Minerva Park Recognition

Your MP Community Association is pleased to present this year’s “Citizen of the Year” Award to Children’s Activities Chairperson Glenda Morris. Commonly known as the “Duck Award,” it recognizes a resident or group of residents making the greatest contribution to improving the quality of life in Minerva Park. And Glenda certainly has done that. Her untiring hours of preparing and hosting the many children’s events that we all enjoy throughout the year continue for a new generation the special memories we have of living in the Village. Imagine Minerva Park without an Easter Egg Hunt, the Halloween Party, or the Christmas Party. The cost for these events IS underwritten by your $20/year Community Association dues, but it takes much coordination and dedication to bring them to reality. Make sure you give Glenda a special thanks ... and an offer to volunteer for the next event!

The annual banquet of the Northland Community Council was held on April 11. In attendance were at least 14 MP residents and officials, two of whom received recognition for their contributions to the Village.

While Chief Kim Nuesse’s accomplishments since assuming leadership of the MP Police in January 2011 is documented in a recent report, more telling than facts and figures is what her staff thinks about her. At being recognized for her contribution to the community, MPCA President Lisa Craddock Thitoff read commentary from a veteran member of the MP Police. Here are some excerpts.

She "was a breath of fresh air to the dedicated officers of the Department. She improved the morale by being a true leader and inspired officers to do better from her first day on the job. She created a more comfortable work environment and fostered improvement through training. Chief Nuesse encouraged changes and created a much better image for the department by retaining and hiring only quality personnel. Through her extensive knowledge and experience, she has established a more efficient department by developing effective leadership and promoting excellence. I believe I can speak for every officer in saying that having Kim Nuesse as our Chief is both an honor and a great privilege!"

Also receiving recognition as the “2012-2013 Northland Community Publication of the Year” was MP’s monthly newsletter, the Villager. It was mentioned that the 26 Northland publications range from simple bulletins to more like magazines, all of them telling stories of their neighborhoods, sharing information, and inspiring pride among residents. The 5-panel jury said of the Villager that the “quality and quantity of information was so great that a MP resident could only be left uninformed of local events by their own choice.” They noted a beautiful layout and consistently appealing writing and graphics. Our thanks go to resident Sharon Bierman for the Villager’s design and layout for the past 16 years! It’s become such a “fixture” around the Village that we sometimes forget to thank Sharon or recognize the many contributors who help keep content fresh and timely. Take a moment to view past issues at minervapark.org/villager. We are sure you’ll agree with the NCC that this collaborative effort has resulted in a quality publication.

M A Y  D A T E S

7 (6:30a-7:30p) .................. VOTE!
10 (5p) .................. Plant Sale Pick-up
11 (8a) .............. Council Work Session
13 (6:30p) ........... Variance Requests
13 (7p) .............. Council Meeting
14 (7:30p) ........ Planning & Zoning
15 (8:30a) ............. Mayor’s Court
15 (5p) .............. Villager Deadline
15 (7:30p) ............. MPCA Meeting
18 (9a-noon) .... Garlic Mustard Pull
20 (7p) .............. Coffee with Council
From Your MPCA President

The April highlight for the MP Community Association was the Northland Community Council’s (NCC) annual awards banquet. Each year, the NCC asks its member association presidents to nominate up to 3 people to award for the work they do in their neighborhood. While I typically like to honor to volunteers, this year I chose to recognize our Police Chief Kim Nuesse for the great job she does and all that she has accomplished in the 2 years she has been with the Village. If you were at the April council meeting, Councilman Todd Walter had a letter covering many of these accomplishments. Please contact him for a copy.

It was a heartwarming, entertaining evening, made even better when the NCC’s 5-member jury acknowledged Minerva Park’s newsletter, the Villager, as the “best publication” in the NCC area. Big kudos for long-time designer Sharon Bierman.

If you remember, last year MP won the award for best event, the Christmas Carriage Rides. My hope is that you all appreciate and enjoy the great things the MPCA is bringing to you. If you aren’t already a member, please consider becoming one and PLEASE get involved. That is what this award night is all about.

Having said this, I would like to share that Glenda Morris has been awarded the Duck Award for the MP resident having the most impact on Minerva Park in 2012. Glenda is the Children’s Committee Chair, and she and her crew put together wonderful parties for the kids throughout the year.

Lisa Craddock Thitoff

Scholarship

Congratulations to Olivia Watkins, this year’s recipient of the Nancy Fischer Memorial Scholarship. As a MP graduate headed off to college, she will receive $500 to help defray expenses.

Will you be a senior next year? Download the application at minervapark.org/scholarship.

Resident Discount & Fundraising

Kurtz Brothers ... Your Community Association has arranged with Kurtz Brothers, 6055C Westerville Road, to provide a 10% discount on plants and 20% off on bulk soil, mulch, and leaf compost. Mention that you are a member of the MP Community Association, another benefit of membership.

Gordon Food Service ... Your Community Association has arranged a “funfunds” fundraising account with GFS. Take the inserted flyer to GFS, give them the MPCA account number on the flyer (#2553270). With each purchase you make, the MPCA will earn rebates to be used for various MPCA events.

Garage Sale

June 15

The registration form is on page 9. Deadline to register - June 10.

Secretary

The MP Community Association has an opening for a secretary, to take & disseminate minutes, beginning at the next meeting. If you are interest, call MPCA President Lisa Craddock Thitoff at 891-2166.

Plant Pick-up

If you purchased plants during the MPCA fundraiser, please pick them up on Friday, May 10, after 5 p.m., at 3071 Minerva Lake Road.

SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

Get ready for some toe tappin’ ... The 4th annual MP Summer Music Series, sponsored by the MPCA, will feature two popular bands ...

- July 14, the High Street Stompers, offering some of the best swinging Dixieland music in the Midwest.

Mark these dates on your calendar and watch for more info.
My report to you will be very brief. My 91-year-old mother has been very ill, and I have found I cannot spend as much time generating this report as I normally do.

**Pool:** The Discount Membership Sale held on April 14 was very successful with pool fees collected in excess of $20,000, but we will need to purchase another diving board (one of the existing boards is cracked) and some electrical problems need to be remediated. I would like to thank Pool Manager John Friedel, my Administrative Assistant Sara Schumacher, and our Clerk of Courts Christy Williamson for working on a Sunday and getting the 2013 pool season off to such a great start. I appreciate all of the residents who supported our pool by purchasing memberships or day passes. As I say every year, if you haven’t taken the time to visit our pool, I would suggest you do so. We open May 25 at noon.

**Code Enforcement Officer:** We have a new Code Enforcement Officer. I have hired Lt. Rex Waldenmyer who has been a member of our police department since 1983, has extensive investigative experience, was a licensed real estate agent for over 36 years and is familiar with our Zoning Codes. I want thank former Code Enforcement Officer Dave Hays for his service and dedication to the Village. As I reported to you in an earlier issue of the Villager, Dave, a full-time Code Enforcement Officer with the City of Bexley, submitted his resignation to spend more time with his family, particularly his young son.

**Golf Course:** There seems to be some confusion about this issue, which will be on the May 7 ballot. A bond levy is proposed to decide if we should purchase land to sustain a 9-hole golf course, authorizing the issuance of bonds in the amount of $1,400,000 for the purpose of acquiring, improving, equipping, and furnishing a municipal golf course. $1,000,000 would be used to purchase the land, and $400,000 would be earmarked for improvements, etc. These bonds would be retired over a period of 20 years at a millage rate of 28.5 cents for each $100 of valuation.

I have heard the comment that, if Minerva Park residents vote down this bond levy, no homes will be built on the Minerva Lake Golf Course. That is not accurate. The owner is going to sell this property, and it will be developed if the deal comes to fruition. We are not voting to allow the sale to go through nor whether the land will be developed. That is up to the owner and the developer. What we ARE deciding or voting on is the land acquisition for a golf course (approximately 50+ acres) and all that entails as mentioned above. Having a golf course or not having a golf course (green space) will determine the density of the development.

The developer, Fischer Homes, has time and again expressed an interest in annexing into the Village. Remember, the golf course is in Blendon Township, not Minerva Park. Annexing it into Minerva Park is a good idea whether it is fully or partially developed. Why? Because it will offer Minerva Park the opportunity to regulate the zoning and planning of this development to be a "good fit" with our already- lovely Village, to broaden the tax base, and promote growth. This report will arrive after April 28th’s Town Meeting and will repeat what those of you who had attended the meeting heard. I encourage you to go to minervapark.org to view the potential build-outs and presentation given at the Town Meeting and to vote on May 7.

All Council members were present at the regular Council meeting held on April 8.

**EMS/Fire:** Chief Rick Hoechstetter was excused but had submitted his monthly report.
Police: Chief Kim Nuesse reported that residents could still sign up for the Volunteers in Police Services Program (VIPS), funded through a Homeland Security Grant. Officer Mike Myers stopped an individual on Ponderosa Drive who is suspected of recent thefts from vehicles and possibly some burglaries.

Minerva Park Community Association: MPCA President Lisa Craddock Thitoff reported that she still needs a chairperson for the Garage Sale Committee.

Northland Community Council: Mayor Eisentrout reported that volunteers are still needed for the Northland Fourth of July Parade.

The following Committee Reports were made.

Community: Councilman Dave Way reported that Community Service Day (formerly known as Lake Clean-up Day) would be held on April 27.

Finance: Council President Pam Park-Curry received approval from the Council for the March 2013 financial reports totaling $87,688.23. A Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for April 15.

Legislation: Councilman Richard McCreary asked the Council to consider the following legislation (minervapark.org/legislation):


Resolution 2013-10 - Authorizing the Village to enter into a contract with Cardinal Vending for the swimming pool. Suspend the rules & waive the 3 readings. All ayes. Passage as an emergency. All ayes.

Safety: Councilman Todd Walter read a report about the Police Department into the minutes. It was quite lengthy and cannot be included in this report. If you wish to receive this review of the MP Police Department under Chief Nuesse’s leadership, please contact Councilman Walter at mpwalter@minervapark.org.

Service: Councilman Roberto Segovia made his report about possible mosquito spraying options.

Streets: Councilman Charles Legg reported that, while inspecting the streets for spring pothole and crack sealing, he did not see any large potholes but will report again at the May meeting. He will follow up with our Village Engineer about a small hole on Jordan Road.

Old Business: On the advice of Councilman Wayne, the following topics were on the agenda:

Coffee with Council
Residents are invited ... Monday, May 20
7:00p Community Building
to have “Coffee with Council.” This is your opportunity to meet with your Council Members and discuss Village issues.

MP’s Ballot - May 7

Below is a representation of the ballot you’ll see at the polls this election. Visit minervapark.org for proposed build-outs if the bond issue passes or fails ... and additional documentation.

#6 Proposed Bond Issue Village of Minerva Park
A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.
Shall bonds be issued by the Village of Minerva Park for the purpose of acquiring, improving, equipping, and furnishing a municipal golf course in the principal amount of $1,400,000 to be repaid annually over a maximum period of 20 years, and an annual levy of property taxes be made outside of the ten-mill limitation, estimated by the county auditor to average over the repayment period of the bond issue 2.85 mills for each one dollar of tax valuation, which amounts to $0.285 for each one hundred dollars of tax valuation, commencing in 2013, first due in calendar year 2014, to pay the annual debt charges on the bonds, and to pay debt charges on any notes issued in anticipation of those bonds?
☐ For the bond issue
☐ Against the bond issue

Take your ID to the polls ... driver's license, Ohio photo ID, bank statement, utility bill, paycheck, any government-issued document showing your current address. Caveat Emptor - This recap is provided here so you can become familiar with our own particular ballot before you arrive at the polls. MPCA is not responsible for any errors! Study the issues. Make up your own mind. And then GO VOTE!
of Legal Counsel, the variance request for a daycare at Woodley and Cleveland Avenue that was denied at the March Council meeting was reconsidered. The following conditions were presented for consideration: (1) all conditions set forth by the Planning & Zoning Commission; (2) additional requirements submitted on April 6 by Martin Hughes, property owner; (3) hours of operation were confined to 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; (4) no violations of the one-way street-alley except as needed to service or repair the building as long as safety plans are in place to alert drivers; a notice should be provided to our police of the providers’ workdays and times before such an occurrence; the exception is the trash hauler, but a safety plan first must be in place to alert other drivers; (5) concrete pillars must be placed around the playground fence for protection; (6) semi-truck deliveries must be made at consistent times and not during peak drop-off and pick-up times. The variance was approved by the following votes: Ayes - Legg, McCreary, Segovia, Walter, Way. Nay - Park-Curry.

Council authorized the Mayor to act as agent of the Village to submit the final documents to the EMA for the Emergency Management Grant application to recover funds related to the June 29, 2012 storm.

Easter Egg Hunt 2013

By Glenda Morris,
Children’s Activities

We had the nicest day this March for our annual Easter Egg Hunt at Hawthorne School. The children came with their parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles and found more than 1,100 stuffed plastic eggs. Each child received a small prize and a seedling grown by the Green Team to start their gardens. Many photos with the Easter bunny were taken to long remember the day. Thanks to the Schumacher family, Barney Spontak, Jen Pauken, and Andy Morris for their help.

How have YOU helped today?

Many activities are planned in Minerva Park this summer for your enjoyment, and many volunteers are needed for these activities. Please “give back” to your community. Call Bonnie Townsend, Volunteer Coordinator, at 890-2427.

Westerville Community Center

After a recent price restructuring at the Westerville Community Center, 350 N. Cleveland Ave., Minerva Park residents do not receive the benefit of a discount. If you would like to sign a group letter requesting that Westerville extend discounts to MP residents for using the facilities, please contact Rose Hart at rose_hart@hotmail.com.

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March 2013

In March, Medic 119 made 18 runs - 4 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and none into Minerva Park, with 14 patients transported to local hospitals.

19 members volunteered a total of 352 hours for the month, bringing the year-to-date total to 1,309 hours. Leading volunteers for the month were Scott Logsdon (51 hours), Frank Meredith (34 hours), and Brian Horton (30.5 hours).

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the Villager
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Mayor’s Court

March 2013
Citation payments ............... 96
Village General Fund .......... $4,998
Computer Fund ................. $195
Remitted to the State ......... $1,221
Cap. Recovery System ......... $174
Franklin Co Muni Court ....... $39
Total Court Receipts ......... $6,627

Village Financials

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

March 2013
Beg balance general fund ............ ($3,770)
Receipts ................................ $274,169
Disbursements ...................... ($87,688)
Ending balance ................... $182,711

Minerva Park Police

March - MP Police made 1 misdemeanor arrest.
3-3 .... 11:30p, 5200 blk Elmhurst, prowler
3-9 .... 3:21a, Wireless Store, 5256 Cleveland Ave, vandalism reported
3-12 .. 4:50p, 5000 blk Maplewood, domestic dispute
3-17 .. 9:10p, 2600 blk Wildwood Rd, theft reported
3-29 .. 10:36p, 2700 Park Lane Ct, theft reported
3-30 .. 10:57p, 2600 blk Wildwood Rd, theft reported •

Save the Dates

Jun 15 - Village Garage Sale
Jun 22 - Family Fun Night
Jun 23 - Music Series
Jun 30 - Garden Tour
Jul 14 - Music Series
Jul 27 - Wine & Cheese at the Pool
Aug 5 - Membership Drive
Aug 17 - Wine & Cheese at the Pool

Underwritten by your $20 MPCA dues

10% up to $500 off

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Garlic Mustard Pull
Saturday, May 18, 9a to noon
Meet at the Community Building

Please join the Green Team for a morning of good company and fresh air to help us combat the garlic mustard that's popping up all around us!

Garlic mustard is a highly invasive, nonnative plant that has taken hold in the wooded areas around the lakes. It competes with more desirable, native species for water and nutrients, and it multiplies rapidly. Its seeds can remain viable for years. One of the best methods for eradicating this pest is good old-fashioned pulling and disposing of the plants.

For more information, visit nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/alpe1.htm.

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FREE estimates 948-5611

Registration
MPCA Garage Sale FUNDRAISER - June 15 • 9a-4p
Registration Deadline - June 10 • 7p
$5 Late Registration fee after June 10 • 7p (you will not be on the map)

Enclosed is my check for $5, payable to “Minerva Park Community Association,” for participation in the MPCA 2013 annual garage sale FUNDRAISER. Additionally, I will submit 10% of my proceeds.

RETURN to Lisa Craddock Thitoff (738-1612) or the Community Building.
PACKETS will be distributed Friday, June 14.
PROCEEDS - Volunteers will stop by your home on June 15 between 3p-4p to collect your 10% proceeds.
Minerva Park Community Association
2829 Minerva Lake Road
Columbus OH 43231

VOTERS EDITION
May 7
Tuesday
6:30a to 7:30p
Community Building

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Sharon Bierman - Design & Advertising
sbierman@columbus.rr.com 899-3755
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, May 15, 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.