Christmas Luminaries Available

Light up the Village on Christmas Eve, starting at 8 p.m.

Last year, many residents helped light up Minerva Park on Christmas Eve with luminaries lining the street in front of their properties. It was a very festive sight, and your Community Association would like to do it again this year. Last year, many residents faced the challenge of gathering the supplies without having to purchase huge quantities (like 500 bags from GFS). So, to simplify the matter for those of you who wish to participate, your Community Association has done the legwork for you.

For only $5, you can get 10 luminaries that include a 10-hour votive candle, a white bag, and the sand. We have a limited quantity, enough for 100 households, so it will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Pick up and pay for your luminaries at the Community Building on Saturday, December 13, from 11a to 3p, bringing a box for carrying them home. A recycle bin works great. The Children’s Christmas Party is 10a to noon, so you can pick them up while you are there.

Any unsold supplies will be available for purchase at the Christmas Carriage Rides.

Children’s Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13 • 10a to noon • Community Building

We’ll be making pine cone ornaments, snowmen decorations, and a small gift to give to family or friend ... a fun group game ... snacks and treats ... meet new friends.

There will be a special visit from Santa who will have a small gift for each child, so bring your camera! And there will be a play area for the preschoolers and toddlers.

Bakers are much appreciated. Volunteers may call Glenda Morris (882-2359) to help.

Please support our Police Dept. by donating new toys for children of all ages. Donations will go to families in Minerva Park and surrounding areas. Donations accepted Mon - Fri, 9a to noon, Community Building. Deadline - December 13. If you have any questions, contact 882-1408. Thank you!

Infants - rattles, small stuffed animals, playpen toys.

Toddlers - board books, age-appropriate toys.

Children - books, coloring books, paint sets, age-appropriate toys.

Teens - music CDs, books, arts and craft sets, electronics, nail polish or hair styling for girls, gift cards.

Additional - Any new clothing items, such as coats, jackets, gloves, hats, scarves, sweaters.

DECEMBER DATES

2 (7p) ................. Planning & Zoning
3 (6p) ................. Mayor’s Court
5 (5p) ............. Carriage Rides Deadline
6 (8a) .............. Council Work Session
8 (7p) ................. Council Meeting
10 (7p) .............. MPCA Meeting
13 (10a-noon) ..... Christmas Party
13 (11a-3p) ..... Luminaries Pick-up
14 (5:30p-8:30p) .... Carriage Rides
15 (5p) ............... Villager Deadline
17 (6p) ............... Mayor’s Court
24 (8p) ............... Luminaries Lit
**MP Community Association News**

### Children’s Halloween Party

*By Glenda Morris, Children’s Activities*

The children’s Halloween Party was held at a new location this year, the Faith Life Family Church on Jordan Road. Last year we maxed out the space in the Community Building, thus the change in venue. The weather was beautiful, and we had snacks, hamburgers, and hotdogs outside. Food from the cancelled Family Fun Night was enjoyed.

Our magic show entertainer kept the kids eager to find Segie, the hedgehog, as they went on a treasure hunt. We had a pom-pom craft, hedgehog craft, face sticker craft, popcorn hand favor, spider web lacing craft, bounce-the-eye ball game, and pirate hook ring toss. The costumes were varied and fun.

Thanks to all who volunteered: Pastor Dan & Kim, Andy Morris, Dani & Brian Wolf, Jen Root, Kris Johnson, Kristen Michels, Maureen Case, Rikki Quandr, Sandy, Theresa Lizama, and all the bakers and other helpers for making the party a big success!

**mympca.org**

Learn more about your Community Association and keep track of its calendar of events at mympca.org.

### Volunteers Needed

Minerva Park’s 75th Anniversary Celebration  
**September 12, 2015**  
Call 890-2427 to help with the planning.

### MP’s Ordinances

*By Scott Doellinger, AIA  
Code Enforcement Officer*

**Sight Triangles**

Everyone uses sight triangles daily. They have nothing to do with optometry or drafting, but they may save your life. Sight triangles occur where roads intersect and where driveways meet roads.

MP Village ordinances require that an area measuring 35’ back from where one road intersects another have only ground cover plantings or grass. Any trees planted in the sight triangle must have branches trimmed at least 8’ above the ground.

Where driveways intersect roads, a sight triangle measuring 20’ along the road and 10’ down the drive from the street must have only ground plantings and any trees with branches trimmed at least 8’ above the ground.

Landscaping designed to meet these regulations allows drivers to safely see oncoming traffic and avoid accidents. Pedestrians and bicyclists may receive the most benefit from sight triangles, because vehicles can be seen more easily and drivers can see pedestrian and bicyclists.

Safe driving, riding, and walking to all.

### Variance Request

Monday, January 12, 6:30p, Community Bldg.

Attend a PUBLIC HEARING to consider a variance request.

- **Ben Roberts, 2759 Maplewood** - to allow a home-based business and parking of a utility trailer and equipment in an enclosed structure or behind a fence as to not be visible while standing on adjacent property or public right-of-way.
Thank you! I believe that I speak for my fellow elected officials expressing our gratitude for residents supporting the income tax increase issue in November. Voter turnout was overwhelming. Your support was both gratifying and humbling. Your Village Council and staff worked very hard to make sure that you had as much information as possible to be an informed voter and to understand the importance of this additional revenue stream. We will continue to work very hard and be good stewards of your hard-earned tax dollars.

The Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) will send a letter in mid-December informing those affected by the income tax increase of the effective date. RITA, administrator of MP’s income tax collections, is waiting for the election results to be certified, Village Council to pass the tax ordinance, and the Village to send a fully executed copy of the ordinance to RITA. As always, if you have any questions about the income tax or your returns or payment and filing status, you may call the Worthington RITA office at 1-800-860-7482.

FEMA Grant Money: As you may recall, the Village had applied to the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) for disaster relief funding in November 2012 for clean-up from the summer storm of 2012. We received a check for $5,369 in May 2013 from the State. I received a letter from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) asking us to fill out one last form to receive up to $6,295 of federal funding toward the same project. I have submitted the completed form, and FEMA confirms that it will be processed. This is an additional reimbursement grant for the Village’s expenses for tree and debris removal, staffing during the emergency, i.e., police officers blocking the streets so tree removal crews could work safely in the dark, etc. I will let you know what the final check amount is, once we receive it.

In Memoriam: It was with great sadness that we learned of Don Champney’s passing. Don served the Village for many years before moving to the Cincinnati area to be near his daughter and her family. Don was active in the then-Minerva Park Civic Association, was a Councilman for many years, serving as the Finance Committee Chairman, and was a member of the Planning & Zoning Commission. On a personal note, Don was my dear friend and mentor and possessed all the characteristics of a true gentleman. He had a pretty good sense of humor, too … he never heard a pun he didn’t like.

Carriage Ride Reservations: Remember, the deadline is 5 p.m. December 5 for you to submit your reservation. You must be a member of the MPCA to participate and have a maximum of 10 people per reservation. During the years, I have had residents asking for earlier and earlier confirmation letters or emails because it is so busy around the holidays. I try very hard to accommodate families with little ones, school-age children, and elderly family members and guests by assigning earlier times to ride because it can be very cold. You should receive a confirmation time by December 8 at the latest. I am already working on the schedule. The Carriage Rides are scheduled for Sunday, December 14, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

All Council members were present for the regular Council meeting held on November 10.

Code Enforcement: Code Enforcement Officer Scott Doellinger has been working with the businesses about sign issues. He visited each business, introduced himself, and provided the proprietors with a copy of our sign ordinance to make them aware of the Village’s rules. He visited them again a week later and sent letters to those businesses not yet in compliance. He also has sent six letters to residents concerning tree issues: dead trees or trees in rapid decline that pose a danger. Of those six, as I write my report to you, three trees have been removed, one has asked to wait until spring to gauge the viability of the tree, and the remaining residents have not responded. A
second letter will follow. Several RV or vehicle parking issues have been addressed. He is attempting to resolve two dilapidated fence issues on or near Cleveland Avenue. An inoperable vehicle has been removed. Scott has written several articles that will start appearing in the Villager to address some safety issues. The first is about site triangles (page 2) that would provide a driver with clear visibility of oncoming traffic. He has been working with Chief Nuesse to identify these sites and how to remedy the situations, i.e., trimming or removing bushes, etc.

**Police:** Chief Kim Nuesse thanked the residents in the audience for their support of the income tax levy that translates into support for the Police Department. She has sent an advertisement to the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police to post job positions. Thus far, she has received eight phone call and two email inquiries. Interviewing will begin as soon as viable candidates are available.

**EMS/Fire:** Chief Rick Hoechtetter was excused. He had provided his monthly report and confirmed that all of the Village hydrants have been winterized.

### Planning & Zoning:
Councilwoman Pam Park-Curry had nothing to report because the meeting was rescheduled to November 11 because the regular meeting night for Planning & Zoning (November 4) was Election Day.

**Legal:** Law Director Jennifer Croghan will send letters and proposed contract revisions to both Anthem and Medical Mutual explaining the Village’s position on the EMS billing agreements and will await responses.

**In closing,** I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Your support this past year, a most challenging year, has been most appreciated. Please watch for the 2014 Year in Review reports in early 2015. We have a lot of work to do in 2015 and are looking forward to it.

**Residents are invited to attend and observe committee meetings ...**

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

**Finance,** John Michels. Income Tax - As you have no doubt heard, the Minerva Park income tax issue passed by 62%, with a vote of 395 for and 246 against. Thank you for turning out in such high numbers to make your voices heard. Collection will begin January 1, 2015, and the Village will start to see the new revenue starting April 1.

Bank Transition - The Village is taking steps to exit depositories at StarOhio and Fifth-Third Bank and is waiting for outstanding checks to clear. We’ve opened accounts and ordered checks at WesBanco, and full consolidation to WesBanco is on track for January 1.

Financials - As of October 31, year-to-date expenditures in the General Fund were $828,231.81. Notably, spending is down 10% from this same time in 2013.

Watch minervapark.org for dates of Committee meetings. Future discussion will include 2015 health insurance and the 2015 budget. Call or e-mail me with any questions: mp-michels@minervapark.org, 273-9026.

**Legislation,** Pam Park-Curry. The November Council meeting had the final readings and passage of legislation related to the renewal of contracts for Village Engineer, Law Director, Mayor’s Court Magistrate, Plumbing Inspections, and Prosecutor. We are still waiting for contracts for Public Defender and IT Services and will pass those resolutions once we receive those contracts. EMS- and Police-related resolutions involved agreements with providers for EMS billing, DUI Task Force, and with towing companies so the MP Police Department can rely on responsive service when needed. Ordinances going through readings and being worked on include amending the Fence Ordinance, making changes to the Motor Vehicle Service and Repair Ordinance, and adopting the 2012 International Property Maintenance Code. In late November and early December, members of the Finance Committee, the Safety Committee, and the Legislative Committee will address the Health Insurance Agreement and the 2015 Appropriations Budget, both of which will be adopted by resolution. December also will have the passage of Ordinance 1-2014, now that the results of the Income Tax Increase Ballot Issue are official. The increase will go into effect on January 1, 2015.

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
The Villager - December 2014 Page 5

Christmas Carriage Rides - Sunday, December 14, 5:30p-8:30p
Reservation deadline December 5, 5 p.m.
Register online at my-mpca.org or email your reservations to mayor@minervapark.org
or deliver to Lynn Eisentrout (882-5743), 2829 Minerva Lake Rd.
If you have not paid your MPCA membership dues of $20 for the coming year, please put your check, payable to MCPA or Minerva Park Community Association, in an envelope with your name on it, and deposit it the mail slot at the Community Building door. Remember, Carriage Rides are open to MPCA members only.

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

Preferred Times (not guaranteed)  Phone #

Email address for confirmation

Need a Night Out?
Give Erin a shout!

Erin’s Babysitting Service
Red Cross and Children’s Hospital Certified
Also available on weekend days so you can do errands.

Erin Walsh
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10% up to $500 Off Premium Products

444-ROOF
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Must present coupon at initial appointment.

Ohio
Tree Care Inc.
432-2834
ISA-Certified Arborist

Safety, Todd Walter. The MP Police Department liquidated miscellaneous firearms, making it possible to purchase firearms for our officers. Previously, our officers had to provide their own firearms. The Village has purchased tasers, and training is being arranged with Blendon Township Police, at no charge, by the end of November.

Service, Jennifer Pauken.
Nothing new to report. As always, please feel free to contact me at mp-pauken@minervapark.org or 891-5880 with any questions or concerns.

Streets, Ed Detwiler. The next committee meeting will include the Village Engineer (CH2M Hill) to explore options for new maintenance materials and processes to evaluate if there is an opportunity to be more cost effective. Any residents who wish to report damage to their streets are encouraged to contact me at 895-0465 or at mp-detwiler@minervapark.org.
On the Beat

By Police Chief Kim Nuesse

“Thank you” to our residents for voting for the income tax increase. We are pleased to continue providing police services to our community and appreciate your support. It is our goal to be fully staffed again 24/7 by spring 2015, when the additional revenue from the tax increase is projected to be collected. It will take the Police Department a few months to advertise for candidates to fill the open positions, conduct interviews and background checks, and train the new officers.

If you have not “friended” our Police Department Facebook page, you are missing out on up-to-date crime and traffic prevention, education, and enforcement information in the Village. We are making it more interactive and helpful, so be sure to connect with us out at facebook.com/minervapark.pd. Check us out on Twitter at MPpolicechief@twitter.com for another social media connection.

We had a well-attended south side block watch meeting on November 6 at the Community Building. Residents who live on Maplewood, Lakewood, Briar Rose, and Alder Vista came to get more information about hosting block watches on their streets and learned how to report suspicious activity effectively to the police. We will be forming meetings for Woodley and Wildwood Road residents in January 2015.

Minerva Park Police are again sponsoring the “Cops for Kids” toys and clothing drive this year for local families in need. Donations of …

- Toys
- Games
- Arts and Crafts
- Books
- New hats, gloves, and coats … for infants through teens (boys and girls) would be greatly appreciated. The “Cops for Kids” donation box is located inside the Community Building at 2829 Minerva Lake Road. For more information, contact Lt. Matt Fenstermaker at 882-1408.

Have a safe Thanksgiving and Christmas season!

Mayor’s Court

Mayor’s Court is open to the public — our next sessions are December 3 and 17, 6 p.m. If you have questions, please call 882-1408.

Police Report

October - MP Police made 2 misdemeanor arrests.
24.. 1:48p, Minerva Lake Rd & Farview, warrant arrest
28.. 2:00p, 5400 blk Cleveland Ave, warrant arrest

Kevin R. Bacon
Attorney at Law

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

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Medic Report

October 2014
Medic 119 made 26 runs - 1 run into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 3 into Minerva Park, with 16 patients transported to local hospitals.
11 members volunteered a total of 205 hours for the month, bringing the year-to-date total to 2,174.4 hours. Leading volunteers for the month were Tim Lockard (27 hours), Marissa Kurtz (25 hours), and Brian Horton (24.5 hours).

MP Runs
10-1 .... Hemorrhage
10-19 .. Auto Accident
10-19 .. Ill Person

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

October 2014
Beg balance general fund......$377,795
Receipts............................$40,264
Disbursements................... ($79,394)
Ending balance..................$338,665

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Please ...

NO PARKING on MP Streets

... before, during, or after snowfalls. Snowplows do a cleaner, better job clearing our roads when vehicles are pulled into driveways. This is especially critical on the courts and cul-de-sacs where maneuvering space is limited.

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

Sharon Bierman - Design & Advertising
sharon.28801@gmail.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:
Monday, Dec 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.