

the Villager



The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Councilman Stahr Thanks Village for Support of the Lake Project

At the November council meeting, Councilman Dave Stahr thanked the village for its support of the proposal to restore the south lake. "Foremost, I would like to thank the entire community for its overwhelming approval of the bond issue," Stahr said. "It is gratifying when a project you've worked so hard to organize is recognized by the community as something important."

Stahr also thanked others for

their work on the project over the last three-and-a-half years: **village council, Lou and Felicia Busick, Citizens for the Lake, and the Kilbourne Run Ravine Brigade**, which included **Fred Braun, Jim Delfino, Marty Grosh, and Marv Rhyner**. The lake renovation project is scheduled to begin in early spring.

See article on page 2 for an update on the lake restoration project.

MPCA Continues Membership Drive



We thank all of the residents who have paid their \$10 membership fee to the MP Community Association during our annual membership drive. If a volunteer hasn't gotten to you yet – or missed you while you were out – please support your community association by sending a check (made payable to "MPCA Membership") to the Community Building at 2829 Minerva Lake Road.

Your membership dues help us pay for the annual directory, *the Villager*, Founders' Day, children's events, community gardens and parklands, scholarships, new resident welcomes, and sunshine activities.

MP



Village Alert

Minerva Park Police have warned that an unknown male has been sighted in the Minerva Park area. The suspect was described as a plump elderly man with a white beard. He was last seen wearing a red suit with white faux-fur trim, a wide black belt, and heavy black boots. The man has reportedly taken cookies and other edibles from homes while leaving toys and candy (and sometimes coal) in residents' footwear.

You'd better watch out!

DECEMBER DATES

- 12 (9a-4p) Hazardous Waste Collection at 4260 Morse Rd.
- 14 (8:00p) Council Meeting
- 16 (7:30p) MPCA Meeting
- 18 (5:00p) Villager Deadline
- 25 Ho! Ho! Ho!

Voter Approval Puts Lake Restoration Plan in Motion

After residents approved the bond restoration issue last month by a 3-to-1 margin, village officials got right to work developing a \$365,000, 17-year bond proposal to present to potential investors. The council finance committee, headed by Lou Busick, met with bond attorney Rebecca Princehorn on November 5 to develop an action plan to sell the tax-exempt, municipal bond. The group discussed ways to structure the bond package so it would cost taxpayers and the village the least amount of money. The committee decided to recommend that the village seek a single buyer who will promise to hold the bond for the entire 17-year term to keep administrative costs at a minimum.

The finance committee's plan was unanimously approved at the November council meeting. Also at that meeting, council discussed establishing a separate fund to collect the \$365,000 and a "retirement" fund to collect taxes and donations from which the village will repay the bond principal and interest. The establishment of these special funds would allow the village to track the funds collected from the levy apart from the general village funds, Busick explained.

With help from the village's bond attorney, Mayor Jack Murray has contacted several local banks to see if they are interested in purchasing the bond. Council expects to sell the bond by the end of this year.



Minerva Park Police

- 10-1 ... 3:38p, Hawthorne Elementary, menacing threats.
- 10-22 . 2:45a, 5424 Cleveland, false alarm.
- 10-26 . 7:46p, 5474 Cleveland, false alarm.
- 10-30 . 2:35a, 2600 blk Maplewood, false alarm.

Medic 119 ...

Where are you?

October 1998

In October, Medic 119 made 65 runs with 15 into Blendon Township (exclusive of Minerva Park) and 4 into Minerva Park. Thirty patients were transported to local hospitals.

Members volunteered a total of 1,249 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 11,514. Leading volunteers for the month were **Aaron Wilbur (119 hours)**, **Anthony Huffman (109 hours)**, and **Pamela Price (102 hours)**. **Aaron Wilbur** leads the year-to-date totals with 1019 hours.

MP Runs

- 10-5 .. Ponderosa Dr., injured person
- 10-7 .. Minerva Lake Rd., gas leak
- 10-23 Cleveland Ave., chest pain
- 10-31 Alder Vista Dr., difficult breathing

Police Phone Numbers Explained

Recently residents have had some difficulty reaching the village police department because they are calling the wrong number, Chief Bobbie Hillard explained. He said that people have been calling the 882-1408 number and leaving messages on the answering machine when perhaps they need help immediately. Hillard asked residents to use these guidelines when they need to contact the Minerva Park Police Department:

9-1-1 Emergencies (medical, fire, or police).

882-1223 Non-Emergency Number. If you need to file a police report or to speak with an officer. This will connect you to the radio room. An officer will be dispatched.

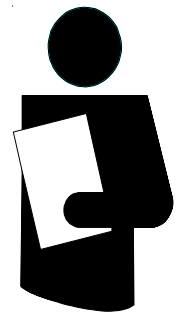
882-1408 Police Office. If you wish to speak with the Police Chief or the Clerk of Courts. This number will connect you to the Police Department office and, during non-office hours, to an answering machine. You may leave messages about the House Watch Program or any other questions. The appropriate person will answer your request as soon as possible.



Please note these clarifications in your village directory.

MAYOR'S REPORT

By Jack Murray



By the time you read this our leaf pick-up program should be about complete. I think the crew did an excellent job this year.

The Minerva Lake Road water line project still has a way to go before completion. I hope the street repairs can be completed before cold weather. The plants that make the repair materials close for the winter, usually in early December. The landscaping repair and replacement will have to be done in the spring. I want to apologize for the late start on this project and the resulting problems, but the circumstances were such that we could not do much better.

Our police department received an award from the Franklin County DUI Task force on November 18, 1998. This award was a certificate of appreciation for efforts of our officers to apprehend people who drive while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

We finally found a reliable contractor to complete some needed repair work on the back wall of the community building. Much of the stucco had come loose and cracked. He replaced and painted. Looks good.

Here's what happened during the November council meeting:

- The fire department reported receiving reimbursement money from the state for training. This money will go into the EMS Medic Fund for their continuing education.
- Grates have been installed over some of the storm water inlets that had been open. We still have a water ponding problem on Maplewood to correct.
- Our former police officer, Rodock, is continuing to appeal his dismissal, this time to Common Pleas Court.
- Our Planning and Zoning Commission wasn't very busy this month. We approved a fence installation and heard an application for a home business.
- The police officers will pass out flyers to inform interested folks about the children's Christmas Party.
- The solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio wants to raise the tipping fee for the dumping and disposal of our trash. The suburbs have challenged this effort because the increased fee is primarily to help pay the power plant debt to Columbus. The solid Waste Rate Advisory Board has held three meetings on this matter, which I have attended. A ballot was given to the representative of each municipality to express their

positions. My vote and a majority of the others were to not increase the fee. We'll see what happens.

■ A resolution to accept the FCC Form 394 submitted by Ameritech New Media and a resolution to amend Resolution 4B-10.

■ Final appropriation Budget was approved.


■ A first reading of a resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to enter into a contract with the City of Columbus to prosecute certain cases in Municipal Court was approved.

■ A resolution authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to no longer maintain a separate checking account for the waterline replacement fund.

■ Councilman Moore moved to establish a committee to explore the possibility of making the Minerva Lake Golf course part of the village of Minerva Park.


My wife says, "They're carrying this DNA stuff too far! The next thing you'll hear is somebody claiming to be related to Adam and Eve." **MP**






Michael J. Rosati
General Manager


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RESIDENT

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Safety Corner

By your
Fire Department



O' Christmas Tree, O' Christmas Tree ...



If your holiday celebrations include a real tree, there are a few simple steps that we suggest you take to keep the tree looking good (and safe) until twelfth-night arrives all too soon.

- While selecting a tree, conduct a "freshness" test by gently grasping a small branch and pulling it toward you. If the tree is fresh, this action should result in very little loss of green needles. Next, shake or bounce the tree. Once again, it should not lose very many green needles. Some brown needles may fall, but this is normal.
- Until you are ready to decorate your tree, keep it in a sheltered, unheated area, such as a garage. When you are ready to decorate your tree, cut about a quarter-inch off the base of the trunk and immediately put the freshly cut trunk in a stand capable of holding at least a gallon of water.
- A freshly cut tree is capable of absorbing that gallon of water during the first day and more than an additional quart each of the following days. If the water level in the holder ever dips below the base of the trunk, you'll have to cut another quarter inch from the trunk to remove the sap plug that will form.
- Make sure to keep your tree well away from drafts and sources of heat, such as fireplaces, radiators, baseboard heaters and television sets.
- Check your lights before putting them on the tree. Make sure that there are no cracked cords or



missing or broken lights.

- Be sure to turn the lights off before you go to bed at night. What is really handy here is a switched outlet.
- We'd like to add a few tips in closing. There are almost as many theories on what to add to the water in a tree stand as styles of decorations. The American Christmas Tree Association says the best thing to add is more water. If you simply make sure that the tree never runs dry, you will have done the most to preserve the tree's good looks.
- We gratefully acknowledge the source of this information, the American Christmas Tree Association. They also have information on maintaining live trees, information on local tree farms, and some games for children out on their web site:
<http://www.christree.org>

As always, if we can help you, just give us a call at 882-3375. We hope you have a bright and cheerful holiday season.

Stay Well, Stay Safe.

For help ANY TIME, call 911.



444-ROOF

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Coupon

Coupon

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- EVERYDAY -

\$1.25

\$1.25

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Holiday Security

Before you head out for even a few hours, for the weekend, or for a holiday trip, review this security checklist. Houses that look empty are prime targets for criminals who cruise the neighborhoods regularly this time of year.



1. Lock all doors & windows.
2. Leave all shades and blinds in their normal positions.
3. Advise a trusted neighbor of your travel plans and ask him/her to watch out for suspicious people and/or activity around your home and property.
4. Call the police department at 882-1408 for a vacation house watch. Provide them with emergency numbers, key holders, and other security details. A cruiser will drive by periodically to check your property as time allows.
5. Don't allow deliveries of any kind to accumulate on your doorstep. If you do not wish to cancel deliveries, arrange for a neighbor to pick them up. Don't forget to have your mail held for your return or picked up by a neighbor.
6. Arrange for lawn mowing or snow shoveling at proper times.
7. Connect one or two lamps and perhaps a radio to an automatic timer. They are inexpensive and help to make your home appear occupied.
8. Refrain from publicizing your exciting vacation or trip until *after* your return.

Halloween Party Draws a Crowd

About 40 children attended the annual MPCA Halloween Party at the community building on October 25. Kids participated in several crafts, got their turn swinging at a piñata, and watched a special holiday puppet show.

The MPCA thanks **Tammy Bennett** and **Suzanne Coulter** for organizing the party and the volunteers who baked goodies, helped with the activities, and passed out candy. We also want to thank all the children (and their parents) for showing us their fun and imaginative costumes this year! **MP**



Does someone in your family have a special birthday coming up? Have you received an award or promotion? Tell us about it! Send special notices to

Villager Editor, 2829 Minerva Lake Rd., or drop your notice in the box on the door at 2769 Minerva Lake Rd. All submissions must include a name and phone number.

Villagers

Happy birthday to **Clara Van Alta**, 2924 Kerrwood Drive. She turns 80 on December 20.

*Welcome
Our New Neighbors!*

Chuck Gibson and **Alec Bisaha** recently moved in to 5291 Elmhurst Drive. Their phone number is 794-0106.

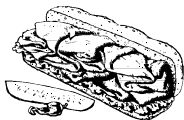
If you learn of any new residents, please advise the **Newcomers Committee**
Jim Kehl, 794-0047

GREAT PIZZA

882-FOOD (3663)

161 & Cleveland Ave.

on the service road next to the drive-thru

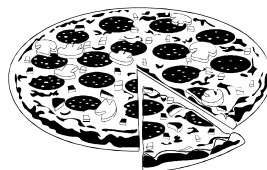


SPECIAL

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Free delivery.

And with a \$7 or more purchase, receive a free 2-liter bottle of soda!



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RESIDENT
Bob, Ellen, & Zach

Minerva Park **CLASSIFIED**

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 Sun 12-5
 Closed Wed & Thur

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FOR SALE

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Call **523-3846**
 for pictures & details



FOR RENT

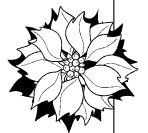
CONDO in GATLINBURG TN

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- Selling Homes in Minerva Park for the past 15 Years
- Past President of the Northeast Area Realtors Association
- Member of the Columbus Board of Realtors \$25 Million Club



Bonnie Limes
 CRS, GRI



Joe Walker & Assoc.

Advertise in *the Villager* ... 882-3663



the Villager Staff

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 Contributor Rick Hoehstetter

The *Villager* is distributed to all MP homes on the 1st Monday of each month inside a plastic hang bag - either alone or with advertising flyers. Residents are invited to submit articles, letters to the editor, & other items of interest. Use the drop box at the Community Building or on the Editor's front door.

A business-card size advertisement costs \$15 and must be prepaid. The *Villager* reserves the right to refuse publication of any item submitted. All items presented for publication must include the contributor's name and phone number.

Next deadline:
Friday, December 18, 5:00 p.m.



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