

the Villager



The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

A Message from Your Editor

By Marty Matunas

Last month, there was a paragraph in the Mayor's Report regarding the possible sale of the golf course. Dave Stahr, MP council member, has had funds appropriated to hire a consultant familiar with grant writing, so we are prepared, in case the golf course ever goes up on the market. Stahr says, "The village is proactively pursuing plans with regard to the possible future sale of Minerva Lake Golf Club." This situation has been openly discussed at council meetings, and any resident who wishes to learn more is urged to attend council meetings, held on the second Monday at 8:00p. Look for follow-up articles as soon as a plan of action takes shape.

The Minerva Lake Golf Club is operated by Jim Groezinger and is owned by his father and uncle. The Groezinger family has no current plans to sell the golf course, nor is it listed with any Realtor. In the future, if and when the golf course is sold, the family wishes it to remain a golf course. Jim states, "If Minerva Park came to our family with a reasonable offer, we would make every effort to accept it."

Evening Founders Day Planned

Saturday, July 21 - 4:00p to 8:00p

The fourth annual MP Founders Day celebration promises to be THE place to be for food and fun. We will have food, paddleboat rides, zoo animals, and Melody the Clown. A disc jockey is also planned, and a garden tour will be part of the celebration. Call **Marty Matunas** (891-3024) to register yourself or suggest someone for the tour. Read more about the garden tour on page 2.



Volunteers Needed

To make this community event a success, the MPCA needs volunteers for set-up and clean-up, to oversee games and activities, and to bake deserts. Please volunteer a few minutes of your time so everyone can enjoy the party. If you can help, please contact **Lynn Eisentrout** at 891-0895.

Fourth of July Parade

The Northland Community Council has assumed responsibility for what used to be the



Jaycee Fourth of July Parade. The Minerva Park Community

Association, and by extension the Village, has been invited to participate in the parade, starting this year at 11:00a on July 4. The route is on Karl Road from Morse to 161.

If anyone can provide a flatbed truck or help with preparing a float,

we would love to hear from you! Or if you have a convertible or a vintage car that you would be willing to drive ... or decorated bikes, etc. ... please let us know. There will be monetary prizes.

Any interested parties should contact **Rolla Wagner** (895-2236) or **Lynn Eisentrout** (891-0895) for further information.

JUNE DATES

11 (8:00p) Council Meeting
 13 (5:00p) Villager Deadline
 13 (7:30p) MPCA Meeting

MPCA News



Lake Clean-Up Day saw a small turnout of 10-15 people. To the credit of those who helped, much was accomplished. Remember, you can help year 'round by using the trash receptacles instead of littering.

The first phase of the lake area landscaping will soon be underway. Council approved \$2,007 for the labor, soil, and mulch, and a generous bequest from Mary Yost provides for \$2,743 of plant materials. Look for the new trees and beds near the 3 bench areas at the south lake. Oakland Nursery chose the plantings for their beauty and reputation for low maintenance: red chestnuts, bird's nest spruce, hostas, carpet junipers, and black fountain grass.



Garden Tour

This year's MPCA MinervaFlora garden tour will be held in conjunction with Founders Day, July 21. Now is the time to think about putting your yard on the tour ... this is a great opportunity to share gardening knowledge with your neighbors! Please contact **Marty Matunas** at **891-3024** if you would like your property (or a neighbor's) on the tour this year.



Replant Minerva Park's Trees

Minerva Park is losing more and more of its trees because of age and storm damage. Replanting now will ensure mature trees in the future, helping to maintain our property values!

We are working with a nursery to do a 'group planting' in the fall — this is for PRIVATE properties, not public lands.

Small trees in containers range from \$29 - \$150. Larger trees in "ball & burlap" start at \$180. Planting fees are usually half the cost of the plant. With enough interest, we could get a discount.

If you are interested in adding a tree(s) to your own lot, please get in touch with **Sharon Bierman** at **899-3755**.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

By Jack Murray



The May council meeting hosted a representative from AMPO (American Municipal Power - Ohio, Inc.), who encouraged us to participate in a program called **municipal aggregation**. This is a process by which municipalities procure electricity and natural gas and related services on behalf of local residents. Such a program would have to be voted on by residents, and each household could "opt out" if they did not want to participate. This presentation was for information only — no action was taken by council. If you would like to express your views on such a program, please call me or a member of council.

Our **pothole patching** was done at 70 locations. I hope we got all of the big ones! The total cost was \$2,500.

The **Planning and Zoning Commission** met and approved a patio on Minerva Lake Road. A sign for a business at 5436 Cleveland Ave. was approved, and an addition at 5200 Cleveland Ave. was approved with the condition that glass or brick be used on the sides of the addition.

A resident on Maplewood Drive submitted a **request for the village to deed property** adjacent to their home to them, so they can continue to maintain it as their own. The property will be surveyed, and the survey presented to council for its approval or disapproval.

The MPCA reported that the **Northland Community Council** received an award from Columbus for its work in planting trees along Dublin-Granville.

The **golf cart** has been delivered, and Rolla Wagner has put it to good use. He has

removed considerable debris from around the storm drains—always a major nuisance.

After portions of our **sewers** were videotaped, it was learned that only a small portion was in need of repair.

Please read the paragraphs below concerning responsibility for **tree maintenance**.

We now have a **new (used) police cruiser**, and council is planning a second one. The old cruisers have required considerable maintenance this past year.

- Resolution 2001-08. First reading to establish the duties and hourly wage of the Maintenance Supervisor.
- Resolution 2001-09. Passed, authorizing the mayor and clerk-treasurer to enter into a contract for general liability insurance.
- Resolution 2001-10. First reading, requesting certification and estimate of revenue from auditor for a 3.2 mill levy.

- Resolution 2001-11. First reading, requesting the Board of Elections place a renewal levy of 3.2 mills on the November ballot.
- Ordinance 03-2001. Passed, established the position of seasonal part-time maintenance person.
- Resolution 2001-07. Passed, to establish a range for the hourly wage of the part-time seasonal maintenance person.
- Resolution 2001-12. Passed, to amend Resolution 2000-13, the annual appropriation resolution by transferring certain monies within the General Fund.

Will Rogers once said, "We can't all be heroes. Someone has to sit on the curb and applaud as they go by."

Codified Ordinance 660.14 (Trees & Weeds)

(a) **Trimming and Removal of Trees and Branches.** The **owner** or agent of the owner of any lot or parcel of land fronting or abutting on any street or public ground in the Village shall be responsible of the trimming and/or removal of all trees growing on or in front or side of such premises, to include that portion of road right-of-ways abutting such premises. Trimming of trees shall include the trimming of branches of trees overhanging any portion of the street or public ground, or overhanging any portion of the sidewalk, so as not to obstruct

the passage of light from any street lamp near such trees. All branches overhanging any sidewalk or roadway shall be trimmed so as to have a clear height of ten feet above the surface of the sidewalk or roadway, unobstructed by branches. All dead, decaying, and broken limbs or branches that overhang a side walk or street, or that are liable to fall thereon, shall be removed from said trees. When any of said trees are dead, the owner of the premises or the agent of the owner shall take up or cause to be taken up said dead trees and remove the same from said lot or parcel of land.



By Greg Wittmann

Living with Wildlife

Has this ever happened to you? You go out to the plant store and spend a decent chunk of change on some pretty plants to help hide all of the weeds in your garden. You spend more than half of a day's work buying the plants, preparing the soil, planting your retail-priced plants, weeding, mulching, and watering. You go to bed exhausted from doing more than just **watching** gardening on TV. The next morning you try to get out of bed and your back is in the shape of the letter Z. Finally you grab your cup of coffee and take your spouse out to the garden patch to show them how much your "little babies" have grown in 10 hours. When you get to the garden you see all of your plants pulled up by the stem with roots exposed and drying out with wilted leaves. You look closer only to find little divots in your bed as if a golfer really let one fly this time. After reasoning it through, you scream at the top of your lungs, "**Squirrels!**"

I've tried spraying them with the garden hose. I even waited for them perched outside my second floor window with my son's Super Soaker double-barreled squirt gun. I actually heard them laughing at me from inside our Box Elder as I waited under it for them to show their beady little eyes. Taping squirrel recipes to the windows didn't work either. I keep telling myself, "They were here first. I invaded their

habitat." Let's face it, neighbors—they've got us.

Here are the do's and don'ts with backyard wildlife. **DON'T FEED THEM.** They are wild animals and can survive on all of the natural food stock in the neighborhood. This especially goes for the geese at the lake. Their feces creates such a nuisance that it costs us lots of money to fix. The feces fertilizes the algae in the water, creating much more algae than the lake needs, thus changing the pH levels and oxygen levels and eventually the habitat diversity. I recently consulted a wildlife officer about our geese to determine how we can keep their numbers in control. His bottom line answer was that, if they have plenty of food that is easy to get, they will overrun small lakes, creating expensive problems.



Cover your compost piles and mix in some wood ash with your table scraps. Bury the food deep in the humus to help it heat up faster. Raccoons will get discouraged trying to find it. Place trash cans inside your garage or

shed. Install chimney caps to prevent raccoons from denning inside them. **Do** feed the birds in the winter, but buy a quality squirrel baffle. Be consistent, though, because birds can freeze to death overnight if their food source runs out. Transporting squirrels, raccoons, and other critters to other locations is illegal and can create disease and habitat imbalance problems. Birdhouses and bat boxes are good to have around. Pay attention to where you place them, though, to attract only the birds that you want in your yard.

Remember that some wild animals carry disease such as rabies. Don't approach them in the daytime, especially if they are nocturnal. Call the Ohio Wildlife Center (OWC) at 793-9453 or a pest control organization. The OWC takes in injured animals and accepts donations and volunteers quite readily.

Nurturing nature is a great idea, especially if we gather good information before we start. **Do** enjoy getting to see nature and wild animals. They are wonderful gifts that nature provides for.



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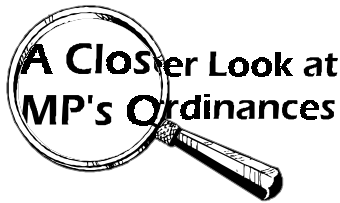


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Did You Know?



Woof! Woof! Part 1

Dogs are not EVERY "man's best friend." Here are some of Minerva Park's ordinances governing the pooches.

618.01 Dogs and Other Animals Running at Large.

(b) No person who is the owner or keeper of dogs ... or other animals shall permit them to run at large upon any public way or upon unenclosed land.

(c) No owner, keeper, or harbinger of any female dog shall permit it to go beyond the premises of the owner, keeper, or harbinger at any time the dog is in heat, unless the dog is properly in leash.

(d) No owner, keeper, or harbinger of any dog shall fail at any time to keep it either physically confined or restrained upon the premises of the owner, keeper, or harbinger by a leash, tether, adequate fence, supervision, or secure enclosure to prevent escape, or under

reasonable control of some person.

618.07 Barking or Howling Dogs.

(a) No person shall keep or harbor any dog within the Municipality which, by frequent and habitual barking, howling, or yelping, creates unreasonably loud and disturbing noises of such a character, intensity, and duration as to disturb the peace, quiet, and good order of the Municipality ...



618.13 Nuisance Conditions Prohibited.

(a) No person shall keep or harbor any animal ... in the Municipality so as to create noxious or offensive odors or unsanitary

conditions which are a menace to the health, comfort, or safety of the public.

(b) No person, being the owner, keeper, or person having control of any animal, shall permit such animal to dig or defecate on any public or private property in the Village, other than the property of the owner or person in control of such animal, or allow any animal to damage any part of a

lawn, tree, shrub, plant, building, or other property, other than the property of the owner or person in control of such animal, by means of urination. The foregoing prohibition as to defecation shall not apply when the person in control of such animal immediately removes all feces deposited by it and disposes of the same in a sanitary manner.

If you have a particular question or issue that you would like to see addressed in this column, please leave your request in the Villager mail box inside the Community Building.

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W, Th 10-5 Su 12-5

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Pool News



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Protecting Kids from Crime & Violence

Start with the Basics

- Make sure your children know their full name, address (city and state), and their area code & phone number.
- Be sure kids know to call 911 or "0" in emergencies and how to use a public phone. Practice making emergency calls with a make-believe phone.
- Tell your children never to accept rides or gifts from someone they and you don't know well.
- Teach children to go to a store clerk, security guard, or police officer for help if lost in a mall or store or outside on the street.
- Set a good example with your own actions: lock doors & windows and check to see who's there before opening the door.
- Take time to listen carefully to your children's fears and feelings about people and places—especially ones that scare them or make them feel uneasy. Tell them to trust their instincts when something frightens or troubles them.

At School and Play

- Encourage your children to walk and play with friends, not alone. Tell them to avoid places that could be dangerous: vacant buildings, alleys,

playgrounds, or parks with broken equipment and litter.

- Teach children to settle arguments with words - not fists - and to talk away when others are arguing. Remind them that taunting and teasing can hurt friends and make enemies.
- Make sure your children are taking the safest routes to and from school, stores, and friends' houses. Walk the routes together and point out places they could go for help.
- Encourage kids to be alert in the neighborhood and to tell a trusted adult—you, a teacher, a neighbor, and police officer—about anything that doesn't seem "quite right."
- Check out the school's policies on absent children. Are parents called when a child is absent?
- Check out daycare and after-school programs. Look at certifications, staff qualifications, rules on parental permission for field trips, reputation in the community, policies on parent participation. Drop by for visits at random times.

This information is provided by the National Crime Prevention Council and the National Sheriffs' Association. MPCA, the Villager, and the village assume no liability for reprinting it here.

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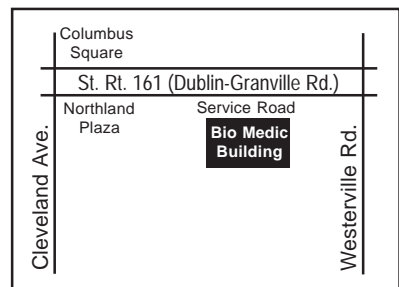
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Villagers

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**Joe & Tracy Horton of
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live in the village.

**David & Nancy Riegel,
Adam, now live at 2625
Jordan Rd., 865-9582.**

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

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Minerva Park Police

- 4-2 ... 9:31a, 2600 blk Minerva Lake Rd., resident died of natural causes
- 4-2 ... 9:43a, Cake Craft, 5436 Cleveland Ave., false alarm
- 4-6 ... MP Place Nursing Home, employee's credit card reported missing
- 4-7 ... 2:38p, 2600 blk Wildwood, 2 juveniles reported missing
- 4-9 ... 2:54p, Miller & Ranney Plumbing, 5474 Cleveland Ave., false alarm
- 4-10. 7:59p, Gordon Food Service, 5400 Cleveland Ave., robbery
- 4-12. 2:15p, African Super Store, 5442 Cleveland Ave., robbery
- 4-13. 12:18p, 2700 blk Wildwood, attempted suicide
- 4-15. 10:10a, 3000 blk Minerva Lake Rd., false alarm
- 4-15. 7:10p, 5300 blk Cleveland Ave., aggravated burglary & criminal damaging, suspect caught & charged
- 4-15. 8:10a, 2800 blk Minerva Lake Rd., false alarm
- 4-16. 8:05a, Gordon Food Service, 5400 Cleveland Ave., theft
- 4-16. 12:46p, 5300 blk Park Lane Dr., false alarm
- 4-18. 10:45a, 2700 blk Jordan Road, theft reported
- 4-22. 5:00p, 2600 blk Woodley, aggravated burglary reported
- 4-22. 9:00p, 5200 blk Elmhurst Ave., harassment
- 4-27. 2:15p, Payless Quick Stop, 5216 Cleveland Ave., aggravated menacing & criminal trespass
- 4-28. MP Place Nursing Home, theft on 2-23 to 3-13 reported
- 4-30. 5:57a, Tuxedo Classics, 5236 Cleveland Ave., breaking & entering reported
- 4-30. 5:57a, Digitalink, 5254 Cleveland Ave., breaking & entering reported
- 4-30. 2:53p, 2800 blk Lakewood Dr., false alarm

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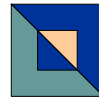


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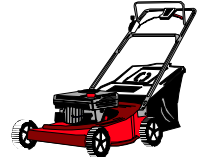
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The *Villager* is distributed to all MP homes on the 1st Monday of each month inside a plastic hang bag - either alone or with advertising flyers. Residents are invited to submit articles & other items of interest. Use the drop box inside the front 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:

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