

# the Villager

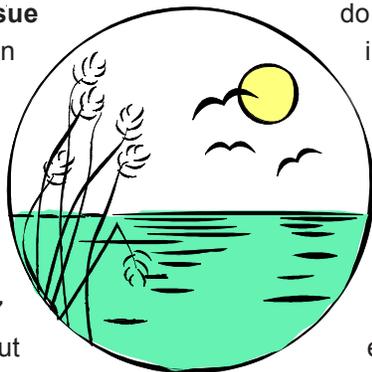


The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## MP Officials Ask Residents to Vote on November 3 FOR Lake Issue

In addition to local and statewide races and issues, the Village of Minerva Park is asking residents to approve a **17-year, \$365,000 bond issue** to fund the restoration of the south lake. The project would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home (as assessed by the Franklin County Auditor) **appx. \$37 per year**, or about 1.21 mils. Village government promises to continue to seek other funding for the project that would reduce the debt.

Councilman Dave Stahr explained that the lake restoration project is needed because silt has filled in about 1/3 of the south lake, with the average depth of the remaining lake now between 5 feet to 10 feet. As the lake continues to fill, it will provide more breeding ground for mosquitoes and will become a smelly eyesore. By the year 2012, the south lake will no longer support aquatic life.



Such deterioration could adversely affect property values throughout the community, he added.

Stahr said the time is right to do this project. Bond interest rates are at their lowest in 30 years, the lake depth and water quality studies are current and paid for, water quality is still good enough that disposal of sludge doesn't require hazardous material handling, and the village has a free disposal site.

If the project is approved, a combination of dredging and excavation will bring the depth of the south lake to an average of 8 feet. The project will also include an aeration system (probably with fountains), erosion control, and restocking with a variety of aquatic life. The project will begin in March or April 1999 and will take about three months.

**Don't forget to vote!**

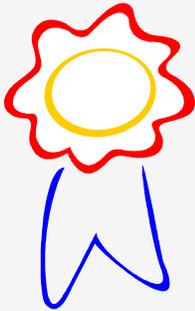
## MPCA Continues Membership Drive

We thank all of the residents who have paid their \$10 membership fee to the MPCA during our annual membership drive. If a volunteer hasn't been at your house 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.

### NOV CALENDAR

- 3 ..... Election Day
- 7 (9a-4p).... Hazardous Collection
- 8 (10a-2p). Hazardous Collection
- 9 (8:00p) ..... Council Meeting
- 11 (7:30p) ..... MPCA Meeting
- 20 (5:00p) ..... Villager Deadline
- 26 ..... Thanksgiving



## Minerva Park Named One of Central Ohio's Best Neighborhoods

In its October issue, **Columbus Monthly** magazine told central

Ohio something we already knew – that Minerva Park is one of the best neighborhoods in the area. The magazine staff chose its 20 best Franklin County neighborhoods by interviewing residents and municipal and civic association officials. They also looked for communities that had features they believed most people were looking for: nearby schools, mature trees, active civic associations, sidewalks, housing diversity, and convenient shopping.

Minerva Park was described as an "oasis," and they listed our lakes, wildlife, pool, and many community events as special features. They also cited our community's quiet, friendly, and safe atmosphere.

The magazine had the Danter Company compile some statistics on the winners. Here's what they estimated for Minerva Park, based on 1990 census, auditor record, and other data:

**Population:** 1,416.

**Minority population:** 4%.

**Average household size:** 2.18.

**Median housing value:** \$127,365.

**Average household income:** \$66,387.

**Average household wealth:** \$228,736.

**Median age:** 50.4 (*the oldest in the group*).

\*\*\*

Minerva Park was in good company on the list. Some of the other neighborhoods listed in the article were Central Bexley, North Clintonville, Old Arlington, Old Worthington, Muirfield Village, Riverlea, and Victorian Village.



**Minerva Park  
Police**

- 9-4 ..... 7:15a, 3200 blk Minerva Lake Rd., menacing threats.
- 9-4 ..... 7:45a, 2600 blk Minerva Lake Rd., false alarm.
- 9-5 ..... 11:35a, 2500 blk Jordan Rd., theft discovered.
- 9-7 ..... 3:30p, 2800 blk Alder Vista Dr., death from natural causes.
- 9-9 ..... 11:20a, 2700 blk Wildwood Rd., theft discovered.
- 9-2 to 9-11, 2800 blk Minerva Lake Rd., theft.
- 9-12 ... 11:30p, 2600 blk Maplewood Dr., burglary, unfounded.
- 9-15 ... 8:30p, Inskeep Printers, false alarm.
- 9-13 to 9-18, 5300 blk Ponderosa Dr., telephone harassment.
- 9-30 ... Sally Beauty Supply, breaking & entering.
- 9-30 ... 7:03p, MP Nursing Home, unauthorized use of a vehicle.

## MPCA's Annual Festival of Lights Contest

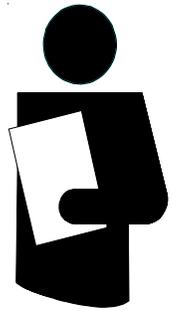
Time to bring out the lights! Weather permitting, the judging for this year's contest will be approximately three weeks before Christmas, Dec. 4-7. The dates are early so we can herald your decorations in the January *Villager* (which comes out before most people take the lights down). Winners will receive a gift certificate from a local nursery. Winners and runners-up will be listed in *the Villager*. Sorry, but households that won last year are ineligible. Judges will include adults and teens from different areas of the park. People interested in judging should contact **Tim Curry, 890-5809**.

First place winners will be selected in six categories:

1. Best Outdoor Tree
2. Best Entranceway
3. Best Religious Theme
4. Best Whimsical Display
5. Best Outline Effect
6. Best Daytime Display

# MAYOR'S REPORT

By Jack Murray



**POLICE** - Our Police Chief and I have completed a 14-hour course covering institutional change in the way **police and safety programs** are conducted. During this workshop, I realized that most police organizations - both large and small - have much the same problems.

We have lost one of our part-time police officers, **Patrolman Moore**. Blendon Township lured him with better pay. We're sorry to see him leave but wish him well.

We dismissed a **former police officer** who appeared before council during our regularly scheduled meeting on 10-12-98 to appeal the dismissal. Council rejected his appeal by a 6 to 0 vote. Prior to the meeting, the officer had convinced Channel 4 TV that he was being wronged, so it had a crew present. If anyone has a concern on this matter and would like to discuss it, please call for a meeting time.

The safety committee recommended to council that the **light bars** on the police cars be replaced. Council approved up to \$2,500 for this effort. We are still without the services of a **LEADS machine**. The safety committee will continue looking into the ways and means of obtaining the equipment

**WATER LINES** - Our water line replacement on **Minerva Lake Road**

is progressing well. If Columbus cooperates with its part (pressure testing & chlorinating the lines), we might complete the installation part before Christmas. Completion of the street repairs may or may not be completed at that time.

I have just this week been notified that Phase IV of our water line replacement program has been awarded the necessary funding. This means we will be able to replace the lines on Wildwood Rd., Woodley Rd., Cardinal Ct., & North Bay Dr. This will finish the replacement of all the old original water lines and hopefully will reduce the water line breaks to near zero for at least the next 20 to 30 years.

**STREETS** - We are making a survey of our **street and traffic control signs**. If you have any comments or suggestions, write me a note or call Councilman **Marty Grosh** (899-1815), who is doing the survey.

Council is trying to find a spot for a **stone sign** similar to the ones on Cleveland Ave., to be placed at the east end of Minerva Lake Rd. Placing it on the south side of the road would require an easement from Columbus.

We will be installing some **restricting devices** on several storm water drains, which are now

open ... to help keep our storm sewers from filling up with leaves and other debris. I would also ask everyone to keep these drains clear of leaves, especially those drains that are in front of your own houses. Thanks for this extra help!

**OTHER MATTERS** - Don't forget to **vote** on the lake dredging levy - Tuesday, 11/3. We need your voice.

Remember the **leaf pick-up** schedule noted in the flyer. Last year, some people waited until after the last day of pick-up, and that caused a problem.

The proposed extension of **Morse Road to Bethel** is going to be studied and analyzed again, this time by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. As a member of the Policy Committee, I will be called upon to vote on their final recommendations. If you have an opinion, let me know.

A gas leak was discovered at the community building (and you thought I acted this way because I couldn't help it). It was found in time, and no harm was done.

I saw a bumper sticker: "Everyone is entitled to my opinion." This sounds like some politicians I know!  
**MP**

## Medic 119 ...

Where are you?

### September 1998

In September, Medic 119 made 32 runs with 10 into Blendon Township (exclusive of Minerva

Park) and 2 into Minerva Park. Sixteen patients were transported to local hospitals.

Members volunteered a total of 453 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 8,493. Leading volunteers for the month were **Aaron Wilbur (72 hours)**, **Anthony Huffman (60 hours)**, and **Michael**

**Ostrander (42 hours)**. **Aaron Wilbur** leads the year-to-date totals with 960 hours.

### MP Runs

9-7 .... Alder Vista Dr., possible DOA

9-7 .... Alder Vista Dr., injured person

## Chimney Maintenance

Proper maintenance of a chimney reduces the build-up of **creosote**, a black tarry substance which can block passageways or ignite. Begin with carefully selecting the **kind of wood** you will burn. The harder the wood, the smaller the creosote release into the chimney. Then curing that wood becomes important. Wood that is allowed to cure for 3 to 6 months after cutting and splitting will yield more heat and less creosote.

Maintaining proper **flue temperatures** is also a part of good chimney maintenance. Creosote condenses onto cold chimneys, while properly heated chimneys will trap much less. So burn an open fire until good flue tempera-

tures are achieved, then make sure the fire burns hot enough to maintain those temperatures.

Any chimney should be thoroughly **cleaned at least once a year**. Chimneys that get a lot of use will require more frequent cleaning. Remember, soot and creosote build-up in the chimney is what flue fire are made of. Keep it clean, and you have protected yourself from this danger.

As part of this chimney-cleaning process and following any chimney fire, the flue should be carefully inspected inside and out.

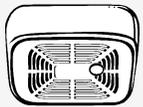
Specialized equipment is now available, which permits detailed internal inspection of the entire flue. The yellow pages list several companies (under "chimney cleaning") that are equipped to provide this inspection.

Never use a damaged flue - your safety is at risk. Have the problem corrected before using your fireplace again. Remember, your life may depend on it.

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Leaf collection will continue through December 7. Please make sure there are no twigs or grass clippings in your leaves, and keep the piles in your yard near the curb area, not in the street (your grass will recover, and the leaves might cover storm drains). Also, please don't park on the street if possible so collection can be done more easily and cheaply.



### Smoke Detectors

If you didn't change your smoke detector batteries when you reset your clocks back, please do so now. If you need help changing these batteries just call the **Fire Department** at **882-3375**, and we'll be glad to help.

## WANTED

Responsible adult for house-sitting chores in Minerva Park home 2-4 hours per week. Pay negotiable. Fax letter of interest to 895-8181 or mail to "Housesitter" c/o MPCA, 2829 Minerva Lake Rd.

Mon-Sat 12-7  
Sun 12-5  
Closed Wed & Thur

890-5235

### Minerva Park Furniture Gallery

32 Rooms Furniture, New, and Fine Antiques  
In Business for Over 22 Years



5200 Cleveland Ave.  
Between Morse & 161  
Columbus, Ohio 43231



## FOR RENT

### CONDO in GATLINBURG TN

2-bd, 2-ba condo with full kitchen, large balcony with view, 1 block from downtown parkway  
\$100 nightly with 2-night minimum

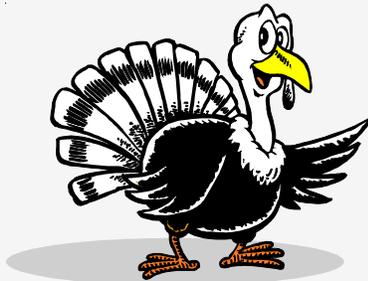
Chuck & Sue Graves ■ 464-7076 or 891-3945

# Safety Corner

By your  
Fire Department



## How to Cook that Bird



In November, it seems perfectly natural to discuss safety as it relates to the venerable turkey. Thanksgiving is only a couple of weeks away, and a few simple plans that will keep the family safe are in order.

1. No matter whether it comes fresh or frozen, keep your turkey refrigerated until you are ready to bake it. If your turkey is frozen, thaw just before roasting by running it under cold water. Do not leave it out to thaw.
2. If you plan to stuff your turkey, wait until you are ready to roast and rinse the

inner cavity with a lot of water. Do not stuff the bird and then refrigerate it again.

3. To calculate how long to cook a turkey at about 325°F, use 15 minutes per pound for birds under 16 pounds and 12 minutes per pound for birds larger than 16 pounds. These times will vary if you roast an unstuffed bird or roast it in a bag. If you have any questions about roasting a turkey, **Butterball** maintains a hotline: **(800) 323-4848**.
4. Experts say that a turkey needs to reach 180°F (as measured at the center of the thigh) to be safe to eat.
5. Be sure to wash with soap everything that has touched the uncooked turkey.

Experts also recommend that to ensure best results, baste the turkey while it is roasting about every 15-20 minutes.

**Stay Well, Stay Safe**

## Household Hazardous Waste Collections Scheduled

If you have a collection of old paint cans and chemicals piling up in your garage, now's the time to dispose of those household hazardous materials. Franklin County has scheduled drop sites in our area in the next few weeks.

Times are

**Saturdays,**

**9:00a -**

**4:00p** and

**Sundays,**

**10:00a to**

**2:00p.** No

oil or car

batteries will be accepted.

For more information, call **898-2480**.

**Nov. 7-8** - GE Superabrasives, 6325 Huntley Rd.

**Dec. 12-13** - Solid Waste Transfer Station, 4260 Morse Rd.



**For Sale** - Like-new white satin wedding gown, size 11-12. Appliquéd bodice, train, & underskirt. Originally \$800. Best offer. 895-8288.



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(South of 161 - Across from Meijer's)

Any Dry Cleanable Garment Cleaned and Pressed for Just \$1.75

**- EVERYDAY -**

\$1.25

\$1.25

Quality ◆ Service ◆ Value



# Flora Says... Good-bye

By Mary Yost

Because I am no longer able to continue with the activities of the MinervaFlora Committee, I thought I would talk about its historical activities. In spring 1988, Columbus was looking forward to hosting Ameriflora and was encouraging all of the neighborhood communities to spruce up and make themselves look as good as possible for all of the people that would be visiting Columbus.

A Minerva Park committee was formed with a council member, a woman's club member, and a civic association member. Its chairman once told me that she really didn't know the difference between a daffodil and a dandelion, so I decided it was time to volunteer my services and those of some other plant-loving people. We set out to make some improvements in the community, and I thought it might be a good idea to have a

garden-type column in *the Villager*, so that all the bits of information about AmeriFlora and our group – called MinervaFlora – would be centered in one place. To attract people's attention to this, I asked Ray Beougher to design a little figure with a hat. Flora has been sitting at the top of this column since June 1988, with the first column only 2" long.

Our first project was to improve the looks of the community building by installing some perennials, some hemlocks, and a lot of annuals. We also planted some annuals at the Cleveland Avenue pillars, as well as in the corners of the island by the golf course.

Unfortunately, about that time, it got really dry and we that learned we had bad soil & no facilities for watering. It was a hard struggle. We quickly decided that annuals were not for us, except right in front of the community building.

We also made plans to change the island at Briar Rose and the golf course island because on each one was a huge tree, both of which decided to die. Plantings at the golf course island at one end got run into by a car, and in general everything had outgrown its spaces. We started completely over again on those, and the beds that you see in those places now are the results of our labors, with a few purchased shrubs and donations from the community.

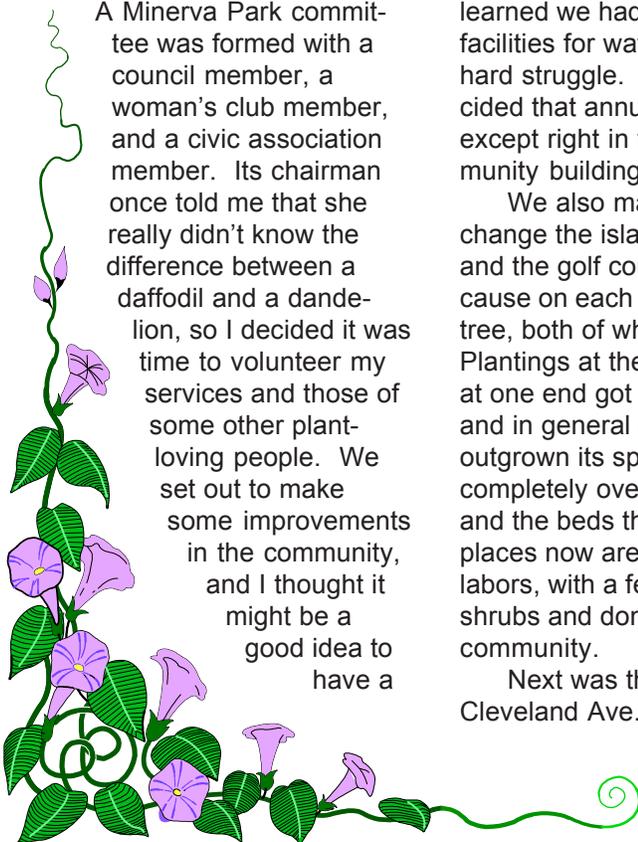
Next was the widening of Cleveland Ave. – our planted

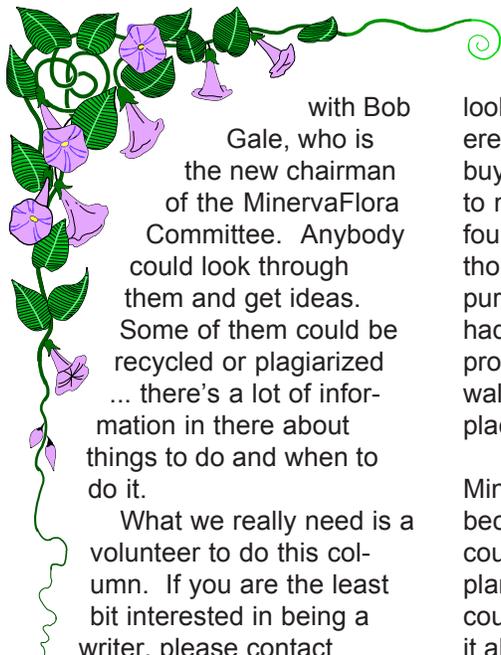
shrubs and the pillars were going to be done away with. We planned a new bed on Maplewood, near the golf course, and had a big project of moving things that we had planted not too long before into this *new* bed. Of course we added a few things while we were doing it. The neighbors started to make a bed at the end of Lakewood where the path starts across the spillway ... and quickly decided to do away with that – it was too much work. It left us with an eyesore which we lit into and fixed up a bit.

Then we worked in the playground area with replacement trees because so many of our trees were dying. We added several evergreens for a winter look. Northland Community Council planted trees near the Ponderosa entrance and then asked us to maintain them. We're hoping to improve our maintenance of the SR 161 beds.

The amount that we can accomplish is influenced by the number of volunteers we have. The community association has been very generous in giving us money for our annuals. The council has appropriated funds for trees that we have put in. We have had volunteers keep the lakeshore banks clear of undesirable plantings so more desirable things could grow, and we have done some planting along there. However, we always need more volunteers, more workers ... if everybody would help a little bit, we could be even more beautiful.

There may be more Flora columns, but they will not be written by me, and they will not necessarily appear on a regular basis. I have left a complete set





with Bob Gale, who is the new chairman of the MinervaFlora Committee. Anybody could look through them and get ideas. Some of them could be recycled or plagiarized ... there's a lot of information in there about things to do and when to do it.

What we really need is a volunteer to do this column. If you are the least bit interested in being a writer, please contact MPCA president Nancy Fry. You don't have to be an expert – you can learn on the job as I did.

In 1954, I was pleased to purchase a house so I would have a 45' frontage and almost no grass to mow and no yard to clean. I put in bulbs that looked pretty in the spring, but when they were gone, I missed them. So I bought red geraniums. Then I noticed that some of the grass wasn't growing very well, and I always did like some pansies. I got out my yardstick and measured very carefully the distance between each pansy plant and planted a group there.

One of my friends promptly made fun of me and gave me a bunch more plants. One little plant led to another little plant. They looked prettier and prettier, and I began to wander into some of events that were sponsored by various garden societies. I got to know some very nice people. I discovered Minerva Park during a garden tour. I



visited Dick Meyer's yard many times and discovered that you could make anything look beautiful. And I also discovered a nice lawn which I ended up buying. Before I ever got around to moving over here, though, I found so many plants that I thought were so pretty that I had purchased 17' next to my lot and had become involved in the process of laying patios, stone walls, and fences and spruced the place up.

So when I found this lot in Minerva Park, I was quite pleased because it was big enough so I could have a little more room for planting but not so big that I couldn't take care of it myself. As it always happens, one thing leads to another ... a bed began to appear under the neighbor's windows. A tree had to come down, so another bed appeared where the tree had been. The next thing you knew, there were beds all along the driveway. In all this, I kept reading more garden news and I kept planting and admiring and learning more. By the time 1988 had rolled around, I had a little information. Today, it's reached the point where

people seem to think that I have a degree in horticulture. That is not the case ... I started from scratch and had fun learning. Anybody else could do the same thing. I encourage some of you to do that and to work with the MinervaFlora Committee because that is exactly where you learn these things. And you can do good service at the same time.

It's been a great 10 years, and I really believe that we have made a big difference in the looks of Minerva Park. My thanks to all of the people who have contributed

to MinervaFlora ... to all of the homeowners who work on their own yards. It is obvious to all of us that Minerva Park keeps looking better each and every year! Thank you.



## Villagers

### Welcome Our New Neighbors!

Welcome our new residents at 2922 Berry Lane Ct. - **Jeff & Mary Oberlander** with **Steve** (14), **Samanta** (12), **Don** (10), and **Amanda** (7) - formerly of Atlanta GA. Phone 818-9438.

**Kelly DeCamp & Nick Lobdell** are now residing at 2824 N. Bay Dr. Phone 901-9114.

**Herbert & Ethel Moore** of Westerville now live at 5300 Westbridge Rd. Phone 891-0500.

**Brent & Kellie Bishop & son Dylan** (2) are now at 2505 Maplewood Dr. Phone 901-2518.

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

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Greener Lawn**




RESIDENT

**Joshua Buckingham**  
Minerva Park  
Resident & Student  
**890-5316**



**Michael J. Rosati**  
General Manager

3981 Parkway Lane  
Hilliard OH 43026  
614-876-7779  
614-823-0466 voice mail  
614-876-1993 fax  
1-800-686-8767



RESIDENT  
for 17 years!

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

*the Villager* Staff

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Layout & Design ..... Sharon Bierman  
Advertising Sales ..... Bob Morrison, 882-3663  
Contributors ..... Mary Yost

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, November 20, 5:00 p.m.**

Thinking of Selling Your Home?

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*"My Professional Goal is to Exceed  
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- Long-time Resident of Minerva Park
- Selling Homes in Minerva Park for the past 15 Years
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for 31 years!