Village Leaf Pick-up Program

By Councilman Brian Wolf, Chair of the Service Committee

The Village-wide leaf pick-up program should begin on or near October 10, based on leaf accumulation, and likely will continue through December 12. Start and end dates may change, depending on what Mother Nature throws our way.

To ensure the highest level of service for everyone and to protect the vendor’s equipment, please observe the following:

• **Rake leaves to the curb or edge of your yard only, NOT into the street.** While leaves left on the lawn may cause some discoloration of the grass, this is only temporary. Leaves raked into the street are likely to block storm drains, which may cause flooding – costing the Village money for remediation. Please be MP neighborly and keep your curb and street area free of this debris.

• **Only leaves** should be placed at the curb for pick-up. All other yard waste (brush, twigs, grass, or plant clippings) should be placed out for collection by Local Waste, MP’s trash collection vendor. Foreign objects, especially rocks and stones, bricks, and other debris can cause severe damage to the truck’s vacuum system.

• **Avoid parking on the street** during the collection period, especially if you live in a cul-de-sac. Collecting leaves from behind parked cars is difficult and inhibits efficient pick-up ... and it is very difficult for the large truck to navigate our narrow streets, especially on the tight cul-de-sacs.

Looking to dispose of your leaves in a more green, environmentally-friendly way? The October 2013 issue of the Villager (minervapark.org/villager/2013-10.pdf) has a comprehensive article by MPCA’s Green Team member Karen Cogley. She discusses the benefits of leaving some lie where they fall (adding nutrients back into your grass), starting a compost pile, or turning them into leaf mold.

Want to burn your yard waste? Read the MP Code Enforcement Officer’s article on page 5 first.

As always, please contact me at bwolf@minervapark.org or 614-537-3232 with any questions. •

Seeking euchre players to start a card club. Carol at 614-882-4825, carolo1969@peoplepc.com.

By Resident Jenny Lin

The year has started well, and – with the new playground equipment, including indoor recess games, and a buddy bench (encouraging friendship and interaction) – recess seems to be going well. An ESL teacher, big into technology, developed a maker space called the “Creation Station,” and the first Hawthorne Hackers Club will get going. The head ESL teacher is spearheading the first cultural festival, planned for spring 2017.

PTO meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month in the cafeteria. Watch for a Spirit Wear sale in October and fun events at hawthorneschool.org. •

Advertise in the Resident Directory &

the Villager
614-899-3755

OCTOBER DATES

5 (8a) ................. Mayor’s Court
5 (7p) ............... Planning & Zoning
8 (8a) ............... Council Work Session
10 (7p) ............. Council Meeting
12 (7p) .............. MPCA Meeting
17 (7p) ............... Coffee with Council
19 (8a) ......... Mayor’s Court
19 (5p) .............. Villager Deadline
23 (2p-4p) ........ Halloween Party
24 (7p) ............... Council Meeting
MP Community Association News

Getting Ready for the New Year

1 Update your listing in the MPCA Resident Directory.
Your Community Association produces a resident directory annually, containing important contact information for the MP Police and Fire Departments, MPCA committees, government officials, Planning & Zoning, local schools; trash collection; resident listings; MP map; and local-area advertising. It’s important that we publish accurate information, so please make sure your listing is correct. The directory is offered as a benefit of membership in your Community Association and can be purchased by non-MPCA members.

2 Join your Community Association. For an annual donation of only $20 (paid by mail or in person) or $21 (paid online), you can help support a wide variety of social events (some for MPCA members only) that help make our Village a special place to live. These include Christmas Carriage Rides; the children’s Halloween Party, Christmas Party, and Easter Egg Hunt; Family Fun Night; Wine & Cheese events at the pool; Garage Sales; Candidates Night; Nancy Fisher Memorial Scholarship; Garden Tour; Garden Awards; Festival of Lights; Duck Award for good citizenship; Welcoming Committee; Sunshine Committee; Resident Directory; the Villager newsletter, and more.

3 Give back to your community. We need volunteers and good folks to assist the officers and committee chairs, who for 2016-2017 were decided at the annual MPCA business meeting in September ... President Dani Wolf, Vice President Donna Kopecky, Secretary Jean McCall, Treasurer Dick Busick.

* * *

Update your resident listing and/or join your Community Association online at mympca.org/2016-membership-registration/ ... or fill out the form at the left and mail it to MPCA, 2829 Minerva Lake Road, Columbus 43231.

Advertise in the Resident Directory & the Villager 614-899-3755

For a Howlin' Good Time
MPCA Children’s Halloween Party
Sunday, October 23, 2p-4p
Community Building
Fall & Halloween crafts, snacks, games, candy, scavenger hunt. Bring a Trick or Treating bag and wear your best costume! As always, we can use some volunteers and some bakers. Please call BettyAnn Zimmerman at 614-815-2257.

Underwritten by your MPCA dues

First & Last Name
Area Code & Phone #
Additional Adult Name 1
Area Code & Phone # (if different)
Additional Adult Name 2
Area Code & Phone # (if different)
House Number & Street
Email (used by MPCA officials only, for MPCA communications)

☐ I am interested in officer, committee, or volunteer opportunities.
☐ I wish to join the Community Association for 2016-2017. Attached is my check for $20 made payable to the MPCA.
Well, I don’t know about you, but I am ready for fall. The pool season was pretty good because of the very hot summer. The end of the 2016 season revenue numbers should be available next month, once the last of the bills are paid.

**Rumors:** There are always rumors flying about, but there are quite a few concerning a proposed connection on the south side of the Village to the new development, specifically that a decision has already been made or is going to be made very soon. The facts are that no decision has been made, that the Village has several years to make that decision (before completion of the buildout), and that your elected officials have pledged to listen to the residents’ concerns, questions, and suggestions before making that decision.

To facilitate dialogue with our residents, I had suggested months ago that we have mini town meetings street by street. Why individual street meetings instead of one large town meeting? Smaller, more informal, meetings at the Community Building help facilitate conversation and we won’t have to rent a large venue.

The time has come for us to plan these get-togethers. This is what I am thinking: Beginning perhaps this winter, safety personnel, Council members, and I will meet with the Alder Vista residents in February, the Maplewood Drive residents in March, the East Shore Drive in April, etc. I think a lot of people have a lot to say, and we believe it is important that you are heard. After consulting with my fellow elected officials, we will begin to schedule meetings. I would like to hear from you. Is Sunday at 4 p.m. a good time? Would Saturday afternoon or a week day evening be better (for example, Coffees with Council are held the third Mondays of the month at 7 p.m.)? Please share your thoughts. We won’t be able to accommodate everyone, but we will try to find some convenient times. As always, I can be reached at mayor@minervapark.org or 614-882-5743.

**We need your help:** As Councilman Wolf states in his article on page 1, leaf pick-up will begin sometime around October 10 depending upon “leaf accumulation.” While walking in the Village, I have noticed that there are unusually large amounts of sticks, nuts, and debris on the streets in front of homes and near areas where leaf piles might be placed to be picked up. If some of this mixes in with the leaves when the leaf machine vacuums the leaves, this might damage the equipment. This possibly could present a problem for your leaves to be picked up, and what is left in the street washes down the gutters and clogs the storm drains, causing flooding. Residents used to sweep in front of their homes or blow the grass back in their yards after they mowed their lawns. One resident actually left piles of grass in the street. Where is our sense of pride in our Village? If we need to hire additional maintenance staff to clean up these messes, we will be spending your tax dollars. Please take a moment to clean up in front of your home. We will all benefit from it.

**M/I Homes Project:** For those of you who have been following my frequent “Construction Update” postings on the MPCA Facebook page, the project is moving along. The new road looks great with curbs, gutters, and fence. Sanitary sewer lines have been installed. The clubhouse has been demolished. There has been a lot of earthmoving and grading. Water lines should be installed soon. The Final Plat for Phase I will be considered by the Planning & Zoning Commission at their regular meeting on October 5. Street names have been assigned to the new development. A new and complete street name exhibit is on the Village website at minervapark.org/golfcourse.

**Lakes and Earthen Dam:** Many of you saw quite a bit of activity in and around the lakes several weeks ago, and then stakes with ribbons appeared. This was surveying and bathymetric (the study of underwater depth) work being conducted in preparation for dredging or excavating the lakes and possibly replacing the pipe that connects the two lakes. Samples were taken from the lake bottoms for testing. We are investigating the possibility of coordinating these projects with the dam remediation project. Dewatering (draining) the ponds is being considered to repair a broken pipe in the earthen dam until we can replace the dam.
and to aid in the engineering and other preparatory work to be done. We do not have a firm timeline for these projects because we need to coordinate with the Department of Natural Resources Dam Safety Division of Water for their approval of immediate repairs to the pipe, the reclassification of the dam, and preliminary dam remediation design plans that have been submitted to them. We will continue to keep you informed as we move forward.

Visit minervapark.org/golfcourse to stay up-to-date with the latest construction news.

* * *

If life were predictable, it would cease to be life, and be without flavor.

- Eleanor Roosevelt

**Committee Meetings**

- Residents are invited to attend and observe committee meetings. Dates and times are posted at the Community Building, Pool, Playground, minervapark.org, or call 614-882-5743.
  
  **Finance**, John Michels, jmiichels@minervapark.org or 614-273-9026. No report submitted.

  **Streets**, Michael Braun, mbraun@minervapark.org or 614-406-3758. No report submitted.

  **Community**, Russell Dobbins, rdobbins@minervapark.org or 614-565-3965. No report submitted.

  **Safety**, Scott Hansan, shansan@minervapark.org or 614-302-2433. No report submitted.

  **Service**, Brian Wolf, bwolf@minervapark.org or 614-948-2372. Leaf collection report on page 1.

  **Legislation**, Jennifer Pauken, jpauken@minervapark.org or 614-891-5880. Enacted legislation is posted at minervapark.org/legislation. Pending legislation is included in Council Meeting packets posted near the bottom of minervapark.org. Hard copies are available at the Community Building.

  Recent legislation includes:
  
  **Resolution 2016-21** - Fund transfers. 3 readings, passed.
  **Resolution 2016-23** - Police Officer final confirmation. 3 readings waived, passed as an emergency.
  **Resolution 2016-24** - Police Officer final confirmation. 3 readings waived, passed as an emergency.
  **Resolution 2016-26** - Leaf pick-up contract. 2nd reading.
  **Resolution 2016-27** - Sanitary sewer cleaning & videoing. 2 readings, passed as an emergency.
  **Resolution 2016-28** - Purchase of 2017 police vehicle. 1st reading.

  **Ordinance 9-2016** - EMS positions & wages. 3 readings, passed.
  **Ordinance 10-2016** - Supplemental appropriations. 3 readings waived, passed.
  **Ordinance 11-2016** - Supplemental appropriations. 3 readings waived, passed.
  **Ordinance 12-2016** - Farview dedication. 2nd reading.
  **Ordinance 13-2016** - Water-sewer surcharges. 2nd reading.
  **Ordinance 14-2016** - Village Planner position & wages. 2 readings, passed as an emergency.
  **Ordinance 15-2016** - Supplemental appropriations. 3 readings waived, passed.

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**Tom Fletcher, SRES**

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fletchlife@gmail.com
www.BakerRealtyGroup.com

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Don’t Get Burned
By Scott Doellinger, Code Enforcement Officer

Burning can seem like a good way to get rid of unwanted trash and garden/lawn waste. We have the expression “burn it up,” which really is describing a fire where most of the organic material combines with oxygen to create carbon dioxide. Only small amounts of minerals are left, as ash. The “up” part of the expression accurately describes how smoke and carbon dioxide are released in the air.

Minerva Park Ordinance 660.08 restricts open burning to fires for cooking or campfire enjoyment. The ordinance further requires the fire to be of “minimum size” and constructed of clean burning fuel to “minimize the generation and emission of air contaminants.” It further prohibits the introduction of trash, waste, and yard waste into the fire. So the old trick of having a package of hot dogs nearby to claim the trash fire is a “campfire” will not be accepted by the Minerva Park Fire Department or Code Enforcement Officer. Violation is a minor misdemeanor and a fine equal to the cost of having the pre-burned material disposed of properly. Remember, leaves are removed by a contractor hired by the Village at no additional charge to the homeowner. These leaves are taken to a composting center where they are composed into usable compost for use around plantings and as soil augmentation.

Bottom line … burning creates pollution. Some Minerva Park residents are more sensitive to those pollutants than others. Anyone with breathing difficulties because chronic sinusitis, allergies, and asthma can suffer greatly from the air pollution caused by burning. These problems can cause a host of symptoms such as nasal congestion, runny nose, itchy or watery eyes, chest congestion, cough, wheezing, labored breathing, and shallow breathing.

So please be respectful of your neighbor and don’t pollute. Keep campfires to a minimum for enjoyment and make sure they are clean-burning, generating a minimum of smoke and pollution.

sdoellinger@minervapark.org
614-882-5743

Christmas Carriage Rides - Sunday, December 18, 5:30p-8:30p
Reservation deadline December 1, 5 p.m.
Register online at mympca.org or email your reservations to mayor@minervapark.org or deliver to Lynn Eisentrout (882-5743), 2829 Minerva Lake Rd.

Carriage Rides are open to MPCA members only. Not a Community Association member? Join the MPCA ... membership form on page 2 ($20) or online ($21) at mympca.org/2016-membership-registration/.

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

Preferred Times (not guaranteed)

Email address for confirmation

Made possible by your MPCA dues

Mayor’s Court

Mayor’s Court is open to the public — our next sessions are October 5 & 19, 8 a.m. If you have questions, please call 614-882-1408.

August 2016
Citation payments .................. 45
Village General Fund .......... $3,535
Computer Funds ............... $428
Remitted to the State ......... $1,125
Columbus ......................... $45
Capital Recovery System ...... $0
Total Court Receipts .......... $4,770

Police Report

August - MP Police made no arrests.
13.. 12:18a, Minerva Park Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, 5460 Cleveland Ave, warrant on file
18.. 10:58a, Gordon Food Service, 5409 Cleveland Ave, warrant on file
31.. 5:32p, 2800 blk Alder Vista Dr, warrant on file •

Village Financials

If you have questions about the information provided here, please call Fiscal Officer Jeffrey Wilcheck at 614-882-5743.

August 2016
Beg balance Gen'l Fund ...... $647,144
Receipts........................................ $305,138
Disbursements.................. ($120,431)
Ending balance............. $831,850
Minerva Park Police would like to remind our residents of two very important phone numbers for reaching the police.

9-1-1 for emergencies
614-525-3333 is the non-emergency dispatch phone number (Franklin County Sheriff’s Office dispatches our police by radio). Use this phone number to make a report, to call in suspicious activity or traffic issues, or to have an officer respond to your location for information.

We will be sponsoring a costume parade for children (parents are welcome to dress up, too) on Sunday, Oct. 23, at 1:30 p.m., weather permitting. The staging area for the parade will be the Hawthorne Elementary School parking lot and will proceed west, along Minerva Lake Road, ending at the Community Building at 2 p.m., just in time for the Halloween Party for the children, which is hosted by the Minerva Park Community Association.

Minerva Park Police Department also is sponsoring a Halloween Pet Costume Contest on our Facebook page: facebook@minerva.park.7. You can submit your photos on Facebook beginning Monday, Oct. 24, until Sunday, Oct. 30 at 6 p.m. We will announce the winners in three categories (“Most Original,” “Funniest,” and “Coolest”).
on Monday, Oct. 31, at 10 a.m. on our Facebook page.

Did you know that Village ordinance 452.13 prohibits parking trailers, boats, or RV vehicles on the street? Parking on the grass also is not permitted per ordinance 452.14.

Minerva Park Police posts crime, traffic, and other urgent or emergency information on our Facebook page and Twitter. Check us out! •

August 2016
Medic 119 made 25 runs - 4 runs into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 1 into Minerva Park, with 17 patients transported to local hospitals. 15 members served a total of 306 hours for the month, bringing the year-to-date total to 1,792 hours. Leading staff for the month were Tim Lockard (38.8 hours), Thomas Balliett (37.3 hours), & Jonathan Marsh (37 hours).

Medic Report

MP Runs
8-29 .... Ill Person

Early voting begins Oct. 12. MP’s ballot is posted on the website, and - as in the past - it will be published in the November issue of the Villager. It offers voters an opportunity to review the candidates and issues. You may mark your choices and take it with you to the polls.

This year’s ballot includes races for several national, state, and local positions and levies for Westerville Schools and COTA.

Download the ballot from minervapark.org/ballot.pdf or see the full MP ballot in the November issue of the Villager. •

Margaret Maks
margaretmaks@gmail.com
315-2807

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Christmas Carriage Rides
December 18
Reservation deadline Dec 1
For MPCA members - form on page 5

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

MPCA website - mympca.org
MPCA Facebook - facebook.com/
groups/26403899150/
Village website - minervapark.org
Police Facebook - facebook.com/
minervapark.pd

Sharon Bierman - Design & Advertising
sharon.28801@gmail.com 614-899-3755
MPCA President Dani Wolf......................614-937-1994

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, October 19, 5p

Residents are invited ...
Monday, October 17
7p Community Building

to have “Coffee with Council.” This is your
opportunity to meet with your Council Members
and discuss Village issues.

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