

# the Villager



The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## Secure your Home & Vehicle

By MP Police Chief Bobbie Hillard

*Help prevent crimes of opportunity – from homes or vehicles. Here are some of the common-sense security tips from the National Crime Prevention Council (ncpc.org). If you have any questions, please call Police Chief Hillard at 614-882-1408, x104.*

Whether you are taking a weekend get-away or going away for the entire summer, you'll want to defend your home and possessions from burglars. No one can guarantee that your home won't be broken into while you're gone, but there are some easy things you can do to minimize the risk of burglary.

### Protect your Home While You're Away

- Have a neighbor pick up your mail and newspapers.
- During an extended vacation, have someone mow your lawn or trim your bushes.
- Put lights on automatic timers.
- Notify the MP Police Dept. (882-1408) that you'll be away.
- Have a friend stop by periodically to open/close the blinds, turn on different lights, etc.
- Let your neighbors know when you are leaving and when you plan to return home and if you are expecting anyone at your house while you're away.
- Burglars want easy access to your home. Ensure all trees and

shrubs are trimmed near doors & windows where burglars might hide. Add exterior lighting and consider motion sensors.

- Burglars like to work quickly, so try to slow their path into and around your house ... deadbolt locks, window locks, bars placed in tracks or track locks on all sliding glass doors and windows (if they would not impede your escape in an emergency), locks on all doors and windows.
- Don't announce on your answering machine that you're away.
- Don't hide your keys on your property.
- Store jewelry and other valuables in a safe hiding place, like a safety deposit box.
- Make an inventory of your possessions, including serial numbers. Take pictures or videos of your valuables and store those in a safe place or with a friend or relative.

### Residence Protection

- Keep all doors locked - during the day, at night, and every time you leave the house.
- Use wide-angle peepholes at heights everyone can use.
- If you have glass panels in or near doors, ensure it is reinforced to decrease chances of shattering.

... continued on page 2

## Sexual Offenders

Residents are encouraged to regularly check the sexual offender database posted by the Franklin County Sheriff's Department. Searching by a central location, such as "2829 Minerva Lake Road" (the Community Building), is available at <http://www.sheriff.franklin.oh.us/> OR <http://ohio.esorn.net/index.php?AgencyID=53924>.

You can sign up for automatic e-mail notification when sexual offenders move into our area. Sign up at <http://www.crimewatchalert.com/register.php>.

Do your part to keep you and your children safe!

### JANUARY DATES

6 (4p) .....	Mayor's Court
8 (7:30p) .....	Planning & Zoning
10 (8a) .....	Council Work Session
12 (7p) .....	Council Meeting
14 (7:30p) .....	MPCA Meeting
21 (5p) .....	Villager Deadline
20 (4p) .....	Mayor's Court

continued from page 1 ...

- The door leading from an attached garage to the house should be of solid wood or metal-clad, protected with a quality keyed door lock and deadbolt.
- Lock the overhead garage door - do not rely on your automatic garage door opener.
- Ensure sliding glass doors have strong working key locks.
- Keep grills, lawnmowers, and other valuables in a locked garage or shed.
- Store firearms unloaded and locked in storage boxes and secured with trigger guard locks.
- If you hear an intruder while at home, leave safely if you can, then call police. If you can't leave, lock yourself in a room with a phone and call police. If an intruder is in your room, pretend you are asleep.
- If you park your car outside, never leave a garage door opener inside your vehicle.

### Vehicle Theft Prevention

- When buying a used car, make sure you have the proper titles and that the VIN number is intact and matches the federal sticker on the inside of the driver's door.
- Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition when fueling or when you're away from it—ATMs, convenience stores.
- Always roll up the windows and lock the car.
- Park in busy, well-lit areas.
- Be alert in parking lots and garages.
- Carry the registration and insurance card with you.
- Be aware of "bump & run," when a driver bumps you in traffic and has a passenger steal your car when you get out to check the damage.
- Before getting in your car, look underneath and inside. •

## MPCA News

### Senior Events

Your Community Association has heard that events for senior citizens in the Village are lacking. We are interested in any ideas, wishes, or suggestions – if you have called before, please call again - your info was accidentally erased. If you have suggestions or wish to volunteer, please contact Lisa Craddock-Thitoff at 891-2166.

### Remodeling

Have you recently remodeled your kitchen, bath, or any other part of your home? Then you have great experience and knowledge to share with other MP residents. Contact Lisa Craddock-Thitoff at 891-2166 with your wise words of wisdom. Perhaps we can put together a "remodeling tour" ...

### Carriage-Ride Bakers

Thanks so much for the great baked goods - bravo! You provided so many fabulous treats to help brave souls make it through the cold night. Thank you!

### Children's Christmas Party

The 35-40 children accompanied by 25-30 adults enjoyed a variety of activities –

Underwritten  
by your  
MPCA dues

letters to Santa, a cake walk, bingo, a magic show (from Minerva Park's own Nebo the Magician), and a special visit from Santa and one of his Helpers. Our thanks go to all bakers who generously provided great desserts and candies and to our local Meijer for donating \$100 worth of Christmas gifts and prizes for the bingo game. A good time was had by all!



**2580 Jordan Road**

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!

Nursery • Children's Services  
Youth Services

Sunday 10:30a  
Wednesday 7:00p

Prayer Service  
Friday 7:00p

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

**898-7688**

Pastor Dan & Kim Cascioli

**Faith Life Family Church**

# MAYOR'S REPORT

*Lynn Eisentrout*



I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and was able to spend time with family and friends. Many thanks for all of your good wishes, cards, and delicious treats that were enjoyed by Village staff.

### 2009 Street Repair Project:

As anticipated, we did not receive approval of our application to the Ohio Public Works Commission's Round 23 hearings. The good news is that when we were referred to the Small Government Division, our ranking changed from #10 to #3, earning us an additional 8 points. We have until mid-January to reconfigure our application (grant/loan ratio) and to resubmit it to the OPWC's Small Government Division for further consideration. To review – this is a \$329,527 project to mill and fill East Shore Drive, Kerrwood Drive, East Shore, North Lake and Berry Lane Courts, Maplewood Drive, and Alder Vista Drive. We will let you know when we receive the final decision and, if successful, the proposed timeline of this project.

**Job Opportunity:** Interested in assisting with the 2010 Census? The pay is competitive and paid weekly; you can work flexible hours and receive paid training; authorized expenses and mileage are reimbursed; and you would be helping your Village complete a

successful and accurate census.

To schedule an appointment to apply and take the prerequisite test, call 1-800-861-2010 (TTY 1-800-877-8339). I also have brochures at the Community Building.

**Digital TV Transition:** As you have been hearing, TV transmission is going digital in February and will affect analog TV reception. You can purchase a converter box at most department or discount stores – a \$40 coupon is available either at 800-DTV-2009 or [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov). If you are elderly and need help installing the box, a group of local volunteers can help. Minerva Park residents Curt and Laura Bolain (895-1442) are organizing a small group of volunteers from their church who will come to your home and install the converter box that you provide. This service is by appointment only and is available to those MP residents who are 65 and older (please call 895-9707 and deal direct with church volunteers).

**FEMA Application:** I met with our FEMA agent in December to finalize the Village's application for financial reimbursement for expenses incurred in our clean-up efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. The Village has been approved to receive \$2,388.27 (75% reimbursement of \$3,184.36) in addition to the \$10,000 we will receive from our insurance company. None of the efforts made in the ravine area qualified for this funding.

### Seventh Annual Carriage

**Rides:** This had to be the coldest one yet! Of the 350+ reservations, only 182 residents and their guests braved the -20 degree wind chill to ride through the central part of the

Village. I would like to thank everyone who helped to make this event such a success – Lisa and Steve Thitoff, Marilyn Herboltzheimer, Dick Busick, Boy Scout Troop #007 and Troop Leader Jim Lake, Fire Chief Rick Hoechstetter, Corporal Matt Fenstermaker, Bob Gale, Dave Way, Westerville's Panera Bread caterers Dawn Carroll and Carrie Krann, and Liberty Carriage located in Hamilton OH.



### Emergency Legislation:

Some residents at the December council meeting inquired about legislation passed as an emergency. "Emergency" simply means that legislation goes into effect immediately instead of 30

## MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

M – 8a-1p and 4p-6p

Tu – 4p-6p

W, F – 8a-noon

Th – 6p-8p

Sat, January 10 – 10a-noon

*Happy 100th!*

Congratulations to MP resident **Jennie Biancone**, turning 100 years young in January. MP's sincerest Happy Birthday to you!

days after passage. Why is this important? I call your attention to Resolutions 2008-22, -25, -26, -29, and -35 listed below. These are contracts or agreements with other municipalities, agencies, or individuals and must be in effect as of January 1, 2009, because existing contracts or agreements will have expired on December 31, 2008. Legislation passed in December as "emergencies" simply mean they will be in full force and effect as of January 1 (instead of January 7, i.e., "30 days later"). Clerk-Treasurer Suzanne Coulter has done a good job keeping us to a schedule of three readings whenever possible because we can anticipate when contract legislation should be passed. Sometimes delays are inevitable such as when contracts aren't received or when negotiations are still underway. As always, keep up-to-date with legislation at [www.minervapark.org](http://www.minervapark.org) legislation and offer your input.

All Council members were present for the regular meeting held December 8. The following reports were made:

**EMS:** Fire Chief Rick Hoehstetter reviewed his monthly report, an uneventful month.

**Police:** Chief Bob Hillard reviewed his monthly report. There was a home invasion of a residence on Minerva Lake Road – the occupants knew the perpetrators, and two arrests were made shortly thereafter. There was a burglary on Jordan Road at an unlocked residence – it remains unsolved. Please see an article on page 1 from Police Chief Bob Hillard for safety tips. The Cops for Kids Toy Drive is going well and would conclude on December 18. Our Police Department is in the running for two more radar guns as a result of its continued work with the DUI Task Force. The new police cruiser #2 is up and running.

**Law Director:** The Mayor and

Council have met with a small group of residents interested in pursuing making the Village a gated community. At the request of the Council and the Mayor, MP Assistant Law Director Kerry Boyle researched the possibility of erecting gates at Village entrances. Under Ohio law, municipalities hold the streets in trust for public use, for residents and non-residents alike, and are charged with keeping the streets "open," i.e., traffic control with speed limits, stop signs, and maintenance. If gates are installed across a road, a municipality is no longer regulating the use of the road but is prohibiting access to the municipality. And if gates are installed, the question remains as to the possibility of no longer receiving state funding for street repairs because these streets would then become private streets similar to other gated communities. Additionally, there is the safety concern of backed-up traffic at several entrances. We are exploring the idea of a meeting with interested residents to discuss the pros and cons. We'll keep you posted.

**Planning & Zoning and Code Enforcement:** Dick Busick reviewed his report.

**Minerva Park Community Association:** MPCA Vice President Lisa Craddock-Thitoff reported that the membership drive had been very successful with 71% participation; Christmas light judging would be from December 13-27; the Children's Christmas Party would be December 13; the Carriage Rides would be December 21.

**Northland Community Council:** Don Champney reported that Columbus' Director of Public Safety Mark Kelsey reported on budget reductions, specifically trash service and the hiring freeze for both the police and the fire departments.

The following committee reports were made:

**Community:** Councilman Dave Way reported that 2009's spring Lake Clean-up might coincide with Earth Day and might include a hazardous waste drop.

**Finance:** Councilwoman Sharon Bierman received approval for the November expenses totaling \$126,295.24 and two Then-and-Now Purchase Orders (AJ Asphalt for \$6,762 and National City for \$24,440).

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

Resolution 2008-22 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into an agreement with Blendon Township concerning the continued provision of emergency medical aid service to Blendon Township residents by the MP Volunteer Fire Department. Third reading accepted, passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09. Note – this resolution had been tabled at the November meeting to allow Fire Chief Hoehstetter and me time to negotiate with Blendon Township to increase the Township's annual fee; we were successful and have increased that fee from \$8,000 to \$10,000. These monies are added to the EMS Vehicle Fund to prepare for a future vehicle purchase.

Resolution 2008-25 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract with Franklin County Public Defender's Commission for legal services. Third reading accepted, passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09.

Resolution 2008-26 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract for health insurance for full-time police officers and the Mayor. Passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09.

Resolution 2008-29 -

Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into

contract for the professional services of a Mayor's Court Magistrate. Third reading accepted, passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09. Note – this resolution was tabled at the November meeting to allow me the time to interview other candidates for this position. We ultimately decided to retain Don Breckenridge as our magistrate.

**Resolution 2008-31** - Adopting the 2009 Rules of Council. Passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09. Note – this had been tabled at the November meeting after the third reading to allow the Council members more time to forward any additional comments to the Legislative Committee and the Clerk-Treasurer.

**Resolution 2008-35** - Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract with Kelleen R. Roth, prosecuting attorney, to provide prosecution of certain cases before the Franklin County Municipal Court during 2009. Third reading accepted, passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09. Note – historically, we have contracted with the City of Columbus to prosecute our cases for \$14,000-\$16,000 annually. We have opted to contract with a private attorney to handle our cases at a cost of \$9,000 annually. Additionally, this will give us more control over our cases, such as plea bargains and dismissals, for cases that are transferred from MP Mayor's Court to downtown, along with other cases.

**Resolution 2008-37** - Accepting a temporary appropriation budget and other expenditures for the first three months of 2009. Third reading waived and passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09.

**Resolution 2008-38** - Adopting a Public Records Policy. Rules suspended, three readings waived,

passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09.

**Resolution 2008-39** - Revising the permanent Appropriations Budget for the expenses and other expenditures for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009. Rules suspended, three readings waived, passed as an emergency so as to be in effect on 1-1-09.

**Safety:** Councilman Todd Walter will work with Dick Busick and AEP to address the ongoing problem of the malfunctioning light at Cleveland Ave. and Minerva Lake Rd. that illuminates the entrance marker at that intersection.

**Service:** Councilman Kent Stanley reported that the leaf pick-up program concluded and that John McKinney did a good job.

**Streets:** Councilman Jeff Rigg reported that two sink holes (one on Maplewood and one Wildwood) are being investigated. •



- November**- MP Police made 6 misdemeanor arrests; 3 were transported to Franklin County jail.
- 11-1 .... 8:30p, 2800 blk Alder Vista, theft reported
  - 11-5 .... 1:05a, 2800 blk Park Lane Dr., menacing threats
  - 11-7 .... 2600 blk Jordan Rd., theft between 10-30 and 11-3 reported
  - 11-13 .. 8:32p, 2800 blk Park Lane Dr., telephone harassment & menacing threats
  - 11-13 .. Hawthorne Elementary School, 5001 Farview Dr., theft reported
  - 11-18 .. 7:45p, 2500 blk Maplewood, breaking & entering and theft
  - 11-21 .. 5300 blk Park Lane Dr., lost wallet reported
  - 11-24 .. 10:11p, 2800 blk Park Lane Dr., telephone harassment
  - 11-29 .. 12:38p, Newcomer Funeral Home, 3047 E. Dub-Gran, false alarm



## Mayor's Court

Mayor's Court is open to the public — our next sessions are January 6 & 20 - 4:00p.

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

November 2008

Complete payments - 23	
Village Computer Fund .....	\$ 115
Village General Fund .....	3,025
Remitted to the State .....	490
<b>Total Court Receipts .....</b>	<b>\$3,630</b>

# TIM the HANDYMAN

## 481-2800

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 Plumbing & Electrical  
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 746-9121 cell  
 taylor.rene.babysitting@gmail.com



Deadline 5:00 Wednesday, December 17, 2008

January 2009						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1h	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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February 2009						
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April 2009						
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May 2009						
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31						

June 2009						
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28	29	30				

July 2009						
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August 2009						
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30	31					

September 2009						
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October 2009						
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November 2009						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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29	30					

December 2009						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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20	21	22	23	24	25h	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Legend for the Calendar	
	7:30p - MPCA meeting (Wed after 2nd Mon)
	8:00p - Village Council meeting (2nd Mon)
	7:30p - Zoning & Planning (1st Thu)
	8:00a - Council working sessions
	Trash Pickup because of holiday
	Villager Deadline - 5:00p
	Villager Delivery - weekend of 1st Monday
Residents are invited & encouraged to attend both MPCA meetings & Village Council meetings.	

\*Budget meeting

Event Schedule - Don't Miss Publication Deadlines!			
Feb	NCC annual meeting	Jul	Founders Day
Mar	Easter egg hunt	Aug	MPCA membership drive
Apr	Spring lake clean-up	Sep	MPCA business meeting
May	Primary election	Oct	Halloween party
May	Hydrant flushing	Oct	Fall lake clean-up
May	MPCA garage sale	Oct	Candidates Night
Jul	Garden tour	Nov	General election
Jul	Fire Dept. garden splash	Dec	Children's Christmas party
Jul	Village budget	Dec	Carriage Rides
		Jul	Founders Day

Please advise updates & corrections to Sharon Bierman 899-3755

# Joshua's

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RESIDENT

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- Lawn Care
- Landscaping
- Leaf Clean-up
- Snow Removal

Advertise in  
the Villager

899-3755

Thanks so much for your generous support of the Cops for Kids program. This year, some of the pre-school items were donated to a church fellowship's missions in Linden, and some other items were shared with an area church for their distribution. You help make this a happier Christmas for many needy children. Thank you for supporting this endeavor.

# Medic 119 ...

Where are you?

## November 2008

In November, Medic 119 made 23 runs - 11 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and none into Minerva Park; 11 patients were transported to hospitals.

24 members volunteered a total of 526.8 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 4,994.7.

Leading volunteers for the month were Norm Jones (82 hours), Tonya Creshaw (70 hours), and Caleb Stelzer (59.5 hours).



## Clerk/Treasurer's Report

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

November 2008

Beg balance general fund .....	\$454,853.73
Revenue collected .....	41,828.30
Expenses .....	(95,093.24)
Ending balance .....	\$401,588.79

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RESIDENT

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- Fire Grilled All Beef Hot Dog
- Fire Grilled Natural Cased Hot Dog
- Fire Grilled Sausages
- 11 different flavors
- 4 bread choices



### Make it a Combo

- French Fries
- Onion Rings
- Baked Beans
- Cole slaw
- 11 different choices



### The Topping

- Ketchup
- Yellow/Brown Mustard
- Coney Sauce
- Cheddar Cheese
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- Soda
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- Root Beer Float
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- 11 different toppings

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# Minerva Park the Villager

Minerva Park Community Association  
2829 Minerva Lake Road  
Columbus OH 43231

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

## *the Villager* Staff

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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, January 21, 5:00p**

## Thinking of Selling Your Home?

Here's a Reason to Call  
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*"My Professional Goal is to Exceed  
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Commitment to Your Best Interests."*

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- Selling Homes in Minerva Park for the past 27 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.



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