ 49,816.74
Expenses ........................................ 57,613.10
Ending balance ................................. $195,408.04

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Faith Life Family Church
Do You Have a Bat Attitude?
By Mike Sponsler, Minerva Park Resident

So what is your attitude about bats? Do you have a good batitude or a bad batitude? Because of their nighttime activity, vampire movies, scary gargoyle faces of many species, and exaggerated risks of rabies, many people are afraid of bats. So, let’s dispense with the popular myths right away.

- Bats are not blind, nor do they become entangled in human hair.
- Bats seldom transmit disease to other animals or humans.
- Bats are NOT a major transmitter of rabies. According to the Ohio Department of Health, out of hundreds of bats tested each year, rabies are found only in 6 to 25 animals per year, and NO Ohioan has contracted rabies from a bat. However, like all wild animals, bats should not be handled.
- Besides, the largest bat in North America weighs a whopping 2 ounces, so what’s to be afraid of? Even if Ohio bats are not the disease-transmitting, blood-sucking flying vermin of legend and folklore, why should we care about them? Like many other wild animals that we enjoy in Minerva Park, such as birds, raccoons, chipmunks, and of course herds of squirrels, bats are our neighbors, too. As a part of Ohio’s native wildlife, bats play a role equally as important as these other species in our environment.

Value - Bats are very important to the environment, agriculture, science, and in some instances to the economy. In some parts of the world, many plant species depend on bats for their propagation. Like bees and other insects, bats facilitate the pollination and/or seed dispersal of such commercially valuable crops as bananas, avocados, dates, and cashews. All 13 bat species recorded in Ohio eat insects and help reduce insect populations. Bats are also important animals in scientific research, providing insights into hibernation and sonar mechanisms.

Habitat and Habits - Worldwide, bats vary greatly from fruit eating to preying on frogs. The little brown bat is the most common in Ohio, and its habits are typical of the 13 species of insect eating bats in this state. There are two primary types of habitats, reproductive (summer) and hibernation (winter) roosts.

During summer, maternity roosts consist entirely of females with their young (pups), mostly in man-made structures. Some will roost in tree cavities or under peeling bark of dead trees. Some colonies can consist of thousands of individuals. The low reproductive rate of only one pup per year indicates a longer-lived species. Bats up to 30 years of age have been found in the wild. Ohio bats may feed anywhere insects congregate. However, the best time to view bats feeding, is about a half hour after sunset in the summer months, when they pursue insects around water bodies like Minerva Lake or around street lamps where insects also congregate. Ultrasonic sound detectors can be purchased that can enhance your experience by allowing you to hear their echolocation calls.

During winter hibernation, bats roost as individuals or in groups that form loose clusters. Many bats from Ohio migrate to winter in large caves in Kentucky and Tennessee. Some individuals over-winter in Ohio, using small caves, old coal mines, and man-made structures as hibernation spots.

Bat Conservation - Worldwide, more than 1,100 kinds of bats account for almost a quarter of all mammal species. More than 50% of American bat species are in severe decline or already listed as endangered. Losses are occurring at alarming rates worldwide. Bats are exceptionally vulnerable to extinction. Many bat species congregate in large numbers, making them easy to burn, dynamite, or poison. A single act of vandalism can kill millions. They are also the slowest reproducing mammals on earth for their size, most producing only one pup annually.

What can you do to help bats?
1. Install a bat house and watch bats patrol your yard for bothersome insects. It’s best to erect the houses before the bats begin maternity roosting in the spring. The Ohio Division of Wildlife can also assist you with plans for bats houses and other conservation resources.
2. Encourage teachers to include bats in lesson plans about nature.
3. Give bat talks in our community. Have a bat workshop.
4. Teach children the “look but don’t touch” rule for bats and other wild animals.
5. Join Bat Conservation International. BCI has many ways of getting involved including "adopting a bat" to help fund research and conservation, reporting data as a research associate, magazines, t-shirts, bat merchandise, etc.

Bat Conservation International is the leading bat conservation organization in the United States. Its website has comprehensive information on bats, including plans for building bats houses and ways to humanely exclude bats from your personal area.
residence if bats have taken up residence in your attic or other locations. Visit BCI’s impressive website with fantastic bat photos at www.batcon.org. Under “Projects,” click on “Bat House Project” or call (512) 327-9721 to order a Bat House Builder’s Handbook or the Building Homes for Bats video. Ready-made bat houses are also available through the BCI catalog. Bat houses can also be purchased at various area outdoor and specialty bird feeding retailers. However, it is important that you purchase a house certified by BCI. Certified designs have been tested as being useful for bat habitation. You may be wasting your money if you buy one that has not been field tested, because bats need specific ventilation and temperature requirements.

I hope Minerva Park residents can learn to appreciate these mysterious but beneficial creatures that enhance Minerva Park living. Have a positive batitude!

Information for this article was taken from the websites of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife and Bat Conservation International.

Do you have questions about the natural resources in Minerva Park? Submit them to Greg Wittmann and Mike Sponsler, our de facto “resident experts” on all things nature. There are three ways you may submit your questions:
• Mail them to Dianne Poncinie, 2718 Alder Vista Dr., Columbus OH 43231
• Drop them off at the MPCA mailbox inside the front door of the Community Building, addressed to “Editor.”
• E-mail your questions to dponcinie@otterbein.edu. Your questions must be regarding nature, animals, etc., and must include your name and number. Look for your answers in a subsequent Minerva Park Villager (available space permitting).

Crime Tracker 10

Police Chief Bobbie Hillard and Sgt. Adam Beach attended a meeting at the WBNS Channel 10 studios on June 6, with several other local police agencies represented. The meeting was to introduce Crime Tracker 10. A news anchor will report on local crime, then request viewers to call in with any information. Listed on the Channel 10 website was a comparison of the Bexley, New Albany, and Dublin breaking and entering statistics during recent summers. Minerva Park is pleased to be proactive in helping to stop crime.

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Call 899-3755 to join the emailing list to be advised of updates to the website.
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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

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Wednesday, Jun 13, 5:00p

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