Light the Village on Christmas Eve

Your Community Association would like to “Light Up the Night” on Christmas Eve, starting at 8p until the candles burn out on their own. The MPCA will place luminaries at each of the entrances and would like you to participate at your homes, placing luminaries across your yard so the chain of light will continue throughout the Village.

Luminaries are easy to make ...
• White paper lunch bags (available at Target)
• Votive candles (available at Target)
• Sand (available at Lowes, Mennards)

1. Determine how many luminaries you’ll need. Plan on one for every 10 feet of street frontage.
2. Purchase items, maybe sharing supplies with a neighbor.
3. Pour appx. 2 cups of sand into each bag.
4. Place a bag every 10 feet in your yard, next to the road, and secure a candle in the sand.
5. Light the candles at 8p on Christmas eve.
6. Take a walk throughout the neighborhood and enjoy the Christmas spirit.

Want a more long-lasting, reusable option? Various websites offer electric or battery-powered luminary kits.

Christmas Carriage Rides

Reservation deadline December 1.
Mail or deliver written reservations to Lynn Eisentrout (882-5743), 2829 Minerva Lake Rd.

YOUR NAME & AGE

Names & Ages of Minerva Park Community Association Member Household & Limited Guests

Preferred Times (not guaranteed)

Phone #

Email address for confirmation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names &amp; Ages of Minerva Park Community Association Member Household &amp; Limited Guests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preferred Times (not guaranteed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone #</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email address for confirmation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Merry Christmas**

Please support our Police Dept. by donating new & gently used toys for children of all ages. Donations will go to families in Minerva Park and surrounding areas. Donations accepted Mon - Fri, 9:00a to noon, Community Building. Deadline - December 16. If you have any questions, contact Lt. Rex Waldenmyer or Lt. Matt Fenstermaker at 882-1408. Thank you!

Christmas Carriage Rides
Reservation deadline December 1.
Mail or deliver written reservations to Lynn Eisentrout (882-5743), 2829 Minerva Lake Rd.

N O V E M B E R  D A T E S

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 (7:30p)</td>
<td>Planning &amp; Zoning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (6:30a-7:30p)</td>
<td>VOTE!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 (8:30a)</td>
<td>Mayor’s Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (8a)</td>
<td>Council Work Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (9a)</td>
<td>MinervaFlora</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 (10a-2p)</td>
<td>Shredding Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 (7p)</td>
<td>Council Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 (5p)</td>
<td>Villager Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 (7:30p)</td>
<td>MPCA Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Historic Posters - Fundraiser

Residents John & Sue Hard recently donated to the Community Association several reprints of the early plat of Minerva Park, suitable as posters or for framing. Double-sided (17” x 23”), they show the plat on one side and a brief history on the other. They are being offered as an MPCA fundraiser, for $10 each, 2 for $15, $15 each if laminated, add $35 for optional 2-sided Plexiglas framing. Please contact Rose Hart with your interest (rose_hart@hotmail.com).

Painting, Pressure Washing

- Interior & Exterior
- Wood Restoration
- Waterproofing
- Decks - Roofs
- Cement - Stone - Brick - Siding - Stucco
- Concrete Driveways - cleaning & sealing
- More ...

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

Dog Walking Pet Sitting
Hannah Szlapak
890-4113

MPCA News

Minerva Flora Clean-up

Saturday, Nov. 10
9a • Community Building

Meet at the Community Building, with your gardening tools, rakes, clippers, etc., to help with Minerva Park’s gardening tasks. If you can help at other times or have questions, call Bob Gale at 882-8622.

Minerva Park Police

September - MP Police made 6 misdemeanor arrests and no felony arrests.
9-2 .... 3:12p, 5100 blk Lakeland Ct, theft reported
9-2 .... 3:50p, 2700 Lakewood Dr, dog bite
9-7 .... 11:04p, 3000 Minerva Lake Rd, domestic complaint
9-10 .. 3:07a, 2800 Lakewood Dr, missing/runaway person
9-15 .. 1:01a, 2700 blk Maplewood Dr, domestic complaint
9-22 .. 5:06p, 2700 blk Minerva Lake Rd, open door
9-30 .. 7:25p, 2800 blk Lakewood Dr, missing person •
Autumn is here, and our foliage is lovely. I have been enjoying evening walks and am reminded just how unique our Village is and how fortunate we are to live here.

Condolences: Lt. Matthew Fenstermaker’s mother passed away this month after a long illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family during this most trying time.

Thank You: Many thanks to the residents on Alder Vista for inviting me to your block party. Officer Anna Tomara, also in attendance, offered block watch tips and introduced herself as one of our newest officers. As always, it is good to hear your concerns, suggestions, and comments about how things are going in our Village.

Golf Course: While I continue to speak to the property owner and the developers, there is nothing new to report to you at this time.

Replacement Levy: Many thanks to all of you for supporting past levies. We continue to do our best to be good stewards of your tax dollars. Remember that there will be a 5 mill Replacement Levy for Minerva Park on the November ballot. This is not a new levy. It was previously approved by the voters in 2007 and is due to expire at the end of 2012. The cost to you will be $0.50 per $100 of valuation. It is important that you support this levy because it will generate approximately $175,201, a significant portion of our General Fund. These funds will continue to support our Police and EMS/Fire Departments, trash hauling, yard waste and curbside recycling programs, pool operations, the Leaf Pick-up Program, mosquito spraying, staff salaries, utility bills, tree removal, etc. If you have any questions, please contact me at mayor@minervapark.org or 882-5743, or Finance Committee Chairperson Pam Park-Curry at mp-curry@minervapark.org or 890-5809.

JEDZ: In the past few weeks, you have received several mailings from Blendon Township about the Joint Economic Development Zone (JEDZ). Most recently, you probably also received a letter and a fact sheet regarding same. Bryan Rhoads, the Blendon Township Administrator, attended the MPCA-sponsored Candidates Night on October 11 to speak to this issue. Unfortunately, few residents were present to hear a thorough explanation of Issue 36 and how it will, or more importantly, will not affect Minerva Park residents. Neither Minerva Park commercial nor Minerva Park residential properties are included in the JEDZ. If the golf course property is annexed into the Village, that property will be deleted from the JEDZ. If Issue 36 is passed, the revenues collected through the JEDZ (collected by the City of Westerville and disbursed to Blendon Township) will be used for infrastructure improvements in Blendon Township and landscaping areas that will border our Village. An example would be the Westerville Road areas in the Township. Minerva Park will not be voting on Issue 35, the issue of establishing Home Rule in Blendon Township. Do you have any questions? Please contact me (882-5743) or Bryan Rhoads (839-2013, bryan.rhoads@blendontwp.org).

2012 Street Project: Milling & filling and striping are completed on Jordan Road, Park Lane Court, and Park Lane Drive. Our Village Engineer is creating a punch list to address any minor needed repairs (such as curb & gutter repair & replacement), hopefully to be completed by mid-October, weather permitting. We are under budget for the project and will have the final numbers for you next month.

Speaking Engagement: I was invited on September 28 to speak to the 3rd-graders in Mrs. Mantineck’s class about different forms of local government. I had a great time fielding very good questions and listening to some very interesting stories. What a wonderful class!

All Council members were present for the regular Council meeting on October 8. The following reports were made.

EMS/Fire: Chief Rick Hochstetter reviewed his monthly report. He initiated a discussion about replacing the aging EMS vehicle when the time comes, estimated to cost between $120,000 and $140,000. Chief Hochstetter will be flushing the fire hydrants to prepare for winter. Jim
Nuesse has done a great job painting the hydrants.

Police: Chief Kim Nuesse commented on two candidates that were interviewed by the Safety Committee, Lt. Waldenmyer, the Mayor, and Chief Nuesse. She reported on the passage of the Ohio Dangerous Wild Animal Act and about the need to educate residents about the types of animals that must be registered. She proposed the idea of a free local registration of any animals that may be owned by Minerva Park residents. Other municipalities both state- and nation-wide have similar registries.

Planning & Zoning and Code Enforcement: Code Enforcement Officer Dave Hays reported that two home-based businesses and an ancillary building (a garage) at the James Building on East Dublin-Granville Road were approved at the October 2 meeting. Mr. Hays and the Mayor will be touring the Village to assess any code violations.

Minerva Park Community Association: MinervaFlora will have two clean-ups ... one on October 27 in partnership with the Community Service Day and one on November 10, both at 8 a.m. Several members of the Green Team presented the Hawthorne Elementary staff with a basket of produce from the Community Garden to thank them for allowing the garden to be planted on school property. The Villager is in need of more advertisers to cover the cost of printing. The MPCA Residents’ Directory should go to print in mid-October. Rose Hart presented information for elderly individuals that may need assistance and would like to remain in their homes.

Northland Community Council: The Clinton Estates’ crime spree was traced to one individual who was apprehended. The new reconfigured traffic pattern at the Tamarack Circle area is being discussed. The Northland Candidates Night was poorly attended.

The following committee reports were made:

Community: Councilman Dave Way replied that the Children’s Halloween Party will be held October 28 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. A scope of work for the Veterans Memorial has been drafted and will be disseminated to various companies and individuals seeking bids for the project.

Finance: Council President Pam Park-Curry received approval from the Council for the September financials totaling $58,322.14. A Finance Committee meeting was been scheduled for October 22. Councilman Richard McCreary asked the Council to consider the following legislation (minervapark.org/legislation/):

Ordinance 2-2012 - Establishing the position of a maintenance worker. Third reading and passed unanimously.

Ordinance 7-2012 - Authorizing the Mayor to convey the road right-of-way behind the retail center located at 5236-5273 Cleveland Avenue to the Westerville Industry and Commerce Corporation to provide for its subsequent conveyance to the Fahey Banking Company, pursuant to a purchase and sale agreement providing for upgrading the development of the retail center, declaring an emergency. The votes on a motion to suspend the rules and to waive the 2nd and 3rd readings: Ayes - Park-Curry, Legg, McCreary, Walter, Way; Nays - Segovia. Votes for passage as an emergency: Ayes - Park-Curry, Legg, McCreary, Walter, Way; Nays - Segovia.

Resolution 2012-17 - Adopting a job description and setting forth a pay range for a maintenance worker. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-20 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer to enter into an agreement with Blendon Township concerning the continued emergency medical aid service to the residents of Blendon Township by the Minerva Park Volunteer Fire Department for 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-21 - Authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer funds from the General Fund, EMS Capital Area, into the EMS Vehicle Fund. 2nd reading.
Resolution 2012-22 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract for the services of a Village Engineer for 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-23 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with the Franklin County Public Defender’s Office for legal services for 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-24 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer to enter into contract for health insurance for Village of Minerva Park full-time police officers and the Mayor for 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-25 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal officer to enter into contract with the prosecuting attorney, to provide prosecution of certain cases before the Franklin County Municipal Court for 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-26 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer to enter into contract for the services of a Director of Law for 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-28 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Fiscal Officer to enter into contract with the District Advisory Council of Franklin County General Health District to provide for plumbing inspections for 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-29 - Submitting a temporary appropriations budget for the first three months of 2013. 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-35 - Authorizing the sale during the calendar year 2013 of municipally-owned property that is not needed for public use, or which is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired, by Internet auction, pursuant to ORC §721.15(D). 2nd reading.

Resolution 2012-37 - Authorizing the Fiscal Officer to expend funds to settle a claim by Lisa Craddock Thitoff and Steve Thitoff. 2nd reading. This legislation addresses a moral claim to partially reimburse the Thitoffs for damage done to their garage roof and gutters as a result of trees that fell onto their property during the June 29 storm.

Resolution 2012-38 - Affirming the final appointment of Officers Fenstermaker, Boyers, Wolfel, Waldenmyer, declaring an emergency. Passed as an emergency unanimously.

Resolution 2012-39 - Affirming the final appointment of Officer Anna Tomaro. 1st reading.


Safety: Councilman Todd Walter reported that the Safety Committee participated in the interview process for two potential candidates for the Police Department.

Service: Councilman Roberto Segovia had nothing to report.

Streets: Councilman Charles Legg reported that the Jordan Road, Park Lane Court, Park Lane Drive street repair project was finished with the exception of a few items to be included in the punch list. Estimates for striping near other stop signs throughout the Village are being sought.

Old Business: Council members Legg and McCrea reported on the work they have been doing, along with Sara Schumacher, to gather estimates for new telephone equipment. Mayor Eisentrout thanked Nancy White for her service to the Village as our Fiscal Officer.

Executive Session: Votes on a motion for the Council to move into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 8:30 p.m. Ayes - Park-Curry, Legg, McCrea, Walter, Way; Nays - Segovia. •
Minerva Park’s Ballot

Below is a representation of the ballot you’ll see at the polls this election. You may make your selections on this sheet and take it with you to the polls.

President & Vice President
- Alexander & Mendoza - Socialist
- Duncan & Johnson - Nonparty
- Goode & Clymer - Constitution
- Johnson & Gray - Libertarian
- Obama & Biden - D
- Romney & Ryan - R
- Stein & Honkala - Green

U.S. Senator
- Sherrod Brown - D
- Josh Mandel - R
- Scott A. Rupert - Nonparty

Congressional Rep - 3rd District
- Joyce Beatty - D
- Richard Ehrbar - Libertarian
- Bob Fitrakis - Green
- Chris Long - R

State Rep - 19th District
- Anne Gonzales - R
- Ryan P. Jolley - D

County Commissioner
- Paula Brooks - D
- James M. Pfaff - R

County Commissioner
- John O'Grady - D

Prosecuting Attorney
- Ron O'Brien - R

Clerk Courts - Common Pleas
- Maryellen O'Shaughnessy - D

Sheriff
- Mike Herrell - R
- Zach Scott - D

County Recorder
- Terry J. Brown - D
- Daphne Hawk - R

County Treasurer
- Julie Hubler - R
- Edward Leonard - D

County Engineer
- Dean C. Ringle - R

Coroner
- Jan M. Gorniak - D

State Board of Education - 9th District
- Stephanie Dodd - D
- Philip Gerth - R
- Larry A. Good - R

Justice - Supreme Court
- Terrence O'Donnell - R
- Mike Skindell - D

Justice - Supreme Court
- Robert R. Cupp - R
- William M. O'Neill - D

Justice - Supreme Court
- Yvette McGee Brown - D
- Sharon L. Kennedy - R

Judge - Court of Appeals
- Gary Tyack - D

Judge - Court of Appeals
- Peggy Bryant - D

Judge - Court of Common Pleas
- Guy Reece - R

Judge - Court of Common Pleas
- David E. Cain - R

Judge - Court of Common Pleas
- Kim Brown - D
- Valoria Hoover - R

Judge - Court of Common Pleas
- Charles A. Schneider - R

Judge - Court of Common Pleas
- Stephen L. McIntosh - D

Judge - Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations
- Elizabeth Gill - D

Judge - Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations
- Jim Mason - R

Judge - Court of Common Pleas Domestic Relations
- Chris Geer - R
- Terri Jamison - Nonparty

Issue #1 - Question presented pursuant to Article XVI Section 3 of the Constitution of Ohio

A majority yes vote is necessary for passage.

Article XVI, Section 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio reads as follows: “At the general election to be held in the year one thousand nine hundred and thirty-two, and in each twentieth year thereafter, the question: ‘Shall there be a convention to revise, alter, or amend the constitution[,]’ shall be submitted to the electors of the state; and in case a majority of the electors, voting for and against the calling of a convention, shall decide in favor of a convention, the general assembly, at its next session, shall provide, by law, for the election of delegates, and the assembling of such convention, as is provided in the preceding section; but no amendment of this constitution, agreed upon by any convention assembled in pursuance of this article, shall take effect, until the same shall have been submitted to the electors of the state, and adopted by a majority of those voting thereon.”

Shall there be a convention to revise, alter, or amend the Ohio Constitution?
- Yes
- No
Issue #2 - To create a state-funded commission to draw legislative and congressional districts

Proposed Constitutional Amendment

Proposed by Initiative Petition

To add and repeal language in Sections 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 13 of Article XI, repeal Sections 8 and 14 of Article XI, and add a new Section 16 to Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio

A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass. The proposed amendment would:

1. Remove the authority of elected representatives and grant new authority to appointed officials to establish congressional and state legislative district lines.
2. Create a state funded commission of appointed officials from a limited pool of applicants to replace the aforementioned. The Commission will consist of 12 members (4 affiliated with the largest political party, 4 affiliated with the second largest political party, and 4 not affiliated with either of the two largest political parties) who will be chosen as follows:
   A. On or before January 1 of the year that the decennial census is conducted, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio shall select by lot a panel consisting of eight judges of the courts of appeals of Ohio, no more than four of whom may be members of the same political party. This panel of judges shall be responsible for selecting potential members of the Commission. On or before April 1 of the year that the decennial census is conducted, this panel of judges shall appoint an independent auditor who shall assist the judges in determining the eligibility of potential members of the Commission.
   B. Eligible persons may submit applications for membership on the Commission to the Secretary of State by May 1 of the year that the decennial census is conducted. The Secretary of State shall make available an appropriate application form designed to help determine the eligibility and qualifications of applicants and shall publicize the application process. The Secretary of State shall provide the panel of judges with the applications and any other records necessary to determine eligibility of the applicants.
   C. On or before August 1 of the year that the decennial census is conducted, the panel of eight judges described in subparagraph A shall select from the applicants forty-two individuals to serve as potential members of the Commission. The judges, after adopting a selection procedure, shall select applicants who have the relevant skills and abilities, including a capacity for impartiality, and who reflect the diversity of Ohio. These shall include the fourteen most qualified applicants affiliated with each of the two largest political parties and the fourteen most qualified applicants who have been unaffiliated with either of these political parties during the prior five years. The selection of potential members shall require the affirmative vote of at least five of the eight judges. The two largest political parties shall be determined based on the votes received by the candidates for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election.
   D. On or before August 15 of the year that the decennial census is conducted, the speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives and the highest ranking member of the House not of the same political party as the speaker may each respectively eliminate up to three of the fourteen potential members affiliated with the largest political party, up to three of the fourteen potential members affiliated with the second largest political party, and up to three of the fourteen potential members not affiliated with either of these parties. This shall result in a final pool of not less than twenty-four potential members of the Commission.
   E. From the final pool of potential members, the panel of eight judges, or their designee, shall choose by lot and in public, three individuals affiliated with each of the two largest political parties and three individuals not affiliated with either of these parties to serve as members of the Commission. On or before October 1 of the year that the decennial census is conducted, these nine members shall meet to select from the final pool of potential members three additional members, which shall include one member affiliated with the largest political party, one member affiliated with the second largest political party, and one member not affiliated with either of these parties. In selecting the final three members, the members of the Commission shall seek a total commission membership that reflects the diversity of Ohio and that has the relevant skills and abilities, including a capacity for impartiality, which will allow the Commission to fulfill its responsibilities. The nine members selected by lot and the three additional members selected by the original nine members shall comprise the full Commission.
   F. No member of the
Commission shall be subject to removal by the general assembly or any member of the executive branch.

3. Require new legislative and congressional districts be immediately established by the Commission to replace the most recent districts adopted by elected representatives, which districts shall not be challenged except by court order until the next federal decennial census and apportionment. Affirmative votes of 7 of 12 Commission members are needed to select a plan. In the event the Commission is not able to determine a plan by October 1, the Ohio Supreme Court would need to adopt a plan from all the plans submitted to the Commission.

4. Repeals current constitutional requirements for drawing legislative districts that avoid splits to counties, townships, municipalities and city wards where possible, and when not possible, limiting such divisions to only one division per governmental unit, and also repeals requirements to form as many whole legislative districts solely within a county as possible. The foregoing would be replaced and require the Commission to adopt a plan that complies with all applicable federal and state constitutional provisions, federal statutory provisions, and the contiguity requirement and that most closely meets the factors of community preservation, competitiveness, representational fairness, and compactness. The Commission would also be required not to draw or adopt a plan with an intent to favor or disfavor a political party, incumbent, or potential candidate.

5. Mandate the General Assembly to appropriate all funds necessary to adequately fund the activities of the Commission including, but not be limited to, compensating:

- A. Staff
- B. Consultants
- C. Legal counsel
- D. Commission members

If approved, the amendment will be effective thirty days after the election.

Shall the amendment be approved?

☐ Yes
☐ No

#33 Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement) Village of Minerva Park

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A replacement of a tax for the benefit of the Village of Minerva Park for the purpose of current expenses at a rate not exceeding 5 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.50 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of 5 years, commencing in 2012, first due in calendar year 2013.

☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy

#36 Proposed Resolution and Contract Blendon Township

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall the resolution of the board of township trustees of the township of Blendon approving the contract with the City of Westerville, Ohio for the designation of a joint economic development zone be approved?

☐ For the resolution and contract
☐ Against the resolution and contract

Editor's Note - A public records request for the attendant documents produced the contract and letter of agreement, both of which have been uploaded to minervapark.org so voters have an opportunity to review them before the election.

#56 Proposed Tax Levy (Replacement and Increase) Franklin County

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A replacement of 0.9 mill of an existing levy and an increase of 0.4 mill, to constitute a tax for the benefit of Franklin County for the purpose of the support of senior citizen services, including supporting Franklin County Senior Options, a system of home and community based care for Franklin County residents age sixty and older; services including, but not limited to, home delivered meals, personal care, respite care, homemaker, adult day health, transportation, emergency response, minor home repair, health promotion, caregiver support, information and referral, and care management, at a rate not exceeding 1.3 mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to $0.13 for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for 5 years, commencing in 2012, first due in calendar year 2013.

☐ For the tax levy
☐ Against the tax levy

10% up to $500 off

Must present coupon at time of estimate to qualify. Limited offer.

444-7663

ROOFING • WINDOWS
SIDING • MASONRY

ABLE ROOFING
PREMIUM PRODUCTS
Canada Geese
By Jennifer Pauken

With the robust gaggle of Canada geese roaming about Minerva Park, it's hard to imagine that, as recently as a few decades ago, these birds were relatively scarce in Ohio. In fact, in the mid-1950s, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources embarked on a Canada goose restoration program, bringing dozens of pairs of geese to state-owned wetlands. Since then, the Canada goose population has increased dramatically, with estimates of between 80,000 to 100,000 geese in Ohio alone. And, even though the Canada geese populations have rebounded so successfully, they and other migratory waterfowl remain protected under federal and state law. According the ODNR's Division of Wildlife, it is illegal to "take or attempt to take ... any bird, nest, or egg outside of the regular hunting season without a special permit." This includes trapping, capturing, harming, or killing these animals. Neighborhoods like Minerva Park - with bodies of water and expanses of lush, green lawns - provide ideal areas for Canada geese to settle. Indeed, these wild waterfowl have adapted readily to the urban environment, becoming less migratory and more permanent residents of our community.

For some, Canada geese are a charming sight. For many others, though, they pose a serious problem. Canada geese are voracious feeders. They can swiftly and easily destroy lawns and landscaping, causing property damage, erosion, and soil problems. They also produce tremendous amounts of fecal matter, with a daily average of one to two pounds of waste per bird. For a gaggle of 20 birds, that adds up to more than 10,000 pounds of bird droppings annually! In addition to being unattractive and dirty, animal droppings in this quantity present a health and safety hazard. Paths and roadways littered with these "land mines" can become slippery and dangerous. Studies have shown that Canada geese feces contain pathogens known to cause diseases in humans. Who wants to track that into the house?

Because of its high phosphorous and nitrogen content, excessive goose droppings also impact waterways. While these nutrients can be beneficial, in excess they promote the development of algae and certain problematic aquatic plants. This in turn reduces the overall water quality and can impact fish populations.

But arguably the biggest issue with Canada geese is the threat they pose to human safety during the nesting season. Canada geese begin the mating and nesting process in late February to early March. Female geese will generally lay eggs by mid-April. During this period and until approximately late June (after the goslings have learned to fly and the adults have had a molting period), the geese vigorously will defend their nests and offspring. And, because Canada geese have adapted so well to densely-populated urban environments, they have lost much of their natural fear of humans and have been known to aggressively attack people. Children, if they get too close to a nest, are particularly vulnerable.

So, while there is a variety of safe and legal techniques for discouraging Canada geese from colonizing an area, timing and consistency are of the utmost importance. The goal is to make an area inhospitable to the birds. Efforts such as visual deterrents, barriers, and harassment must occur before the mating and nesting season has begun. Otherwise, the geese will dig in and remain in place, usually returning to the same area to reproduce the following year.

The simplest, easiest, and most humane way to deter Canada geese is to not feed the geese. While it can be entertaining to feed them, it truly does these animals no favors and, in fact, can do considerable harm. For one, the products humans typically feed to ducks and geese have little to no nutritional value for them. It's junk food. Having this type of steady, supplemental food source encourages even more birds to settle in an area, thus compounding the overall problem. Plus, feeding the geese reduces their fear of humans and encourages them to remain closer to people than they normally would. This increases the chance of aggressive behaviors and goose attacks. With a steady food supply, they lose the need to migrate and stay in areas longer than they should.

So, please help these wild birds stay wild and DON'T FEED THE GEESE! For more information, ODNR and The Ohio State University Extension have helpful websites: ohiodnr.com/Default.aspx (search for Canada goose) or ohioline.osu.edu/w-fact/pdf/0003.pdf.

Editor's Note. The Green Team is a committee of your MP Community Association, consisting of concerned residents who work to create an environmentally friendly and sustainable neighborhood. All MP residents are invited to participate at 7:30p, Tuesday, October 16, at the Community Building.
The November ballot will have a 5 mill replacement levy for Minerva Park. This is not a new levy ... it is replacing a levy that is expiring. The replacement levy is important to continue funding your Village Police Department. We provide important police services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. As a result, Minerva Park has one of the lower crime rates in the Columbus metropolitan area, which means better quality of life for our residents. The Police Department budget for 2012 is $569,071, of which $471,160.09 is allocated for wages and benefits for 10 police officers. That is approximately 83% of the budget, which is slightly lower than the national average for police agencies. The remainder, $97,911, is for equipment, supplies, services, and capital expenses.

In 2011, the annual Minerva Park police budget was approved for $636,140, of which $604,122 was actually spent, for a total savings of $32,018. I applied for and received grants for radio equipment in 2011 and 2012 for a total of approximately $18,489. In addition, Minerva Park police were awarded $998 in federal grant funds to assist in purchasing ballistic vests for our officers. We continue to look for ways to streamline our operation and lower our costs, without sacrificing quality service to our community. We appreciate your support.

You may have heard that a new law was enacted recently, the Ohio Dangerous Wild Animal Act that requires owners of “any species of the animal kingdom that escapes from his or her custody or control and is not indigenous to this State or presents a risk of serious physical harm to persons or property or both, shall within one hour after he or she discovers or reasonably should have discovered the escape, report it to: 1. A law enforcement officer of the Municipality (Minerva Park Police) and the County Sheriff (Franklin County Sheriff’s Office) and 2. The Clerk.” A violation of this ordinance is a first degree misdemeanor.

Kevin R. Bacon
Attorney at Law

- Wills & Trusts
- Special Needs Estate Planning
- Probate
- Real Estate
- Small Business

6641 N. High St. - Suite 209
Worthington OH 43085
(614) 785-6520 ext. 3
krb@appelhellstedt.com

Friends-and-Stitches
Custom accessories & handbags inspired by Amy Butler, Anna Maria Horner, and Alexander Henry. Accessories include crystal and semi-precious gemstone bracelets.

Join us Nov 17 at St. Paul’s annual Deck the Halls Christmas Bazaar, 10a to 3p
St. Paul the Apostle Parish, 313 N. State, Westerville
September 2012

If you have questions about the information provided here, please call the Fiscal Officer at 882-5743.

September 2012

Beg balance general fund ........... $351,295.41
Receipts ................................ $79,737.23
Disbursements ........................ ($58,322.14)
Ending balance .................... $372,710.50

September 2012

Medic 119 made 28 runs - 6 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 0 into Minerva Park, with 23 patients transported to local hospitals. 22 members volunteered a total of 359.8 hours for the month, bringing the year-to-date total to 5,282 hours. Leading volunteers for the month were Tim Lockard (56.5 hours), Todd Monroe (38 hours), and Brian Horton (29 hours).

Advertise in the Villager
899-3755

Complete Electrical Work

Jay Wigfield
Electrician
17 Years of Experience
Upgrades • Fixtures • Ceiling Fans
2887 Blossom Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43231
614.774.1529

Making Sure Your Electrical Work Is Up To Code

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

Sharon Bierman ................................................... 899-3755
fax 899-7731
sieberman@columbus.rr.com
MPCA President Lisa Craddock Thitoff ................. 891-2166

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, November 14, 5p

Advertisers are included as a service to residents. We do not review their qualifications and are not responsible for consequences arising out of the services
provided. Residents should make their own investigation as to the ability and background of the person or company offering the services.