Minerva Park is a beautiful place to live. Help keep it that way by maintaining and improving your home's curb appeal. Here are some tips by resident Paul Miller.

* * *

**Landscaping - Plants & More**

What we plant and how well we take care of it have a lot to do with the curb appeal of our homes. Isn't it obvious that weeds, dead plants, and overgrown shrubs decrease the value of our homes and reflect poorly on our community? If you look at your landscaping and it looks old, tired, or overgrown, it is time for an update. Taking out the old plantings will offer a clean slate to begin anew.

One of the first things you will want to do is decide on the style of landscape design that you like most. Here are three different design styles.

• **Formal** - Balance in this design style is achieved by plantings that are symmetrical. Repetition is important. Rows of the same plants brings a formal look. 5320 East Shore Drive offers a good example of formal landscape design.

• **Informal** - Here the balance is accomplished using a variety of plantings in an asymmetrical design. There may be groupings of the same plant, but there is a bit of a carefree feel to it. 5073 Maplewood has an informal, yet planned, style.

• **Naturalized** - It looks like nature just did her thing. Often native plants are used. Sometimes it is a matter of mixing textures more than adding colors. It might appear that plants just sprang up where they wanted, but there was a plan behind the design. Casual is the key word. 2866 East Shore Court has accomplished this naturalized look along with the sound of moving water.

Landscape design can be more than the plants and how you place them. Think about incorporating seating, sculpture, rocks, and other hardscape items. 2635 Alder Vista is an example of using hardscape items in a new landscape plan.

Changing your landscaping plan doesn’t have to cost a fortune. A fairly inexpensive approach to landscape design:

1. Take out the old.
2. Select your style preference.
3. Add some starter plants that will grow to become the design you want.
4. Add some repurposed hardscape items (a bench, gazing ball, rocks).
5. Fill in with flowering annuals while the starter plants grow to desired size.

**Points of Interest - Reflections of Residents**

Could a stranger tell who lives in your house by looking at the things in your front yard or on your porch? Not your name but your interests. You can begin to introduce yourself to the community by including “points of interest” in your landscape plan. Give them a hint of who will answer the door! The folks at 2726 Alder Vista have done a good job of this. It is obvious they are Buckeye fans!

A porch or yard with chairs or benches in a conversational grouping suggests folks who are neighborly. Makes you want to stop and sit a spell. A collection of antique items on the porch might reflect folks with an appreciation for the past. They probably have stories to share. A super tidy, well organized, and recently trimmed landscape design will likely reflect a person with similar propensities. You can bet they have a “to do” list.

What else can be communicated by “points of... continued on page 5
MP Community Association News

Wine & Cheese
August 16 • 9p-midnight
Pool

How about an adult night out? MP adults are invited to attend another great Wine & Cheese Evening at the pool. BYOW to enjoy or share. Hors d’oeuvres will be provided. $5 per person charge. Drinks by moonlight, and maybe a swim. Sounds like a great evening!

MP’s 75th Anniversary

On September 12 next year, Minerva Park will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of its incorporation. The Committee is in need of volunteers. See mympca.org or contact MPCA president Dani Wolf at president@mympca.org for information.

Membership Drive

MPCA representatives will be visiting soon, asking that your household become an MPCA member. Dues are only $20/year and underwrite the many events that help make Minerva Park a special place to live. This is your opportunity to update your contact information in the Resident Directory. Please contact Bonnie Townsend at 890-2427 to volunteer some of your time to help with this effort.

St. Anthony Corn Roast Festival

Friday, Aug. 22, 6-11 pm
Saturday, Aug. 23, 5-11 pm

Large rides, kiddie rides, “midway” games and more!
Festival food and beverages--including craft beer delicious roasted corn.
Face painting, craft tables, dunk tank, fun and games for the whole family!

Featuring Arnett Howard,
8–11pm

Saturday, Aug. 23
The AmazingRace, 2-Mile Family Fun Run, 8:30 AM
St. Anthony’s Got Talent! Show
Live Auction
Live music by InnerVision, 6–8 pm
The Professors, 8–11

Longhorn Casino is open Fri @6pm, Sat @ 5pm

And DON’T forget about…
All-Parish Rummage Sale
Friday & Saturday 10am-9:30pm
Silent Auction • Cake Wheel
Grand Prize Raffle—$2500 Grand Prize
MAYOR’S REPORT

Lynn Eisentrout

**Golf Course:** I am sure that the Golf Course development project is on everyone’s minds so I will start with that. This is what has happened since I last reported to you in the July Villager.

At Jason Wisniewski’s (Fischer’s representative) request, we met on June 27 to talk about the various points discussed at the staff meeting, held by Fischer after the June 8 Public Hearing at Hawthorne Elementary School. We discussed Fischer’s willingness to negotiate conducting a new traffic impact study, the earthen dam’s classification impact on the Village and the development, various development fees, and TIF-funded projects. Jason sent a letter that summarized the “talking points” from our June 27 meeting (which is posted in its entirety on the Village website, minervapark.org). While Fischer offered some concessions, the letter showed that we still have some negotiating to do. For example, they have agreed to conduct a new Traffic Impact Study (TIS) with input from our Village Engineer but are requesting that any improvements recommended by the TIS to be paid for by Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds that would be collected as a result of the development. They have agreed to pay for some of the fees outlined earlier in legislation such as public use fees, sanitary sewer tap-in fees, and water tap-in fees, with caveats of how the monies they pay would be spent. During our meeting, Jason committed to home prices of between $180,000 and $240,000, which will allow us to calculate the amount of TIF funds that may be collected throughout the build-out and to provide Fischer with these revenue numbers. A combined meeting of the Village Council, the Planning & Zoning Commission members, Legal Counsel, Jason Wisniewski, and me was scheduled for July 17 to discuss the responses from Fischer Homes. A response and summary of the meeting will be sent to Fischer from the Village. We will wait to see what direction Fischer wants to take at this point. I also continue to work with the Groezinger family (golf course owners) to keep them apprised. One concern is that a decision must be reached by August 12 when the annexation and rezoning agreements will expire and, among other things, will determine the possibility of the Golf Course’s 2015 season.

All Council members were present at the regular Council meeting held on July 14.

**Police:** Chief Kim Nuesse reported that two cruisers were in need of repairs. Cruiser #1’s speedometer was broken, and Cruiser #3 was overheating, but both cars are back in service at the moment. She also reported that the contract for Community Mediation Services (CMS), an alternative solution for resolving civil disputes, has been reviewed by Legal Counsel and is ready for the Council to consider.

**EMS/Fire:** Chief Rick Hoechstetter has instituted a new reporting tool to show how much was billed for EMS runs, paid for those services, and then is compared to the monthly Departmental expenses. Council requested additional information regarding the formulas used to derive the information, and they will be included with next month’s report. The data tentatively shows that our reimbursement rate is roughly 40% of the total billed.

**Legal:** Jennifer Croghan spoke to one of the two newest insurance providers for the EMS billing in reference to amendments to their contracts. One provider has updated its contract, and she is waiting for the second one to respond.

**Planning & Zoning and Code Enforcement:** Councilwoman Pamela Park-Curry reported that the Commission heard an application for an accessory structure at 3082 Minerva Lake Road. They asked the applicant to provide more complete information at the August 5 P&Z meeting. A secondary driveway application for 2759 Maplewood Drive was submitted. More information and research were required and will be heard at the August meeting. An

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**Smoke Testing**

Smoke testing of sanitary sewer lines is planned for late August. Watch for information at minervapark.org as we approach the testing dates.

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**MAYOR’S OFFICE HOURS**

- M – 8a-1p and 4p-6p
- Tu – 4p-6p
- W, F – 8a-noon
- Th – by appt
- Sat, August 9 – 10a-noon
Residents are invited to attend and observe committee meetings...

**Streets**, Ed Detwiler. The street repairs that were identified and evaluated by the Streets Committee and the Village engineering firm (CH2M Hill) are almost complete. The crack sealing for Elmhurst, Minerva Lake Road, Westbridge, Wildwood, and Woodley are complete. All pot holes identified on Village streets have been filled.

The 20’ x 10’ dig out and repair at the entrance to Maplewood Drive from Cleveland Avenue, the drainage grate in the Community Building parking lot, a sink hole on Wildwood Road, and the catch basin on Far View Drive have been repaired.

Remaining repairs include two catch basins with concrete collars on Ponderosa Drive (near 161) and the drainage grate on Elmhurst Avenue. Costs are estimated at $23,450 for repairs.

Any residents who wish to receive a detailed account or report damage to their streets are encouraged to contact me at 895-0465 or at mp-detwiler@minervapark.org.

**Community**, Dave Way. No report submitted.

**Legislation**, Pam Park-Curry. The Legislative Committee has been working on a variety of issues, including property maintenance codes, staffing positions, and assisting the police with donations and grant applications. We are continuing to update our ordinances by getting older, outdated ordinances off the books and are looking at updating our Property Maintenance ordinance. That ordinance is in part modeled after the International Property Maintenance Code. The process will involve both Planning & Zoning and Council as we compare this new version with what we have and set appropriate penalties. Another issue related to the maintenance code is the activity of major car repair that causes noise and nuisance situations. While the property maintenance code addresses car repair, the committee and legal counsel are looking at how other municipalities address the issue.

With two staff members leaving last year, the Village has been working to find the best way to use personnel to cover all job duties. Legislation is needed as we go through that process to create new positions if needed and authorize job descriptions and pay ranges. An Administrative Specialist position has been created by ordinance that allows for expanded duties to cover administrative duties, and then a resolution is being finalized to allow one full-time person to perform the two part-time positions of Clerk of Courts and the Administrative Specialist position. This one position will be able to cover the duties of the previous staff and has the advantage of someone being at the Community Building during most business hours.

The legislative committee has been working with Chief Nuesse as she donates older equipment to the Hamersville Police Department and applies for grants for equipment and training.

Concerning the golf course development, the legislation relating to the Annexation and Rezoning is still tabled.

Most Legislative Committee meetings are held at the end of each month with one scheduled for July 31. Legislation can be found on the Minerva Park website, minervapark.org/legislation. If you have any questions, please contact me at mp-curry@minervapark.org or 890-5809.

**Finance**, John Michels. The Finance Committee met on July 8 and discussed updates to the fiscal officer job description. With the pending retirement of Lynda Sudderberg this fall, we soon will be interviewing potential candidates. The Committee also discussed legislation that created an Administrative Specialist...
position whose duties are to be combined with that of the Clerk of Courts.

The Finance Committee recommended approval a $600 proposal offered by Kurguz Paving to repair a sink hole at 2639 Wildwood. This will be paid from the Street Construction Maintenance and Repair Fund.

Committee members talked about the possibility of authorizing a contract with Community Mediation Services. At the full Council meeting on July 14, Police Chief Nuesse explained the “pay-as-you-go” cost structure of this contract and the advantages this service provides as a tool for negotiating objective “win-win” agreements for neighbors who are in conflict but no crime has been committed.

Finally, Fiscal Officer Lynda Sudderberg updated the Committee on the progress of the 2012-13 Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP) audit engagement. Results will be published at minervapark.org when finalized by the auditor.

Safety, Todd Walter. Nothing to report.

Service, Jennifer Pauken. Work continues on the Ohio EPA Director’s Finding and Orders (the sanitary sewer project). Flow monitoring data have been collected, and smoke testing (infiltration/inflow testing) is projected to begin in late August. Additional details and information will be provided as we get closer to the smoke testing dates.

Bid materials have been distributed to local trash collection companies. Responses are due on July 28. The Service Committee will review bids and recommend a vendor for the upcoming contract period, starting October 1. If any residents have feedback about Rumpke’s service, please e-mail me at mp-pauken@minervapark.org or call 891-5880. As we evaluate vendors for the next trash contract, price will be the primary concern, but quality of service is an important consideration.

Minerva Park Income Tax

In June, Council passed legislation to place the income tax issue on the November 4 ballot. If passed by the voters, it would increase the MP income tax rate from 1% to 2% and provide much-needed revenue to ...
- return to 24/7 Minerva Park Police coverage.
- improve infrastructure.
- strengthen code enforcement.
- reinstate leaf pick-up in the Village.
- build state-mandated contingency cash reserve funds.

This is an important issue in Minerva Park, and Council wants every resident/voter to be well-informed. Here are some things to do in the coming months:
- Make sure you are (a) registered to vote (b) in Minerva Park - update your address if needed. There are issues such as the income tax issue that only MP-registered voters can vote on.
- Read the Villager newsletter for articles and notices of meetings concerning the November 4 election.
- Watch minervapark.org for updated information about the income tax issue. Information from the February 2014 election is still posted, worthy reading because the Village still faces the same financial challenges.
- Attend a Coffee with Council get-together held on the 3rd Monday of every month and ask questions about the income tax issue. Those dates are August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17.

Deadline October 6
... to register to vote or update your address ... myohiovote.com

VOTE November 4
Getting to Know You

By Rose Hart, Resident
rose_hart@hotmail.com

In 2015, Minerva Park will celebrate the 75th anniversary of its incorporation. With this focus, this periodic personal-interest column will interview Village residents with the ultimate purpose of deepening our sense of community by helping us know our neighbors and our history.

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MP resident Ann Romine is 93 years old. What does 93 look like? Here are a few pictures of the amazing lady who still walks to work at the snack bar of the Minerva Lake Golf Course! She lives very close to the Golf Course, as did the owners, the Groezingers. When a worker at the Course did not show up for work, Herm Groezinger asked Ann if she wanted to fill in. She did … and is still filling in, 45 years later! “I’m one of the old ones here,” Ann says. Here is her story.

Her family of crop farmers moved frequently, so Ann attended 9 schools, all in Ohio: Pataskala, Kirkersville, Millersport, Summerset, and Glenford. The family always had enough to eat, but everyone struggled during the Great Depression. Because farmers did not have much money, bartering provided corn, eggs, and other necessities.

Since the age of 14, Ann worked summer jobs cleaning houses, buying her own books and clothes with the money she earned. She had two brothers and, as the youngest child, she says that she was a spoiled brat.

Ann and her future husband Carl attended high school together in New Lexington OH. After high school, in 1939, Ann moved to Columbus (where her older brother lived) to work as a nanny and a housekeeper. It was not difficult to get such jobs at that time. She worked for 7 years (through World War II) for Russ Cantor and his family. He was the WBNS radio announcer. After that, she kept a job at Timken Roller Bearing Company on Fifth Avenue in Columbus for almost 12 years.

Meanwhile, Carl went his own way, enlisting in the Army and serving alongside the 422nd Air Force Squadron that constructed landing strips and airports in the Pacific during World War II. After 4 years of service, Carl and Ann found themselves at the same Columbus nightclub on July 4. Recognizing each other, they struck up a conversation that culminated in their marriage four months later, both at the age of 28.

Ann and Carl used to live one street north of Morse Road, and the family took Sunday drives through MP, becoming familiar with the Village. They moved into a 1949-built house in 1961 with two children and her mother, who was 79 at the time and lived with the family for the next 7 years.

Ann used to lead a MP Girl Scout troupe that made the first float for a July 4th parade. Being the only float, it received the “Best of Parade” recognition. The float was made of tree saplings that were decorated into a campfire scene. Because the saplings wilted overnight, new ones had to be cut the next morning and assembled just in time for the parade.

In MP, Carl was involved with the Volunteer Fire Department, having the emergency phone that rang at all times of the night. As the dispatcher, he called others on the squad during emergencies.

He offered Ann 2 cents to quit her job at Timken, and she took him up on it. For 33 years, Carl...
worked at the Jeffries Foundry on 4th Street in Columbus as a steel molder and later as a supervisor. He passed away in 2008.

Ann’s favorite job has been at the Golf Course where Jim Groezinger is still her boss. Last year, she received a "Gold Medal Award" from Franklin County for maintaining high food safety standards at the Golf Course. The funniest moment happened when a man fixing the milkshake machine turned it on while Ann leaned in to take a peak. With her face and hair covered with milkshake, Ann did not skip a beat. She cleaned up in the bathroom and kept on working.

Ann has been happy in her Minerva Lake Road house. Her two children attended kindergarten on Cleveland Avenue until the 3rd grade when they transferred to Hawthorne Elementary. Son Chuck, now a retired Columbus policeman, has 2 children. He, too, worked at the Minerva Lake Golf Course, helping to finance his college education at Capital University. Thrifty and hard-working also extended to daughter Vickie, who earned money by babysitting. After high school, she joined the armed services and now lives in Idaho with her 4 children. Ann’s family also includes 5 great-grandchildren, and the first great-great-grandchild, born in California this year.

MP is known for being neighborly, and Ann has very good neighbors. They helped her when she fell in the driveway this past spring and broke her leg. While in rehab, she was all over the place, not staying still for a minute. Energetic Ann is a great Buckeye fan and continues to drive, collecting teddy bears that she takes to a church in Jacksontown OH, which in turn donates them to families in need. Of living in MP for 53 years, she says, “I love it here. The only way they will get me out of this house is if I absolutely have to go. And I don’t want the golf course to go away. I’ve spent so many wonderful years there.”

Ann recently celebrated her 75th high school reunion in New Lexington, where she and a friend were the only representatives of the class of 1939. She has amazing staying powers, working at the Golf Course part-time now, but she can still work an 8-hour shift now and then. She also covers days when her coworkers want time off. One of the men at the Golf Course who has known Ann for many years affectionately calls her a “tough old broad.” Ann just smiles, with a look in her eyes that knows the joys and tribulations of a lifetime spanning 93 years and counting.

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Help us celebrate Minerva Park’s 75th Anniversary on September 12, 2015. If you wish to be featured in “Getting to Know You” or suggest a neighbor, email rose_hart@hotmail.com.

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Ongoing yoga classes will continue on Tuesdays at 9 a.m., Community Building. Contact Terri, 734-308-3884, for information.
Welcome

Our New Neighbors!

Mark & Kelly Nemergut, 2764 Wildwood, from Columbus, 234-855-4185

Don & Ally Short, 2570 Maplewood, from Columbus, 571-6434

Lora Dewhurst & Bill Kern, 2769 Wildwood, from Polaris area

Scott & Cari Hansan, 2629 Minerva Lake Road, from Pickerington, 302-2433

Yadu Bhattarai, 2595 Maplewood, from Columbus, 987-1639

Sam & Amy Spiezio, 2692 Jordan Rd, from Westerville, 948-2778

Harry & Sheena Ortiz, 5398 Ponderosa, from New York, 357-9970

Dale Beaver, 2807 Wildwood, from Columbus, 259-3520

* * *

If you learn of any new residents - or if you're a new resident but haven't received your welcome packet - please contact Paul Miller, pemill@earthlink.net

Grass Clippings

Grass clippings in the street wind up clogging MP storm sewers, costing the Village money. Please mulch grass clippings into your own yard or dispose of them properly. Thanks for being a good neighbor.

Village Financials

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

June 2014

Beg balance general fund............$238,749
Receipts..................................$59,518
Disbursements.......................($91,240)
Ending balance........................$207,027

Painting and Power Washing

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• Wood Restoration
• Waterproofing
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• Concrete Driveways - cleaning & sealing
• More ...

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Some of us took pause to participate in Northland’s 4th of July parade. This sign could not express it better. Thanks indeed to our Heroes!

Advertise in the Villager ... 899-3755
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Sharon Bierman - Design & Advertising
sbierman@columbus.rr.com 899-3755
MPCA President Dani Wolf................................. 948-2372

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, Aug 13, 5p