The last of this season’s Summer Music Series concerts will be on Sunday, August 14, from 5p-6:30p, at the lakeside bandstand (next to the Community Building). The concert will feature the High Street Stompers Dixieland Band from Columbus.

The 6-piece band was formed in 1987, when all the original members were professors at The Ohio State University School of Music. Today, the band consists of all professional musicians who play and sing toe-tapping Dixieland music. Read more about these distinguished performers at http://www.hightstreetstompers.com/.

Admission is free, but donations will be accepted. Food & drink will be available for purchase. It is recommended that you walk or ride your bike because parking is limited. Transportation is available for MP seniors and handicapped residents. Those needing transportation should call Sid Townsend (890-2427) by Thursday, August 11, to arrange a ride.

Bring your lawn chair or blanket for an afternoon of exciting music by the High Street Stompers. Our thanks to the dues-paying members of the Minerva Park Community Association (MPCA) for underwriting this concert. •
MPCA News

From Your MPCA President

In July, the MPCA sponsored and hosted 2 events that were large undertakings - the second of three summer concerts and the annual Founders Day celebration. I would like to thank everyone who helped make both of these events possible, from those organizing them, to the people who helped tear down and clean up the maze at the pool after Founders Day. These events would not be possible without your help, and it certainly lightens the load for others who are working the events, too.

I encourage those who are not involved to try it at one of our upcoming events. For August we have planned the garage sale, the 3rd summer concert, and a wine and cheese night at the pool. Also in September the MPCA will hold elections for officers going into 2012. If you are interested in holding an officer position, please contact me by September 12 at 891-2166.

Have a great summer!
Lisa Craddock Thitoff

MPCA Annual Meeting & Election of Officers

September 14 • 7:30p
Community Building

Nominations are being accepted for the positions of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Contact Lisa Craddock Thitoff (891-2166) with your nominations by September 12.

Community Service

Saturday, August 27, 8a-10a

Ever wonder how you can give back to the Village?

We need YOUR help.

Please join the Community Committee to help with various small projects around the Village. Consider giving a couple of hours of your time to help clean up around the Community Building, playground, and lakes. A light breakfast and coffee will be served to volunteers. Bring rakes, clippers, gloves, etc., and be sure to wear appropriate attire.

Matt Danzuso - 256-9033
While I know I am stating the obvious, it is certainly has been a hot summer. I hope everyone’s air conditioning is working well and you are all staying cool and safe.

Pool: One benefit of the warmer weather is that we are having a good pool season. We have 244 paying members and our revenues (as of June 30) are at $60,000.

Playground: We believe that the climbing toy has been vandalized recently. It has been repaired. Community Committee Chairman Matthew Danzuso and I will evaluate the playground equipment’s overall condition.

Geese: Some of our residents living around the lakes are experiencing property damage from the geese. Resident Alice Paugh, in particular, has suffered the most damage - to her lawn, flower beds, and roof. She has done some research with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources about controlling the geese population and has spoken to me about implementing a program. Watch for information about this next month.

AEP Alarm: After months of this alarm going off at all hours, I have been told that it has been turned off. As reported to you earlier, the alarm was going off so frequently because of numerous attempted break-ins at their Westerville Road facility, much to the annoyance of Minerva Lake Road residents. AEP has instituted other safety measures in place of the alarm.

Meetings: I attended the summer meeting of the Regional Income Tax Agency’s Council of Governments on June 17. It was reported that collections for 2010 for Minerva Park totaled $289,827. Per our Regional Council of Government Participation Agreement, the allocation of 2010 costs for income tax collections has been computed to be 3.85%, meaning that for every $100 of taxes collected by RITA for Minerva Park, only $3.85 went to administrative costs of collection, registrations, auditing, compliance, record retention, etc., costing us $11,148 and leaving a balance of $278,679 going into MP’s General Fund. There was some talk among the members of difficulty navigating the website and about poor to mediocre customer service. The Board, the Executive Director, and the staff have pledged improvement. If any residents or any of your employers’ Human Resource departments are having any difficulty, please let me know. I was also reelected Secretary of the Council of Governments.

I attended the Mayor’s Association of Ohio Conference June 22-24 in Lancaster. Three topics of special interest were Property Maintenance Codes & other housing issues, Social Networking & the Law with additional discussion of public records requests, and Senate Bill 5 and the budget. I found that most other municipalities and their mayors and councils are finding the same challenges that we are in these challenging economic times, especially abandoned and foreclosed homes and property maintenance. Along with Whitehall’s Mayor John Wolf, I was reelected to represent Division 16 (Fayette, Franklin, Madison, and Pickaway Counties).

Street Repairs: The pothole repairs and crack-sealing are completed. There were some problems on Park Lane Drive that our contractor has agreed to remediate at no charge.

Residents are invited ...

**Coffee with Council**

Monday, August 22
7:00p Community Building
to have “Coffee with Council.”

This is your opportunity to meet with your Council Members and discuss Village issues.

Veterans Memorial:

Wildwood Road resident Harry Toy continues to coordinate this project. He has asked to schedule a benefit concert on Sunday, Sep 11, 4p to 5:30p at the Community Building. Donations will be accepted. The band that Harry has asked to play will perform a variety of music, from patriotic to country. This band is playing at no cost to the Village, and we hope to receive some generous donations for this most worthy project. The Minerva Park Community Association will be selling refreshments at this event.
All Council members except President Pam Park-Curry (excused) were present for the regular Council meeting held July 11. The following reports were made:

**Police:** Chief Kim Nuesse reported that all of our officers have completed their CPR training (thank you, Fire Department Training Lt. Tony Williams). She recently has coordinated investigations with Blendon Township. The vehicle and IT agreement to share services with the City of Gahanna is going well. Corporal Matthew Fenstermaker has been accepted into supervisor training scheduled for this fall. The new records management system report includes one month of data. This data is broken down by location quadrants, helping track crime and use of patrol resources wisely. The Village is one of three communities chosen statewide to test a new citation module, and free equipment will be given to the department for its feedback regarding the new module. The property room module and the records management system have been implemented, making it easier for the officers to track evidence. She is working with the Columbus Police Department to have a radio channel that will allow direct communication instead of going through two police dispatchers. Corporal Matthew Fenstermaker and Officers Jim Boyer and Barry Harp were recognized at this Council meeting for their commendable actions on June 29 when they responded to a potentially dangerous situation. Chief Nuesse also responded to Councilman Roberto Segovia’s question about a police officer not stopping at the stop sign at the intersection of Farview Drive and Minerva Lake Road (Chief Nuesse’s “On the Beat” report, page 7).

**EMS/Fire:** Chief Rick Hoechstetter reported that the department computer was down and he would get the monthly report distributed as soon as possible. The Policies and Procedures Manual is in its third draft and continues to be a work in progress.

**Legal:** With Chief Nuesse, Law Director Jennifer Croghan attended OHLEG training for the records management system that will assist Ms. Croghan as Mayor’s Court Prosecutor.

**Planning & Zoning and Code Enforcement:** Code Enforcement Officer Dave Hays wrote his first citation to a homeowner for brush, weeds, and lack of property maintenance. He is dealing with a number of residents with tall grass, plants, and weeds. He is having some success finding the companies responsible for the maintenance of vacant properties and having them address the maintenance issues, as opposed to the Village incurring those costs by doing the work and putting the costs on the tax duplicate. He is assisting the Legislative Committee with some code-related legislation. The Planning & Zoning Commission approved permits for a fence and a deck at its July 7 meeting.

**Minerva Park Community Association:** MPCA President Lisa Craddock Thitoff reported that the Garden Award was given to John & Cindy Disssinger at 2755 Jordan Road. The runners-up were Keith McKenzie and Mary Ann Smith of 3263 Minerva Lake Road and April and Reno Volpe of 2832 Wildwood Road. Approximately 150 people attended Family Fun Night held at the pool June 25. The 2011 Membership Drive begins in August. Currently 379 households have paid their membership dues. The second concert in the Summer Music Series was held on July 17, and the next concert is scheduled for August 14. The Annual Garage Sale will be held on August 13 from 9a to 4p, followed by the Wine & Cheese event at the pool from 9p to midnight. A popcorn machine was purchased (thank you, Dave Way). Funds have been approved for landscaping the entrances, and planting hopefully will begin in the fall. An art show is being considered for August. The Community Garden is doing well this year, and the Green Team is looking for speakers to address their members at their monthly meetings.

**Northland Community Council:** Lisa Craddock Thitoff reported for Bob Gale. City of Columbus Code Enforcement Officer Andy Boughman spoke about code issues facing the
Northland area. Interim Forester Jim Gates spoke about the Emerald Ash Borer. Approximately 12,000 trees will need to be removed in Columbus. The NCC needs a membership chair to help with a strategic plan and revision of the Northland Plan. The monthly will be a picnic at the Sycamore Shelter at Sharon Woods on August 9, and the Golf Outing will be on August 8.

The following committee reports were made:

Community: Councilman Matthew Danzuso reported that he has scheduled a committee meeting on August 15 at 7p at the Community Building, and he hopes to have a Community Service Day on August 27.

Finance: Councilwoman Sharon Bierman reported for Finance Chair Council President Pam Park-Curry. The May Financials, totaling $87,606.44, were approved.

Legislative: Councilwoman Sharon Bierman asked the Council to consider the following legislation (minervapark.org/legislation/):

Resolution 2011-16 - Affirming Chief Nuesse’s final appointment after 6-month probationary period. Third reading accepted; passed (ayes were Bierman, Danzuso, Stanley, Walter; abstains were Segovia).

Resolution 2011-17 - Adopting a job description and initial pay range for Fiscal Officer. Third reading accepted; passed (ayes were Bierman, Danzuso, Stanley, Walter; abstains were Segovia).

Safety: Councilman Todd Walter reported that he is working on the 6-month vehicle report.

Service: Councilman Roberto Segovia has submitted the necessary documentation for the leaf collection contract to be posted on the website for the Village to accept proposals for a 1-year 2011 contract.

Streets: Councilman Kent Stanley reported that the pothole repairs and crack-sealing repairs are underway, but there are a few additional potholes that will need to be included, along with some sewer covers that will need some attention in the future.

Old Business: Chief Hoechstetter added to his initial report that the vehicle’s EMS Mobile Data Console did not survive the latest upgrade from the Columbus Fire Department. A solution would be to upgrade the hardware at an approximate cost of $3,000.

New Business: None.

Addendum: There was a special Council Meeting on June 20, at which the following legislation was addressed:

Resolution 2011-16 - 2nd reading approved (ayes were Bierman, Danzuso, Park-Curry, Stanley, Walter; abstains were Segovia).

Resolution 2011-17 - 2nd reading approved (ayes were Bierman, Danzuso, Park-Curry, Stanley, Walter; abstains were Segovia).

MPCA Membership Drive & Resident Directory

August through mid-September

Your Street Rep will be contacting you for the annual $20 MPCA membership dues. For that, you will receive a copy of the Minerva Park Resident Directory with area phone numbers and contact information, be eligible to attend MPCA members-only events, and help support a wide variety of social events throughout the year – events that desperately need your underwriting … Christmas Carriage Rides, Gardens Tours, Community Service Days, Founders Day, the children’s Easter Egg Hunt, Festival of Lights, Pool Family Fun Night, Christmas Party, Duck Award, Halloween Party, Wine & Cheese Evenings, Scholarship, Newcomers & Sunshine Committees, Publicity, Meet the Candidates, etc. Please help support your Community Association!
Organic Lawn Care

The Green Team met recently to discuss options for organic lawn care. Most common lawn care treatments are petroleum-based chemicals that can be harmful to children and pets. The run-off into creeks, streams, and even MP’s own lakes can spread the damage even further.

Organic alternatives focused on ease of use. An alternative for "weed and feed" can be Espoma’s Organic Weed Preventer Plus Lawn Food (available at Oakland Nursery). According to the company’s website, this product is "made from corn gluten meal, an all natural by-product from the manufacturing of cornstarch. Children and pets safely can play on the lawn after application." Because it is a weed preventer and not a weed killer, it should be applied the last week of March and then again in the early fall.

In late spring and late fall, an application of Espoma’s Organic Lawn Food 7-2-2 (also available at Oakland Nursery) is recommended for continual feeding. It is "specially formulated from all natural ingredients and enhanced with Bio-tone, a proprietary blend of beneficial microbes that help promote faster greening, deeper roots, and better soil structure."

Remember that the greenest, strongest, most weed-free, and most drought-resistant lawn is a result of deep root structure and density of turf grass. A strong lawn chokes out weeds, rather than relying on harmful chemicals to kill them.

Another tip for a healthy, green lawn is mowing at a height of 3". This helps the lawn hold in moisture during periods of lower rainfall, and the longer blades allow for more photosynthesis, creating a stronger, thicker, and denser turf with a stronger and deeper root system (all of which help to choke out weed growth).

Finally, if you’ve ever thought about ditching that noisy, smelly, gas-guzzling lawnmower for a green alternative, check out the Fiskars Momentum Reel Mower (www.ecomowers.com). Watch the demonstration videos and you might be pleasantly surprised to find out this updated model is nothing like the manual mowers of the past.

We encourage you to investigate organic alternatives to meet the needs of your individual lawns and gardens. You may be surprised that it’s often easier to "go green" than you may have thought!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Aug 16, at 7:30p in the Community Building.
Minerva Park
Police
June
Police made 1 felony and 5 misdemeanor arrests; all were transported to the Franklin County jail.
6-1 .... 9:40a, AOS Investment Company, 2505 Woodley, breaking & entering reported.
6-2 .... 6p, Yasmin Market, 5438 Cleveland Ave, assault.
6-8 .... 11:02a, Hawthorne Elementary, 5001 Farview Rd, dog complaint.
6-10 .. 5:04p, 2500 blk Wildwood Dr, criminal mischief reported.
6-12 .. 7:15p, 5100 blk Westerville Rd, theft reported.
6-13 .. 1:30p, 5000 blk Maplewood Dr, theft.
6-21 .. 7:27a, 5300 blk Ponderosa, criminal mischief.
6-22 .. 5:38p, 3000 blk Carleton Ct, criminal damaging reported.
6-22 .. 6:02p, 3000 blk Carleton Ct, criminal damaging reported.
6-27 .. 4:32p, Minerva Park Pool, 3032 Minerva Lake Rd, assault.
6-29 .. 6p, 2900 blk Berry Lane Ct, attempted suicide.
6-30 .. 3p, 2600 blk Wildwood Rd, theft.

By Police Chief Kim Nuesse

Recognition
At the July 11 Village council meeting, three Minerva Park Police Department officers received commendations for their recent response to a dangerous situation. Cpl. Jim Boyers, Cpl. Matt Fenstermaker, and Officer Barry Harp were dispatched on June 29 to a report of a man with a gun threatening to harm himself and a family member. These officers courageously engaged the distraught male and were able to successfully negotiate with him to come out of his residence without harming anyone else, including the officers on scene. Unfortunately, he shot himself, causing serious injuries that required immediate lifesaving aid from these officers.

The excellent teamwork of these men and their dedication to their oath of office as peace officers for the Village were recognized at the Council meeting. I am proud to have these well trained officers on the department. Their actions should give our community confidence and peace of mind that we have policemen of this quality watching out for them.

Donations
I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to Village residents Jenna and Greg McDevitt for their generous donation of a mini-refrigerator to our Police Department evidence room.

In addition, a special thank you goes out to Jill McIntyre, JoAnn Steigerwald, Charles Legg, Dick Busick, and Karen Cogley for their willingness to volunteer to start a neighborhood block watch on their streets. Stay tuned for future meeting dates, times, and locations. If you would like to volunteer to host a meeting on your street or form a block watch, please contact me at 882-1408. This is a wonderful way to meet and get to know your neighbors.

Grants
Minerva Park Police have received new scheduling software and training at no cost to the Village, funded by grants. Our department also has been selected as one of three agencies statewide by the Ohio Attorney General’s Office to be a test site for issuing new computer-generated traffic citations. We are excited to be a part of this new project.

Personnel Changes
We have recently had a few officers leave our department for various reasons. One officer resigned for personal reasons and another resigned to pursue employment with a police agency closer to where he and his family live. Unfortunately, we have had to terminate employment with an officer for serious violations of our police department policies, as his conduct was unacceptable. He was dismissed for using department computers to download and view pornography and visit dating sites & job sites while on duty, then falsifying his activity log sheet. As a result of these vacancies, we are currently in the process of hiring more officers.

Storm Drains
Please be MP neighborly and keep the storm drains in front of your home cleared of debris.
Resident in “Bye, Bye, Birdie”

Elisabeth Zimmerman, a junior Performance Studies major at Bob Jones University in South Carolina, granddaughter of Green Team member JoAnn Ensminger and daughter of Ruth Zimmerman, Friends-and-Stitches, 2525 Lakewood, performs the supporting role of Margie, in addition to the chorus, in the 1950’s musical, “Bye, Bye, Birdie.”

Comedy ensues when Conrad Birdie, an Elvis-type star, ventures to Sweet Apple OH to give one last kiss to a lucky teenage girl before he goes into the army. With songs like “Put On A Happy Face,” “Kids,” and “Telephone Hour,” this family-friendly musical shouldn’t be missed!

The 4 evening and 1 matinee performances, sponsored by the Worthington Community Theatre, will be on July 29-30 and August 5-7 at the McConnell Arts Center, 777 Evening Street, Worthington. Visit http://www.mcconnellarts.org/wp/archives/5620 or call 431-0329 for tickets. $15 adults, $12 seniors & students.

Discount

The Community Association has arranged for a 15% discount at Kurtz Brothers landscaping supply (6055C Westerville Road) on everything except their bagged merchandise. This includes mulch, soil, aggregates, plants, and more.

To get the discount, mention that you are a Minerva Park resident before the transaction begins. For more information ... 882-0200 or kurtz-bros.com.

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Enclosed is my check for $5, payable to “Minerva Park Community Association,” for participation in the MPCA 2011 annual garage sale FUNDRAISER. Additionally, I will submit 10% of my proceeds.

Registration
MPCA Garage Sale FUNDRAISER - August 13, 2011

Name

Address

Phone

It’s time to clean out your closets and start digging through your basement and garage in preparation for the annual Minerva Park Community Association Garage Sale on Saturday, August 13. This event always attracts a large number of buyers, so don’t miss out!

As in the past, the $5 registration fee covers the cost of prominent advertising in local newspapers, balloons to mark your mailbox, and maps for distribution. There is also a $5 late registration fee, so please be prompt.

This is one of the MPCA’s biggest annual fundraisers, so please do not cheat your community of improvements and event money by having an unregistered sale the same day. The Community Association funds several projects to enhance the village, and we need your help. We will be watching for unregistered sales and will ask you for your fair contribution. Those folks who have unregistered sales and do not pay their 10% contribution will not be eligible to participate in the 2012 garage sale.

To register, send the attached form and a check for $5 payable to “Minerva Park Community Association” to 2718 Alder Vista.

Registration packets will be distributed this year on August 12 after 4:00p. Late registrations can be made that evening, but you will not be on the map. Volunteers will be coming personally to collect your 10% proceeds between 3:30 and 4:00 the day of the sale, as opposed to your mailing your proceeds to us.

As always, we need volunteers to help make this sale a success. Please contact Dianne Poncinie at 882-0012 if you can help with packet creation and distribution, advertising, or collecting money.

MPCA Garage Sale FUNDRAISER
Saturday, August 13
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Registration deadline: August 10, 7:00p
Cost: $5 plus 10% of your proceeds
$5 Late Registration Fee after August 10 (you will not be on the map)

NO unauthorized sales
NO food or drink sales

This is also a fundraiser for our own Emergency Squad. Please direct people to the Community Building throughout the day to purchase hot dogs, hamburgers, and baked goods. No food or drink sales at residences, please.

Return to Dianne Poncinie
2718 Alder Vista
882-0012
Mayor’s Court

Mayor’s Court is open to the public — our next sessions are August 2, 16, & 30 at 5p. If you have questions, please call 882-1408 (Community Building).

June 2011
Citation payments ................. 50
Village General Fund ........ $3,073
Computer Fund ...................... $80
Remitted to the State ............ $874
Total Court Receipts .......... $4,158

No Grass Clippings

Please do not contribute to clogging our storm sewers ... either sweep grass clippings from the street and dispose of them properly or scatter them about your own yard so they return nutrients to your lawn.

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June 2011

In June, Medic 119 made 38 runs - 5 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 4 into Minerva Park, with 40 patients transported to local hospitals.

26 members volunteered a total of 704.5 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 3,709.6 hours. Leading volunteers for the month were Tony Williams (101 hours), Tim Lockard (51 hours), and Norm Jones (46.8 hours).

MP Runs
6-5 ...... Injured Person
6-5 ...... Unconscious Person
6-18 .... Ill Person
6-19 .... Difficulty Breathing

June 2011

Beg balance general fund ........... $395,914.29
Revenue collected ......................... 67,157.71
Expenses ................................... (149,311.05)
Ending balance.......................... $313,760.95

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

Must present coupon. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 11-30-11.
Employment
The Village of Minerva Park is seeking qualified candidates for Fiscal Officer and Police Officer. Learn more at minervapark.org/jobs.

Donations accepted
M, W, F, 9-Noon, at the Community Building, for the Columbus Faith Mission
NONPERISHABLE FOODS

Advertise in The Villager ... 899-3755
Ads start at $15 - discount on 6-month contracts

The Villager Staff
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........................................ bizefam@att.net
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: minervapark.org/villager

Next deadline: Wednesday, August 17, 5p

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