

# the Villager



The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## 2007 in Review

In addition to monthly reports presented in the "Villager," Mayor Eisentrout has requested that the various Village departments provide annual wrap-ups. Here is a summary of 2007 ...

### Clerk/Treasurer

By Suzanne Coulter, Clerk/Treasurer ... Even though we live in what seems to be a small community, things remained lively for the Clerk/Treasurer's office in 2007. We were once promised a paperless society only a few years ago, but this phenomenon has bypassed my office. The paperwork for federal and state agencies seemed to only increase yet again in 2007, but in part this has been caused by a lot of positive projects and grant applications that simply require the Village to fill out more paperwork.

The Police Department added two new used cars to its fleet. One was a replacement car for an accident last January through no fault of our officer, and the other was a routine replacement to update the vehicles. Total cost for both was \$30,000. We received \$8,000 from the insurance company to help cover the cost of the wrecked vehicle. The Village Police Officers also got to participate in a lot more DUI checkpoints this year, which the Village receives grant money

back from the State to pay for the officers' hours. This has been very good hands-on training for the Officers. Officer Beach continued to be a fixture at Hawthorne Elementary. His regular visits are a high point of the day for the school children. He also spearheaded several wonderful programs and assemblies for the kids. Chief Hillard continues to go after Federal and State grant programs to update our officer's training and equipment. The department was again honored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for their efforts in 2007.

The "volunteer" EMS department became not so "volunteer" in 2007. The Village was forced by Columbus Fire Department rules and regulations for volunteer EMS departments to begin paying medics minimum wage or face the possibility of the department shutting down. This caused an additional expense in 2007 of \$14,000 in wages. The department also needed to purchase an upgraded monitor at an expense of \$15,500. But the positive things were better equipment for our medics and more shifts covered with the incentive of at least some pay for their time and efforts. The Village is fortunate to have such professional medics here to serve our residents.

Streets maintenance continues

to be a high priority for the Village. In 2007, we applied again for an OPWC street maintenance grant and/or loan but will not find out if we were chosen until May 2008. If chosen, another major street project will happen again in August 2008. In 2007, pothole maintenance and other small projects cost the Village \$9,000.

In the spring 2007, the Village again sprayed for gypsy moths with the help of an ODNR grant at an expense of \$747.60 to the Village. ODNR is also requiring the Village to do some extensive dam and lake studies at an expense in 2007 of \$13,120. There will be more expenses for the dam in 2008.

Summer brought the opening of the Village pool. The pool again had a very successful season. There was a large increase in memberships this year to 262 families, and a hot summer made for good walk-in fees. The pool's revenue for this year was \$68,588.59, and expenses totaled \$62,688.23. Also, thanks to the

*Continued on page 6.*

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### FEBRUARY DATES

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7 (7:30p) ..... **Planning & Zoning**  
 11 (7:30p) ..... **Council Meeting**  
 13 (5p) ..... **Villager Deadline**  
 13 (7:30p) ..... **MPCA Meeting**

## MPCA News

By Lisa Craddock-Thitoff, MPCA Vice President

### Area Meet & Greets

I would like to welcome and thank all the active members in the MPCA. Come to our monthly Meet & Greets and let us know your thoughts. Here is the coming schedule for get-togethers, held at 7p before the MPCA meetings.

- 2920-3340 Minerva Lake Road and Westerville Road - February 13
- Maplewood and Briar Rose - March 12
- Alder Vista - April 16
- Lakewood & Lakeland Court - May 14
- Woodley, Westbridge, Elmhurst - June 11
- Wildwood, North Bay, Cardinal Ct., Cleveland Ave. - July 16
- Jordan Road, Park Lake Drive,

Park Lane Court - August 13

- East Shore Drive and Court,
- North Lake Court, Berry Lane,
- Kerwood, Carlton Court,
- Ponderosa - September 10 •

### Flyer Distribution

The pool will need volunteers in March to help with distributing flyers to nearby neighborhoods. Interested people can call Steve Thitoff at 891-2166.

### Festival of Lights Judging

The Wittmanns have ended their long reign of judging the Christmas Festival of Lights, so we will need new judges in December 2008. Our thanks for their dedicated service!

### Community Association Membership

We now have a membership rate of 73%. I would like to thank Marilyn Herboltzheim (Membership Chair) and Street Reps and others ... Mark Abbott, Sharon Bierman, Laura Bolain, Dick Busick, Tina & Elbert Cates, Barbara Donley, Bob Gale, Donna Glenn, Peggy Hollenbeck, Scott & Lisa Keenan, Jim & Rella Kehl, Janet Kohn, Gena Latimer, Minda Li, Glenda Morris, Linda Natali, Gretchen & Jason Persohn, Jeff & Nicole Rigg, John & Connie Rue, Amy Szlapak, Lori Vogel, Irma Warren, Dave & Gina Way, Tillie Zak ... on a job well done. This is the highest percentage of Community Association membership in years.

## K-9 Connection

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# MAYOR'S REPORT

*Lynn Eisentrout*



The January Council meeting is our organizational meeting where newly elected and re-elected officials are sworn in, Council selects its president, and committee assignments are distributed. I would like to thank State Representative and Minerva Park resident **Kevin Bacon** for attending this meeting and performing the swearing-in ceremony. Representative Bacon also updated us about H.B. 154, the bill introduced by Representative Larry Wolpert (R-Hilliard) to abolish Mayor's Courts. The bill is being considered in the Judiciary Committee and has not been formally introduced. Representative Bacon has worked tirelessly for the Village on several issues, specifically the Cleveland Avenue fee distribution problem, and continues to advocate for the survival of our Mayor's Court as a member of the Judiciary Committee. Councilwoman Pam Park-Curry was unanimously re-elected as President of Council. Below are listed the 2008 Committee assignments with a brief explanation of each committee's duties:

**Community:** Chair Dave Way, members Jeff Rigg & Kent Stanley - Recreational programs, the playground, care of the Village lands (mowing, tree trimming &

planting), maintenance of the lakes and lake areas, trees, property other than street rights of way, days of celebration or special recognition (Earth Day, Founders Day, Fourth of July). The chair acts as a liaison to the Minerva Park Community Association.

**Finance:** Chair Sharon Bierman, members Pam Park-Curry & Todd Walter - Monitor revenue and disbursements in the various Village funds, draft and finalize the tax budget and annual appropriation in coordination with the Mayor and Clerk/Treasurer, make recommendations for raising new revenues when required and preparation of required legislation, review with the Mayor the financial status of the Village at least once each quarter

**Legislation:** Chair Pam Park-Curry, members Sharon Bierman & Jeff Rigg - Research, draft, and finalize ordinances and resolutions; review proposed draft ordinances and resolutions submitted by other committees and/or the Mayor for content, legality, enforceability and need with the advice and assistance of the Village Law Director

**Safety:** Chair Todd Walter, members Sharon Bierman & Pam Park-Curry - Consult with the Police and EMS as to staffing, operational policies, and training needs, recommend policy for traffic control, parking, including recreational vehicles; report to the Mayor any safety and fire hazard conditions; recommend lighting needs throughout the Village; oversee proper handling of hazardous materials, including the collection, storage, and disposal.

**Service:** Chair Kent Stanley, members Todd Walter & Dave Way

- Monitor and review refuse collection and contracts; make recommendations as to mosquito control; consult as to matters affecting general sanitation of the Village; oversee leaf pick-up contract and process; monitor water service lines in coordination with the Mayor, the Village Engineer, and the City of Columbus when appropriate.

**Streets:** Chair Jeff Rigg, members Dave Way & Kent Stanley - Make recommendations for street repair, construction, and maintenance programs, sanitary sewer lines; oversee street names, safety, signs, and markings; consult on storm sewer issues; maintain trees on street rights of way; coordinate snow removal.

**Condolences:** Our deepest sympathies to the Wenzel family on the death of long-time resident and former Mayor Hugo Wenzel and to the MacMichael family on the death of Barbara Rush. Many thanks to resident Gena Latimer for organizing a very touching memorial service for Barbara, held at the Community Building on January 19.

All Council members were present at the Regular Council meeting held January 14. Clerk/Treasurer Suzanne Coulter was excused because of illness.

**Guest Speaker:** Joe Stock from Buckeye Engineering presented an update about the **Dam Renovation** project. As previous articles in the Villager have noted, this project is in response to the mandated orders from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) to remove trees from the earthen dam, to conduct a

## MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

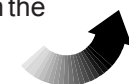
M - 8a-1p and 4p-6p

Tu - 4p-6p

W, F - 8a-noon

Th - 6p-8p

Sat, February 9 - 10a-noon



dam and spillway safety study, and to implement an emergency plan in case the dam is breached. He reviewed the boundaries of our watershed from Cleveland Ave. to Karl Road, from Cleveland Ave. to Avalon Ave., and from Tamarack Circle as it meets the City's drainage system. These readings showed a reduction of 45% in our watershed, which was approved by ODNR. This approved reduction could ultimately save the Village between 30% and 40% in dam construction costs. He also reviewed the land survey results, showing that part of the spillway is on golf course property. We will continue to keep you informed as we receive new information. As always, you are welcome to come in and talk to me anytime.

The following departmental reports were made:

**EMS:** Chief Rick Hoechsetter announced that the Columbus Fire Department has decided to implement an automated dispatch system, the "second leg" of what was installed four years ago with the 800 MHz radio system at a cost of \$7,900. Columbus will likely spend between \$2-3 million before April to upgrade their system and will then route through a data channel. The Village will be required to maintain a T-1 Line, a very fast data connection. He will continue his research and will have a report at the next Council meeting.

**Police:** Chief Bob Hillard reported that, through his officers' participation in the Franklin County and DUI Task Force, the department was presented with a new MPH radar machine and will receive a second new laser radar machine. Chief Hillard will attend the MADD Awards of Excellence Recognition Luncheon January 24, honoring MP's outstanding efforts to stop impaired driving. Ours was the only department to receive the

award out of the hundreds of nominations. All of the other recipients were individuals.

#### **Planning & Zoning and Code**

**Enforcement:** Dick Busick presented his monthly report. A resident with an unlicensed van was cited into Mayor's Court. The following violation notices were issued: a resident with licensed inoperable vehicles, a resident with a panel truck with dual rear axles inappropriate for a residential area, and two residents with poor property maintenance.

#### **Minerva Park Community**

**Association:** MPCA Vice President Lisa Craddock-Thitoff reported that about 20 children attended the Christmas party, the Pool Sign-up has been scheduled for Sunday, April 13 from noon to 5:00 p.m., the Duck Award (Outstanding Citizen of the Year) will be awarded this year to Marilyn Herbolzheimer for her service on the MPCA Membership Committee, the NCC Awards Banquet will be held at Monaco's Palace on February 22 where Lisa Craddock-Thitoff and retired Councilman Don Champney will be honored for their service to our Village and presented with the President's Award.

#### **Northland Community**

**Council:** Kent Stanley reported that the Area Councils and the Northwest Councils appeared before the Columbus City Council to argue that community or civic associations should not be classified as Area Councils (ACs). ACs are subject to the Sunshine Law; groups such as the NCC are not. NCC Development Committee Chair Jeff Murray will represent the NCC group and will keep them apprised. AT&T has been installing utilities boxes, some of which when placed in the right-of-way have been perceived as safety hazards. The Columbus Zoning Department and the Columbus Police Department will look into the matter. The NCC

is asking for a chairperson for the Fourth of July Parade Committee and for a volunteer to maintain their website. Elections for NCC president, vice president, secretary, and the treasurer positions will be held at the February 5 meeting.

The following committee reports were made:

**Community:** Councilman Dave Way reported that membership for the Community Association is now 72%, and the Meet & Greets will be posted in the Villager inviting various sections of the Village to attend the monthly MPCA meetings.

**Finance:** Councilwoman Sharon Bierman asked the Council to approve a Then and Now Purchase Order of \$5,578.53 to pay for the new engine for Cruiser #2; \$1,400 will be reimbursed by our insurance company. Council also approved the warrants totaling \$181,348.88.

**Legislation:** Councilwoman Pam Park-Curry asked the Council to consider the following legislation:

**Resolution 2007-41** - Honoring Donald Champney for his contributions to Minerva park for more than 25 years of service as a Council member. Third reading accepted, passed.

**Ordinance 01-2008** - Determining the fee to be paid by a video service provider offering video service in the Village pursuant to a state authorization authorizing the Mayor to give notice to the video service provider of the fee and declaring an emergency. Rules suspended, three readings waived, passed as an emergency.

**Safety:** Councilman Todd Walter is researching the cost of reflective address numbers. He will inquire with Chiefs Hillard and Hoechstetter about their "wish lists" for the February 6 Finance Committee meeting.

**Service:** Mayor Eisentrout asked for and received approval from

the Council of an expenditure of \$10,500 for Tasks 1B and 7 already performed by Buckeye Engineering for the Earthen Dam project.

**Streets:** Councilman Jeff Rigg asked about our application to OPWC for the 2008 project. The Mayor has spoken to Wilma at MORPC, and, as expected, we did not receive approval in this round but have been approved for consideration in the Small Government Division. We should be receiving the necessary paperwork to reconfigure our application (grant request vs. loan request), which will be due mid-March. Many thanks to Jim Fischer and Dick Busick for cold patching the large pothole on Kerrwood Drive.

**New Business:** Chief Hoehstetter announced two Trauma Triage classes for his department in January. •



**December** - MP Police made 11 misdemeanor arrests and no felony arrests; 8 were transported to Franklin County jail.

12-2 .. 7:34p, Ben's Photo & Video, 5298 Cleveland Ave., false alarm

12-2 .. 11:16p, Yasmin Market, 5444 Cleveland Ave., false alarm

12-11 . 2500 blk Lakewood, theft on

- 12-1 reported
- 12-11 . 6:10p, 2800 blk Lakewood, missing person reported
- 12-12 . Travel Agency, 2999 E. Dub-Gran, #215, theft on 12-19 reported
- 12-13 . 6:29p, Advance Pay, 5440 Cleveland Ave., false alarm
- 12-16 . 8:00p, 2800 blk Lakewood, assault
- 12-17 . 2999 E. Dub-Gran, #215, thefts on 10-5, 11-2, and 12-1 reported
- 12-19 . 2999 E. Dub-Gran, #215, theft on 10-12 reported
- 12-20 . 2999 E. Dub-Gran, #215, theft on 9-1 reported
- 12-22 . 8:43p, Ben's Photo & Video, false alarm
- 12-26 . 10:40p, 3000 blk Minerva Lake Rd., domestic violence & assault between 12-17 to 12-24 reported
- 12-27 . 12:20p, Lowe's Auto Sales, 5309 Westerville Rd., passing bad checks between 5-1 and 12-21 reported
- 12-29 . 2:00a, 2700 blk Maplewood, automobile theft between 12-25 to 12-28 reported
- 12-29 . 1:40a, 2700 blk Maplewood Dr., double homicide reported
- 12-31 . 9:58p, 3000 blk Minerva Lake Rd., criminal trespass •

## Medic 119 ...

Where are you?

### December 2007

In December, Medic 119 made 17 runs - 3 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 2 into Minerva Park; 8 patients were transported to hospitals.

17 members volunteered a total of 361.2 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 5,360.9.

Leading volunteers for the month were **Norm**

**Jones** (59.0), **Tim Lockard** (47.5), and **Tom Pickett** (40.5).

### MP Runs

12-16 ... Avulsion

12-23 ... Fire small assign

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*Continued from page 1.*

time and efforts of our Mayor, Councilwoman Sharon Bierman, and Pool Manager John Friedel, the Village was able to procure a grant from ODNR to replace some of the concrete around the pool. This work will be done at the end of the 2008 pool season. MPCA's Pool Committee hosted some great and very well attended events at the pool in 2007 and are planning even more for 2008. Thanks to the MPCA Pool Committee and the entire Pool staff for a great season.

Debt Service payments in 2007 was \$120,994.21. This includes all four phases of the waterline replacement project, the lake dredging project, Minerva Lake Road, and the 2006 street projects.

Revenues for 2007 were either flat or slightly decreased from 2006. Property taxes brought in \$509,383.55. Income tax revenue was down \$13,185.79 to \$241,254.04 in 2007. State assistance revenue was \$92,725.61 but is expected to drop in 2008 to \$90,083.31. Inheritance tax brought in \$69,063.63 in 2007. The Village's investments brought in \$21,769.26, and fine revenues from Mayor's Court were \$37,620.00.

As Treasurer, I continued my yearly training with the Auditor of State, State Treasurer's Office, Bureau of Workers Compensation, and Government Fiscal Officer's Association. I continued in my capacity as a consultant for the State Auditor's Office, working downtown answering their software support line and helping train 20 area village or township treasurers. Again, I look forward to the challenges and great projects of 2008. Thank you for supporting me in the recent election and for supporting the ongoing expenses of the Village. If you have any questions, please call or come in to

the Treasurer's Office. Major expenditures for 2007 were:

Debt Service .....	\$120,994.21
Trash Pick-up .....	92,932.00
Pool .....	62,688.23
Legal Fees .....	55,536.41
Health Insurance .....	49,240.80
Utilities .....	32,829.24
Liability Insurance .....	22,051.00
Gasoline .....	20,731.72
Leaf Pick-up .....	20,658.00
BWC Insurance .....	19,602.37
EMS Monitor .....	15,500.00
Engineering .....	14,126.31
EMS Wages .....	14,000.00
Dam & Lake Rehab .....	13,120.00
Car Repairs .....	11,057.88
Zoning Enforcement .....	5,670.00
Lake .....	5,000.00
New Telephones .....	4,683.24
Sewer Issues .....	3,268.75
Painting .....	3,177.00
Employee Bonding .....	2,878.00
Air Conditioning .....	2,627.31
Siren .....	2,002.00
Roof .....	1,982.00
Street Signs .....	1,752.20

**Police Department**

By Chief Bobbie Hillard ... The Village replaced cruiser #1 for \$8,495, and replaced cruiser #2's engine for \$3,600 (\$1,200 of which was covered by insurance). We extend our thanks to MP resident State Representative Kevin Bacon. With his invaluable assistance, HB669 became law, allowing police to enforce state traffic laws on any street or highway immediately adjacent to its municipal corporation limits. This meant, after 15 years of effort, that traffic fines issued on abutting Westerville Road & Cleveland Avenue would be remitted to Minerva Park, not the state.

**Community Outreach** - (1) For its efforts to deter drunk driving, the MP Police Dept. will once again receive an award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving for 2007, to be presented in January 2008. (2) And for participation in various 2007 State of Ohio safety projects, the Dept. received a new radar (valued

at \$1,500) and will receive another (valued at \$2,600) in early 2008. (3) In March, we accepted a portable intoxilyzer S-D5 breathalyzer (valued at \$670) for participation in the Click It or Ticket program. (4) Additionally, the OVI participation will qualify the Dept. to be in the running for a chance to win a brand new, fully equipped police cruiser, so keep your fingers crossed for April 2008. In September, Police Chief Bobbie Hillard celebrated his 30th anniversary of service to the Village.

Collaborative efforts with area agencies help keep our Village safe. Our 2007 statistics are as follows:

Dispatched runs .....	1,034
Nondispatched runs .....	521
Assist area agencies .....	475
Misdemeanor arrests .....	173
Felony arrests .....	34
9-1-1 calls .....	49
Animal complaints .....	25
Assaults .....	9
Auto thefts .....	3
Breaking & entering false alarm .....	18
Breaking & entering .....	1
Burglaries .....	10
Burglary in progress false alarm .....	13
Criminal damaging .....	12
Criminal mischief .....	3
Deaths .....	6
Domestic disputes or violence .....	13
Homicides .....	3
Menacing .....	6
Missing people .....	4
Motorist assists .....	55
Passing bad checks .....	8
Receiving stolen property .....	4
Robberies .....	1
Sex offenses .....	0
Stolen vehicle recoveries .....	0
Suicides .....	0
Suicide attempts .....	6
Suspicious people .....	161
Suspicious vehicles .....	82
Telephone harassment .....	9
Thefts .....	53
Traffic citations .....	1,153
Traffic warning citations .....	27
Trespassing .....	3
Vandalism .....	1

**Mayor's Court**

By Charlene Garabrant, Clerk of Courts ... The public is invited to attend Mayor's Court, held on every other Tuesday at 4:00p. The 2007 statistics are as follows:

# of Court Cases .....	373
Total Receipts .....	\$37,427
Paid to the State .....	6,100
To MP Computer Fund .....	1,260
To MP General Fund .....	30,067

**Fire Department - EMS**

By Chief Rick Hoechstetter ... The Fire Department responded to 280 runs in 2007, which represented a small increase over the number of calls in 2006. Within the 2007 data, 11% of the calls originated from an address in Minerva Park, 19% from Blendon Township, 52% from Columbus, and 17% from Westerville.

Members served a total of 5,361 hours in 2007. About half of this represents volunteer hours; the rest is paid time. We will track volunteer and paid hours separately in 2008. We were required to adopt the Franklin County Fire Chief's Association's Standard Operating Policy 7-28 if we wanted to continue to operate in the Franklin County Automatic Response Area, which requires all Advanced Life Support vehicles to have, at a minimum, two part- or full-time paid paramedics on duty. In July 2007, we made 17 Department medics Village employees. I wish to thank Clerk/ Treasurer Suzanne Coulter for her efforts to make this transition as smooth as possible. I also want to thank the entire Department their patience and support through this challenging year.

I wish to congratulate Tina Quinn, formerly our Training Coordinator, on her promotion to Captain, and Tony Williams on his promotion to Training Lieutenant. Tina's new duties include assisting Tony with training, medication, and equipment purchasing and few of my Departmental administrative

responsibilities.

We replaced our Physio Control LifePack 10 heart monitor with a Phillips MRX bi-phasic, 12-lead monitor for \$15,500. Our old monophasic monitor was nine years old and had been ruled obsolete with the release of the 2006 American Heart Association Cardiac Guidelines. We also replaced our Dept. phones (\$3,000). AT&T told us that the last technician capable of repairing our phone system had retired several years ago, and they could not fix the two of three hand sets that had lost their voice transmitters. We also replaced the vehicle radio (\$3,000). And we required a new line item approved in the Village budget for Medic wages: \$14,000 in 2007 and \$30,000 in 2008.

The Fire Department witnessed the completion of the first step in the removal of the underground gas tanks from the Payless QuickStop Gas Station property at 5620 Cleveland Avenue, with the oversight of the Ohio Fire Marshall Bureau of Underground Tanks Regulations (BUSTR). The tanks have been removed, but the contamination around them has not yet been remediated. The trenches that resulted from the removal of the tanks have been temporarily filled in for safety reasons, and core sampling will be conducted as soon as the weather permits to determine the necessary remediation steps. The credit for the successful effort to move that property into compliance with current zoning standards belongs with both BUSTR and our Fire Inspector, Tom McClannahan.

The 2007 Runs are as follows:

Illness .....	97
Injury .....	72
Vehicle Related .....	37
Difficulty Breathing .....	23
Chest Pain .....	21
Fire .....	10
DOA .....	3
Other .....	17

We are proud to serve as your Fire Department.

**Zoning**

By Arlene Stuart, Zoning Clerk ... I would like compliment all of our residents on the beautification of their homes. It is always a pleasure to drive through the Village and see the landscaping and various steps you have taken to beautify your homes and add to the uniqueness of our Village.

I wanted to advise you of some changes that have been made in the Permit procedures that took effect on July 1, 2007. Village Council passed a resolution on July 9, 2007 to accept a contract with the Franklin County Building Department to do all of our residential building inspections. As a result, all permit applications will still be brought to this office for zoning approval. Once the Planning & Zoning Commission has reviewed your application with you, a Certificate of Approval will be issued. That certificate and your construction then can be taken to the Franklin County Building Department. All requirements for the submission of your building plans will be addressed by the Franklin County Building Department. A copy of the name and telephone number of the person to contact can be obtained at this office. If there are minor repairs and or electrical, heating, or waterline requests, you will still need to come to this office on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 9a to noon to fill out the necessary paperwork.

We will do everything possible to make this transition simple and painless. The process will aid in getting your inspections done in a timely manner. Any effort taken on our part is always for the good of the Village. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter any further, please do not hesitate to call me at 882-5743.

Garage sales - You will need to stop by this office and get a permit for \$7 to erect a sign directing people to your sale. Garage Sale signs can be erected out of the right-of-way at the main entrance leading to your residence. They cannot be tacked to telephone poles, trees, traffic control signs, or any of the Village monuments. Letting us know when the sale will take place helps our Police Department when they are patrolling the Village. They are also there if you have any need for their help if a situation arises. I hope you are able to wait until our annual garage sale, to be held in August 2008. Your sale will be advertised in the suburban papers, and the Village will be decked out in all its splendor on the day of the sale. Your participation will be your contribution to the Community Association to continue to beautify your Village.

Planning & Zoning Commission

- The Planning & Zoning Commission had a busy year. The following is a list of the number of hearings that were held for Zoning Compliance (\$375 in revenue):

Commercial sign .....	4 approved
.....	1 not approved
Residential room addition .....	2 approved
Residential fence permit .....	2 approved
Residential deck .....	1 approved
New windows installation .....	1 approved
Fence .....	3 approved
Home businesses .....	2 approved
Deck & 2 raised entrances .....	pending

The Commission reviewed the final copies of (1) Chapter 1273 Building and Property Maintenance Code and (2) Chapter 1272.08 Portable Structures and forwarded them to Council for their consideration for passage.

In addition, the following permits (\$302 in revenue) were issued:

Garage Sales .....	3
Building .....	1
Electric .....	3
Hot Water Heater .....	5

Plumbing .....	2
Variance .....	1

Zoning Violations

By Dick Busick, Code Enforcement Officer ... During 2007, there were 40 violation notices written, and 6 citations were made into mayor's court. Many problems were handled without formal letters. Of those receiving violation notices, 1 out of 4 were for sign code infractions, usually in stores on Cleveland Ave. In residential violations, more than 30% were related to storing unlicensed or inoperable vehicles. Parking on the front lawn and high weeds each accounted for approximately 15% of the sent notices. The 6 citation cases involved trash in the yard, unlicensed vehicles, dead trees constituting public safety hazards, and illegal activities related to home occupations.

Looking at the Village's future code enforcement efforts, we will apply the recently approved Building Maintenance Code to the long-term accumulation of trash around homes and to seriously deteriorated paint situations and will monitor the use of trash dumpsters and storage pods. They are permitted, but their duration is limited.

Please continue your own excellent efforts to keep our Village a place where we can be proud to live. When code violations occur, we try to resolve the issues in a respectful and even-handed manner. We try to prevent situations that, if they were allowed to exist throughout our community, would result in Minerva Park becoming a less desirable community.

Community Association

By Bob Gale, MPCA President ... The MPCA continues to have steady membership of Village residents. As of December 2007, we had 72% of Village households as dues-paying members. In 2007, the MCPA hosted more than 20

activities paid for by your \$15 MPCA dues, advertising in The Villager, and Directory, the annual Garage Sale, and in-kind donations. Those activities included Garden Awards, Garden Tours, MinervaFlora beautification, Duck Award for Outstanding Citizen of the Year, Garage Sale, Children's Halloween Party, Greetings from the Sunshine Committee, Lake Clean-ups, Newcomers Committee welcome to new residents, Children's Easter Egg Hunt, Founders Day, Children's Christmas Party, Publicity Committee, Candidates Night, Northland Community Council participation, Annual Resident Directory, Festival of Lights, Holiday Carriage Rides, Scholarships, Dog Dip, Family night at the pool, Adult Sip and Dips at the pool, and "The Villager."

During 2007, Marilyn Herboltzheimer received the 2006 Duck Award for her continued work with the annual membership drive and other Association activities.

Your MPCA was busy in 2007, and we expect to continue our activities at the same pace in 2008. We need volunteers to help. Many thanks goes to current members of the MPCA board, including Sharon Bierman, Dick Busick, Karen Cogley, Suzanne Coulter, Lisa Craddock-Thitoff, Lynn Eisentrout, Marilyn Herboltzheimer, Tina Cates, Kristan Onofrio, Gretchen Pershon, Dianne Poncinie, John Rue, Kent Stanley, Amy Szlapak, Steve Thitoff, David Way, and Greg & Natalie Wittmann.

The Mayor's Office

By Mayor Lynn Eisentrout ... Although 2007 wasn't as eventful as 2006, we were still busy.

In February, the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) notified us that, after conducting an egg mass study, the south side of the Village would need another treatment at a cost of \$747.60.

In March, Joshua Homes



representatives notified me that they opted to not renew their contract with the golf course property owners. They cited the housing market and their inability to partner with another builder/developer. We, of course, continue to speak to the property owners about any future plans and of our desire to annex the property into the Village. That same month, we received word that the Northland Plaza property was purchased by New York-based Nassimi Realty, which historically rehabs "old and tired centers" and had pledged to maintain the

property as a retail center.

In May, we accepted Councilman Chuck Gibson's resignation because he moved to Georgia to accept a director's position in the Regional Library System. Minerva Lake Road resident Dave Way subsequently was appointed at the July Council meeting. As mentioned in Clerk/Treasurer Coulter's report, we had a very successful pool season with the highest membership in many, many years.

We received word from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) in September that our grant application for \$34,350 was approved through their NatureWorks Program. Much-needed repairs to the concrete decking around the pool should begin when the pool closes in 2008.


In September, we submitted our grant/loan application to the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) for first-round consideration in the Local Transport Improvement Program (LTIP). The total cost for this project is \$164,100. We have asked for \$73,845 in assistance (\$32,820 in grants and \$41,025 as a no-interest loan) with the Village's contribution of \$90,255. The areas to be milled and filled are East Shore and Kerwood Drives, the

remaining area on Ponderosa Drive, Berry Lane, East Shore, and North Lake Courts, and Farview Drive.

We have turned our attention the earthen dam renovation project. Mandated orders from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for tree removal, a dam and spillway safety study, and implementing an emergency plan if the dam breaches. The Village's expenditures in 2007 were \$13,120.

Notable promotions and achievements - Congratulations to Police Officer Matt Fenstermaker on his promotion to Corporal, EMS Training Coordinator Tina Quinn to the rank of Captain, EMT Tony Williams to Training Lieutenant, and to EMS volunteers Tony Fernandez and Jon Studnek for being invited to present a continuing education session at the National 25th Annual EMS Today Conference in Baltimore MD.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your support and encouragement this past year. I urge you to volunteer on any one of the many committees of your Minerva Park Community Association. Volunteerism is the lifeblood of communities such as ours—it is no small feat to maintain our historical uniqueness and neighborhood atmosphere. •




Mayor's Court is open to the public — our next sessions are February 5 & 19 - 4:00p.

If you have any questions, please call Charline Garrabrant, Clerk of Courts, at 882-5743 (Community Building).

**December 2007**

Complete payments - 13	
Village Computer Fund .....	\$ 65
Village General Fund .....	1,273
Remitted to the State .....	260
Total Court Receipts .....	\$1,598



If you have questions about the information provided here, please call Suzanne Coulter at 882-5743 (Community Building) or at 891-7346 (h).

**December 2007**

Beg balance general fund .....	\$297,474.28
Revenue collected .....	30,264.30
Expenses .....	(136,073.98)
Ending balance .....	\$191,664.60



We want to welcome you to FAITH LIFE FAMILY CHURCH. We are a church where God is training His people to live successfully in Him. FAITH LIFE FAMILY CHURCH is a place where you can come, no matter your situation, and meet a God who will elevate you to a higher level of living. You will hear the word of God taught with an opportunity for practical application in your everyday life. You will meet a God who says nothing is impossible for them that believe!

**2580 Jordan Road**

Nursery • Children's Services	Sunday 10:30a	Prayer Service
Youth Services	Wednesday 7:00p	Friday 7:00p

**Living the Life Christ Created for Us to Live**

**898-7688**

Pastor Dan & Kim Cascioli

**Faith Life Family Church**

# Minerva Park the Villager

Minerva Park Community Association  
2829 Minerva Lake Road  
Columbus OH 43231

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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:

<http://www.minervapark.org/villager>

Next deadline:

**Wednesday, February 13, 5:00p**

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- Past President of the Northeast Area Realtors Association
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