

the Villager



The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13 • 2p to 4p • Community Building

We look forward to seeing all MP kids at the annual Children's Christmas Party for crafts, cookie decorating, and a visit from Santa & Mrs. Claus. Special guest performance by Nebo the Clown.

We would appreciate an RSVP to



598-2201 so we can plan for refreshments and supplies, but everyone is welcomed. Volunteers are needed! Contact Lisa Stockdale at 598-2201 if you can help.

Underwritten by your MPCA dues

Parents are encouraged to bring their own cameras for pictures.

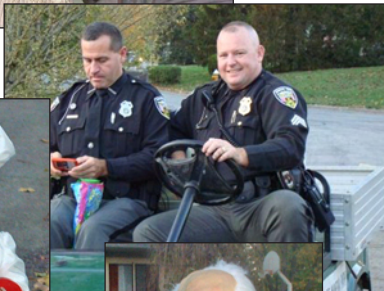


Beggars Night 2008

A strong MP Police presence helped keep Beggars Night safe for young and old.



Appx. 35 children attended the Halloween Party.



MERRY CHRISTMAS COPS FOR KIDS

Please support our Police Dept. by donating new & gently used toys for children of all ages. All toys will go to needy families in the Columbus area.

Donations accepted Mon - Fri, 9:00a to noon
Community Building
Deadline - December 19.

If you have any questions, contact Lt. Rex Waldenmyer at 882-1408.
Thank you for supporting this endeavor.



December 5 Last ...

Leaf Pick-up

DECEMBER DATES

- 4 (7:30p) Planning & Zoning
- 5 Last Leaf Pick-up
- 6 (10a-2p) Shredding
- 6 (8a) Council Work Session
- 8 (7p) Council Meeting
- 9 (4p) Mayor's Court
- 10 (7:30p) MPCA Meeting
- 13 ... Children's Christmas Party
- 15 (7) ... Carriage Rides Deadline
- 17 (5p) Villager Deadline
- 17-27 Festival of Lights
- 19 Cops for Kids Deadline
- 21 (5:30p-8:30p) ... Carriage Rides
- 23 (4p) Mayor's Court

MPCA News



Four Seasons Garden Award

The MinervaFlora Committee is proud to announce this year's winner of the Four Season Garden Award for fall - **Norman and Minda Li**, 2785 Park Lane Drive. Judging took place the weekend of October 25-26. Judges commented that the curb appeal was really nice and had a seasonal theme.

"There were lots of color and plantings with a good variety. The design included numerous artifices, containers for groups of plants at the mailbox, and a large pot at the front. The plantings around and connecting the two large trees in front were impressive. They did a lot of work to create a garden pleasing to the eye in a small space. If not a contemplative place, it is definitely one I would like to walk by repeatedly."

Other gardens included in the judging were Mart (2685 Alder Vista), Thitoff (3071 Minerva Lake Rd.), Beatrice (3201 Minerva Lake Rd.), Rickly (3219 Minerva Lake Rd.), and Blateri (5332 E. Shore Dr.).

The winner receives a Certificate of Recognition and will be listed on a plaque in the Community Building.

Thank You

MinervaFlora Thank You!
Thanks to all who helped with MinervaFlora Fall cleanups. Janet Kohn, Rex Shoemaker, and Steve and Lisa Thitoff. •



Festival of Lights

December 17-27

If you are looking for creativity and artistic expression during the holidays, now is your opportunity to decorate your property and celebrate this beautiful community by making it a winter wonderland. If you won a first place in last year's contest, you are not eligible to win anything this year, but your talents as judges would be greatly appreciated.

If any resident is interested in judging, contact **Bob Gale** at **882-8622**:

- Best Outdoor tree
- Best Entranceway
- Best Religious Theme
- Best Whimsical Display
- Best Outline Effect

Underwritten
by your
MPCA dues

The judges look for well placed, well thought-out decorations and enjoy having the decorations compliment the property. Be imaginative, creative, and have fun!

Winners will receive gift certificates from a local hardware store or nursery. Look for results of this year's contest in the January or February Villager. •

2009 Council Meetings

Residents are encouraged to attend Council meetings (second Monday of the month, starting at 7p) to stay informed about issues. Tack up the 2009 MP calendar (page 9) so you don't miss these and other important dates ...

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| January 12 | July 13* |
| February 9 | August 10 |
| March 9 | September 14 |
| April 13 | October 12 |
| May 11 | November 9 |
| June 8 | December 14 |

*2010 budget meeting

Columbus Dispatch, June 12, 2006 - Central Ohio's best-policed community, Minerva Park, touts its independent police force as a major selling point for families. Less than a square mile in size in northeastern Columbus between Cleveland Avenue and Westerville Road, the village of 1,200 is patrolled by six full-time officers.

Joshua's

Mowing & Trimming

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL

joshuasmowingtrimming@yahoo.com



RESIDENT

890-5316

890-5316 fax



- Lawn Care
- Landscaping
- Leaf Clean-up
- Snow Removal

MAYOR'S REPORT

Lynn Eisentrout



I would like to thank Hawthorne Elementary School Principal Fred Tombough for allowing the Voices of Hawthorne choir to present a brief program before the November Council meeting. Nineteen members led our Pledge of Allegiance and sang three selections under the leadership of Program Director Kimberly Spencer. A small reception followed where the parents, children, residents, Council members, and Village officials socialized before the meeting was called to order.

Senior Wellness Clinic: I have received word from the Franklin County Board of Health that, because of increased demands in the childhood immunization clinics, investigations of large numbers of communicable disease outbreaks, and budget constraints, our monthly clinic will be discontinued. As you may recall, these clinics have been held the second Tuesday of every month from 9a to noon at the Community Building. The last clinic will be held on December 9 at the usual time.

Congratulations to Sgt. Adam Beach and wife Michelle on the arrival of their daughter Isabella McKenzie.

Income Tax: In an effort to

collect delinquent income taxes, we held our first Subpoena Program with the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) on October 28 at our Community Building from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ... 199 subpoenas were mailed (at an administrative cost of \$8 per subpoena), which indicates that nearly one-third of our residents have not paid their income taxes for 2005, 2006, or 2007 or, in some cases, for all three years. Two RITA auditors were present to meet with the approximately 77 residents who appeared to review their taxes, to make payments, and to set up payment plans. We appreciate the efforts of those who are taking steps to rectify delinquent tax situations. These tax contributions are a very important part of the General Fund and are used to pay for Police, Fire/EMS, leaf collection, and trash hauling services, to name a few. We are waiting for a final summary report from RITA to evaluate what further steps need to be taken to collect the remaining delinquent taxes, such as a Summons Day into Mayor's Court. I took the day to be available in my office to speak to residents who had any questions or concerns about their taxes. I was surprised to find that some residents were unaware that we had an income tax or thought that the tax applied only to Village employees. I was asked to put something in my Mayor's Report about our income tax—our income tax is a 1% tax with a 50% credit for taxes paid to another authority on all earned income. If you or your HR department staff have any questions, please feel free to contact our RITA reps at 1-800-860-7482 or Clerk-Treasurer Suzanne

Coulter or me at 882-5743.

FEMA

Update: As I reported to you last month, we submitted a request for reimbursement of clean-up efforts (\$12,500) on Village property from the windstorm to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Ohio qualifies for federal funding for the reimbursement only to public entities for clean-up efforts. Our Clerk-Treasurer attended another FEMA-sponsored meeting in my stead on November 6 to begin the process and to collect the necessary forms. I then met with the Federal FEMA agent assigned to us on November 21 to review our application and scheduled a final meeting for November 24 for the Clerk-Treasurer and me to complete the application. We hope to amend our total requested reimbursement amount to include the costs of some clean-up of fallen trees in the ravine areas in an ongoing effort in flood and erosion control. As always, we will keep you informed.

2009 Street Project: Our application, along with other municipalities' applications, were being reviewed and scored by MORPC by mid-November with a work session scheduled for

MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

M – 8a-1p and 4p-6p

Tu – 4p-6p

W, F – 8a-noon

Th – 6p-8p

Sat, December 6 – 10a-noon

Shredding Day Saturday, Dec 6 • 10a to 2p Columbus Square

Bring personal papers, computer disks, and other materials containing confidential information to be shredded at no charge. And bring three nonperishable food items to donate to the Mid-Ohio Foodbank.

November 21 to determine the preliminary rankings. We hope to hear by the end of November if we qualify in the first round or if we will be kicked over to the Small Government Division for further consideration.

The following reports were made:

EMS/Fire: Chief Rick Hoehstetter reviewed his monthly report. All hydrants have been winterized.

Police: Chief Bob Hillard reviewed his monthly report. Beggars' Night was uneventful, the new cruiser should be delivered mid-November, our Police Department has received another DUI Task Force Award, and the grant application for three new Mobile Data Computers has been submitted.

Law Director: Kerry Boyle reported that the heir search for lake property quitclaim deed is going well. Orders from the EPA are straightforward and will need to be addressed through legislation next month.

Planning & Zoning and Code Enforcement: Dick Busick reported that there was no Planning & Zoning meeting in November. An Alder Vista resident has been cited numerous times for uncut grass and has been cited into Mayor's Court; a Wildwood resident has been notified about an unkempt yard and hanging limb.

Minerva Park Community Association: MPCA Vice President Lisa Craddock-Thitoff reported that new signs to advertise upcoming events have been ordered; membership is at about 71%; more street reps are needed; and the Li's at 2785 Park Lane Drive are the recipients of the Fall Garden Award.

Northland Community Association: Don Champney reported that he has supplied a

copy of the report from participants in the Neighborhood Network Conference; crime in the Northland area was discussed once again at the monthly meeting; the Annual Presidents' Award Banquet will be held in February, the location to be determined.

The following committee reports were made:

Community: Nothing to report at this time.

Finance: Councilwoman Sharon Bierman received approval of the October expenses totaling \$97,045.48, the bank reconciliation ending October 30 for \$576,163.39, and for the October financials.

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

Resolution 2008-22 - Tabled.

Resolution 2008-23 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract with Richard Busick for the services of the Village Code Enforcement Officer for the year 2009. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-24 -

Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to move funds from the General Fund, EMS Capital Area, into the EMS Vehicle Fund. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-25 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract with Franklin County Public Defenders Commission for legal services. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-26 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract for health insurance for full-time employees and the Mayor. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-27 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract with Integrated Support

Services for the year ending December 31, 2009. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-28 - Providing for the services of a Law Director during 2009. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-29 - Tabled.

Resolution 2008-30 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract with the District Advisory Council of the Franklin County General Health District to provide for plumbing inspections. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-31 - Tabled.

Resolution 2008-33 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into an agreement for the services of a Village Engineer. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2008-35 - Tabled.

Resolution 2008-37 - Permitting

a temporary appropriation budget and other expenditures of the Village. First reading accepted.

Safety: Councilman Todd Walter had nothing to report.

Service: Councilman Kent Stanley discussed Tree City USA requirements. He had sent a water sample from the north lake for testing; the results were negative (algae concentrations were not high enough to worry about at this time but might be higher in the warmer weather).

Streets: Councilman Jeff Rigg nothing to report at this time.

New Business: Councilman Stanley had attended a MORPC meeting that discussed the Toledo/Ohio River Canal for transportation of barges, light rail-streetcar (60% of people surveyed were ready for light rail in Ohio), and bike paths at the 270/23 exchange.

A company has been found to move the giant slide from the Oakstone Academy to the pool. Council approved an amount not to exceed \$4,000 for the initial move. •

Water Pollution Ravages Minerva Park Tributaries - Is it you?

By Resident Naturalist Greg Wittmann

I'll save you the effort. The answer is probably yes. We all contribute to polluting our creeks, rivers, and streams just by living. Leaves piled up in our yards and streets and roof gutters clogging our storm drains cause many problems within the drains, creeks, and tributaries. When creeks fill up with leaves and decompose, silt is created, directly affecting dissolved oxygen levels in the water. Silt, the #1 cause of water pollution, might best be described as very fine powdery soil and clay particles that make the water look very brown. It can clog the gills of many macro-invertebrates, leaving the stream ecosystem barren and often void of this very intricate layer of the food chain.

Macro-invertebrates are animals without a backbone that we can see without the aid of a microscope or hand lens. These include crayfish; freshwater clams and mussels; various insect larvae such as caddis fly, hellgrammites, stone fly, damsel and dragon fly nymphs, and many more. All of these organisms determine the quality of life in our streams. One important job for them is to shred the detritus or leaf layer at the bottom of the lake, stream, or pond they live in. Most of these critters do not tolerate much water pollution and are used as indicators to determine how healthy a stream is. This is called stream quality monitoring - SQM.

I am sad to report that one stream quality monitoring I performed on our creek last summer revealed a poor quality stream in need of much less silt and much more dissolved oxygen.

This was determined solely by the type of organisms present in the stream. Species diversity is the key to recovering the quality of an injured habitat. The more variety we have in the organisms present in our ecosystem, the more viable it will become.

How can you make a more positive impact on the quality of water in your neighborhood stream?

- Control the amount of water leaving your property by allowing some of the downspouts from your roof to spill water on top of the ground instead of allowing the water to flow directly into the street via your underground drain tile in your yard. This allows the ground to absorb more water, which actually helps to filter it before it goes to our creeks. I can do this only to a few of my downspouts without flooding my basement.
- Use less fertilizer, pesticides, salt, oil, and detergent, such as bleach, on the outside of your house.
- Compost can be used instead of fertilizer and pesticides. Organic fertilizer is a good alternative to both traditional fertilizers and also salt for our sidewalks in the winter. Organic fertilizer can melt ice fairly well and is less toxic to our streams than salt is.
- Biodegradable soaps can be used to wash the outside of your house and cars. Washing your car in the grass helps prevent too much detergent from getting into our streams because the grass filters out the bad stuff so well. Detergent also can act as fertilizer to your lawn when used in proper amounts. You'd be

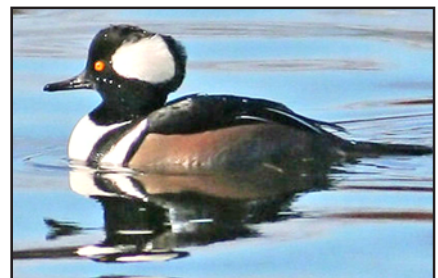
amazed how green it can leave your lawn.

- Rain barrels are an extremely "green" way to both conserve water while at the same time preventing too much water from entering our tributaries. Rain gardens also are very effective and can add to the aesthetic value of your property.
- Last and certainly not least, play in the streams and creeks with your children and grandchildren or borrow someone's kids if you don't have any. Looking for bugs, frogs, salamanders, toads, and macro-invertebrates helps to create life-long nature lovers and directly teaches kids responsibility for the earth.

Taking time to be intentional about the way we live has profound impact on our earth and our peace of mind. Little by little, each action we take to better our earth makes a difference for generations to come.

For more information on storm water management, you may visit the web to find The National Wildlife Federations backyard Wildlife Habitat program and FLOW - Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed. •

MPCA Vice President Lisa Craddock-Thitoff reported seeing a flock of bufflehead ducks and a flock of hooded mergansers, like the one below, at our lakes.



Medic 119 ...

Where are you?

October 2008

In October, Medic 119 made 27 runs - 7 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 3 into Minerva Park; 15 patients were transported to hospitals.

24 members volunteered a total of 528.8 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 4,468.9.

Leading volunteers for the month were **Brian Bates** (74.5 hours), **Brian Horton** (56.5 hours), and **Caleb Stelzer** (42 hours).

MP Runs

- 10-5 Possible stroke
- 10-8 Chest pains
- 10-23 ... Ill person

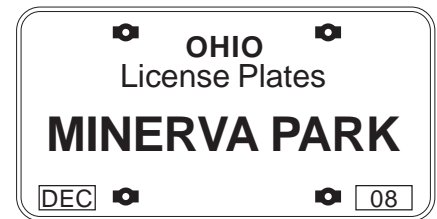
Storm Drains



Please be MP neighborly and help keep the storm drains cleared of debris. After all, a wet basement is something we all can relate to!

Vehicle License Plates

When getting or renewing your license plates, remember to say you live in Minerva Park. When you do, some of that motor vehicle money comes back to the village, and it may save you money!



2580 Jordan Road

We want to welcome you to FAITH LIFE FAMILY CHURCH. We are a church where God is training His people to live successfully in Him. FAITH LIFE FAMILY CHURCH is a place where you can come, no matter your situation, and meet a God who will elevate you to a higher level of living. You will hear the word of God taught with an opportunity for practical application in your everyday life. You will meet a God who says nothing is impossible for them that believe!

Nursery • Children's Services
Youth Services

Sunday 10:30a
Wednesday 7:00p

Prayer Service
Friday 7:00p

Living the Life Christ Created for Us to Live

898-7688

Pastor Dan & Kim Cascioli

Faith Life Family Church



Gena Latimer

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Villagers

Welcome
Our New
Neighbors!

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by your
MPCA dues

**Michelle, Brian, Mackenzie,
Brian, Jr., Destiny Minor,
and Jada Ramsey, 5291
Elmhurst Ave., 259-3532, from
south of MP and east of
Westerville Rd.**

**Suzette Henderson, Jeff
Thomas, Fiona Thomas, 5275
Elmhurst Ave., 523-1186, from
Westerville**

If you learn of any new residents,
please advise the
Newcomers Committee
John Rue, 899-1360
Steve & Lisa Thitoff - 891-2166
Gretchen Persohn - 898-0903
Glenda Morris - 882-2359



Minerva Park Police

- October** - MP Police made 7
misdemeanor arrests; 6 were
transported to Franklin County jail.
- 10-10. noon, known individual used
a stolen check to pay a
traffic fine in MP Mayor's
Court
 - 10-12. 11:45a, 2600 blk Maplewood
Dr., dog bite
 - 10-13. 11:13a, 2600 blk Minerva
Lake Road, menacing,
criminal damaging
 - 10-17. 8p, 2800 blk Lakewood Dr.,
assault
 - 10-24. Westerville Auto Group, 5309
Westerville Rd., report of
fraud and forgery
 - 10-28. 2:19p, Excell Health
Services, 2505 Woodley Rd.,
false alarm



Mayor's Court

Mayor's Court is open to the
public — our next sessions are
December 9 & 23 - 4:00p.

If you have any questions,
please call Charline Garrabrant,
Clerk of Courts, at 882-5743
(Community Building).

October 2008

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Complete payments - 24 | |
| Village Computer Fund | \$ 120 |
| Village General Fund | 2,903 |
| Remitted to the State | 510 |
| Total Court Receipts | \$3,533 |

TIM the HANDYMAN 481-2800

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& Maintenance
Plumbing & Electrical
Ceiling Fans • Water Heaters
Clean Gutters
Garage Door Openers
You Buy It - I Install It!
Handy, top to bottom,
inside or outside



\$ 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 2008

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Beg balance general fund | \$511,403.39 |
| Revenue collected | 40,495.82 |
| Expenses | (97,045.48) |
| Ending balance | \$454,853.73 |

Yoga Well Being

at the
MP Community Building
with Sipra Pimputkar
266-1096

Mondays (except the
2nd Monday) at 6:45p



www.yoga-well-being.com

Red Cross Certified BABYSITTER

Know emergency & poison control numbers,
how to mend injuries, CPR on children &
infants, what to do when for choking.

Taylor Fickes

794-1256 or 948-2298 home
746-9121 cell
taylor.rene.babysitting@gmail.com



Deadline 5:00 Wednesday, December 17, 2008

| January 2009 | | | | | | |
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| February 2009 | | | | | | |
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| July 2009 | | | | | | |
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| August 2009 | | | | | | |
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| September 2009 | | | | | | |
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| October 2009 | | | | | | |
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| November 2009 | | | | | | |
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| December 2009 | | | | | | |
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| Legend for the Calendar | |
|---|---|
|  | 7:30p - MPCA meeting (Wed after 2nd Mon) |
|  | 8:00p - Village Council meeting (2nd Mon) |
|  | 7:30p - Zoning & Planning (1st Thu) |
|  | 8:00a - Council working sessions |
|  | Trash Pickup because of holiday |
|  | Villager Deadline - 5:00p |
|  | Villager Delivery - weekend of 1st Monday |
| Residents are invited & encouraged to attend both MPCA meetings & Village Council meetings. | |

*Budget meeting

| Event Schedule - Don't Miss Publication Deadlines! | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| Feb | NCC annual meeting | Jul | Founders Day |
| Mar | Easter egg hunt | Aug | MPCA membership drive |
| Apr | Spring lake clean-up | Sep | MPCA business meeting |
| May | Primary election | Oct | Halloween party |
| May | Hydrant flushing | Oct | Fall lake clean-up |
| May | MPCA garage sale | Oct | Candidates Night |
| Jul | Garden tour | Nov | General election |
| Jul | Fire Dept. garden splash | Dec | Children's Christmas party |
| Jul | Village budget | Dec | Carriage Rides |
| | | Jul | Founders Day |

Please advise updates & corrections to Sharon Bierman 899-3755

Minerva Park the Villager

Minerva Park Community Association
2829 Minerva Lake Road
Columbus OH 43231

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U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 393
Westerville, Ohio

Dated material.
Deliver by Dec 1.

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RESIDENT

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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:
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Next deadline:
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