

the Villager



The Publication of your MINERVA PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

\$15 Community Assn Dues

2009-2010 MPCA Membership Drive

Street reps have been canvassing MP since August. If they missed you and left a membership application, please complete it and - with your \$15 dues - mail it to or drop it off at MPCA, 2829 Minerva Lake Road, Columbus OH 43231.

The 2009-2010 Resident Directories will be distributed to all paid MPCA members.

Your \$15 MPCA dues sponsor a wide variety of events throughout the year, so please honor your community by doing your part.



Update your directory information
- call 899-3755

Don't Feed ...

RACCOONS

Story on page 4.



Annual Meeting

**Wednesday, September 16
7:30p, Community Building**

... nominations and installation of MP Community Association officers for the coming year.

The Nomination Committee is accepting nominations for president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. If you would like to nominate someone, please contact Nominating Committee chair **Marilyn Herboltzheim** at **882-0455**.

Lake Clean-Up

Saturday, September 12

8:00a-noon clean-up

Noon cookout for workers

Please bring labeled rakes, clippers, chain saws, gloves, etc., and join us at the Community Building.

**Dave Way
785-9963**



SEPTEMBER DATES

- 1 (5:30p) Mayor's Court
- 3 (7:30p) Planning & Zoning
- 12 (8-noon) Lake Clean-up
- 13 (2p) Council Work Session
- 14 (7p) Council Meeting
- 15 (5:30p) Mayor's Court
- 16 (7:30p) MPCA Meeting
- 18 (5p) Villager Deadline
- 29 (5:30p) Mayor's Court

MPCA News

Our Thanks

Join the MPCA in expressing its thanks to Bob Gale for serving as MPCA president and to Gretchen Persohn for her service as MPCA past secretary.

Scholarship

Congratulations to Annette Johnson, the 2009 winner of the \$250 Nancy Fisher Scholarship, awarded annually by the MPCA.



Meet at 9a the Community Building, bringing rakes and clippers. If you can help at other times or have questions, call Bob Gale at 882-8622.

Thank You

Thank you for your MinervaFlora gardening work this summer — Jerry Hagan and sons Sam & Sean, Jim Kehl, Janet Kohn, Alison McArthur, Connie Rue, Steve & Lisa Thitoff.



Bob Gale Interview

Outgoing MPCA president Bob Gale recently answered a few questions ...

How long have you served as MPCA President? I was Vice President in 2004 and due to a vacancy I became President, filled out that partial term, and was elected President for a full term starting in Oct. 2004.

What inspired you to get involved initially? Due to Mary Yost's impending retirement in the late 1990s, she asked me to become MinervaFlora chair. I had worked on the committee since 1992 when enthusiasm swept the area due to AmeriFlora. Since the chair of MinervaFlora was on the board of MPCA, I began to attend MPCA meetings at that time.

As you reflect back, what difference has the MPCA made to our community? MPCA has given our residents a coordinated way to get to know their own community of neighbors and involve them in community events throughout the year. MPCA is also vital in representing our community and interests as a member of the Northland Community Council.

What have been some of your most rewarding moments over the years? I have been very pleased to have seen the pool events incorporated into the MPCA schedule. Getting the historic Bicentennial plaque installed is another moment [read the marker text at <http://www.minervapark.org/history.htm>].

Seeing the street reps revitalized was a great volunteerism moment. Meeting members of the community inside Minerva Park and outside via NCC has also been a very rewarding experience and having the ability to honor some of these people with awards has been genuinely a humbling experience. But most of all I have had the unique experience of seeing the Village grow and adapt to the surrounding environment for over 52 years and that perspective in relation to the MPCA has been the most rewarding.

Looking forward, what is needed for the MPCA to continue playing an effective role? MPCA does not need apathy; we need to have all members involved. The street rep program is a great way to make a difference as well as becoming a member of an MPCA committee. We also need to have members involved in NCC activities.

With new leadership needed, what would you say to candidates considering an MPCA term of office? My advice is get as many people involved as possible in MPCA activities. Work hard, but take time to enjoy volunteering and smell the roses, too. •

Correction

There were more than 300 people in attendance at Family Fun Night on June 27, with a MPCA profit of \$850.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Lynn Eisentrout



It's hard to believe that summer is nearly over. All indications suggest that we have had a successful pool season, although we won't have a full report for you until November when final bills are paid and our last check from the vending machine company has been received. I have some bad news about the donated slide. After the Village hired a company to dismantle it, the donors agreed, even encouraged us, to store it in an unused corner of their parking lot until we were ready to move it and erect it on the pool property. Without notifying us, the slide was removed to an undisclosed location and cannot be retrieved. The owners of the slide have agreed to pay the company that did the work for us. There will be no charge to the Village.

Some of you have called about the RVs and large campers that have made a home on the former Century 21 property at Ponderosa and 161 across from the Falcon building. Some of the crew who are renovating that building (it is now a church) have made this their living area for the project, an action that is against Columbus code. Because this property is in Columbus' jurisdiction, I have been in contact with Columbus Code Enforcement officers Jeff Pharion and Dean Saunders. I am told that they notified the offenders on August 12 and gave them 20 days to comply, that is, to remove the vehicles. They may, however, ask for an extension.

MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

M – 8a-1p and 4p-6p
 Tu – 4p-6p
 W, F – 8a-noon
 Th – 6p-8p
 Sat, Oct 10 – 10a-noon

As I am writing my report to you at the end of August, I have seen no change.

North Lake: Council members and I have met with the Friends of the North Lake, a group of residents living on the north lake who are concerned about the algae problem. We have treated the lake three times this season for duckweed and watermeal and have been investigating the costs of aerating the lake and removing the organic material that has accumulated over the years on the lake bottom.

When you call either my office or my home, please remember to leave a phone number or email address. I have had several messages left this past month with no way of returning these calls.

Solid Waste Disposal Fee: We have received a letter from the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO) that, when Gov. Strickland signed Ohio's budget bill into law, the disposal fee was increased from \$3.50 per ton to \$4.75 per ton. The increase went into effect August 1. This is a state-mandated, pass-through fee to be collected by SWACO at all solid waste transfer and disposal facilities. Monies will be remitted to the Ohio EPA (\$1 will be deposited into the Ohio Environmental Protection Fund, 25¢ will fund soil and water conservation programs through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources). How will this affect the Village? When next we negotiate our trash hauling contract, we may see higher numbers in the bid proposals from trash hauling companies.

Garage Sale: Many thanks to the following police staff who patrolled on the day of the Garage Sale: Lt. Waldenmyer, Sgt. Beach, Sgt. Silverman, Corp. Fenstermaker, Officer Wolfel, and Officer West. Thank you to the EMS staff who helped with serving food at their traditional fundraiser: Chief Hoechstetter, Capt. Quinn, Lt. Dworkin, Tonya Crenshaw,

Norm Jones, Brad Demeter, Barb Miller, Mike Ostrander, and former member Bill Duemmel. See page 6 for more thank-you's.

Council Members Jeff Rigg and Kent Stanley were excused from attending the regular Council meeting held August 10; all other members were present. The following reports were made:

EMS: Chief Hoechstetter reviewed his monthly report. He asked to be excused from the meeting to complete the installation of their new vehicle mobile data terminal (donated by the Police Dept) but asked me to recognize Continental Office Products for the donation of the boxes for the box maze the Fire Department built at Founders Day.

Police: Chief Hillard reviewed his monthly report. The department has received two free hand-held radar guns and two fixed guns for working with the Click-it or Ticket Program and the DUI Task Force. The Ohio Department of Public Safety asked our Police Dept. to display a wrecked car at the Ohio State Fair this year. Ours was the only department asked to do so.

Planning & Zoning and Code Enforcement: Dick Busick reviewed his monthly report. Four fence permits were approved at the August meeting.

Minerva Park Community Association: Lisa Craddock-Thitoff reported that the pool needs a new grill, Annette Johnson was the Scholarship Award recipient for 2009, about 150 people attended the Founders Day celebration, a NCC rep is needed, Street reps are needed, and the Fall Lake Clean-up is scheduled for September 12 at 8 a.m.

The following committee reports were made:

Community: Councilman Dave Way

had nothing to add to the MPCA's report.

Finance: Council President Pam Park-Curry received approval from the Council for a then & now PO, the July 2009 financials, and the expenditures for July totaling \$105,448.89.

Legislation: Councilwoman Sharon Bierman asked the Council to consider the following legislation:

Resolution 2009-13 - Affirming the Mayor's Administrative Order regarding the Mayor's Court costs and fees dated May 24. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2009-14 - Revising the 2009 Rules of Council. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2009-15 - Authorizing an agreement to utilize Fifth Third Bank for the deposit of public funds. Second reading accepted.

Resolution 2009-17 - Authorizing the Mayor and the Clerk-Treasurer to enter into contract with the Columbus Regional Airport Authority for a mutual aid compact. Second reading accepted.

Resolution 2009-18 - State Route 3 Road Improvements. First reading accepted.

Resolution 2009-19 - Authorizing the Mayor, the Clerk-Treasurer, and the MP Police Chief to enter into an agreement with the Franklin County Sheriff's office to support the Franklin County Sheriff's office in their OVI Task Force goals from October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010 by allowing the MP police officers to participate in DUI checkpoints for the OVI Task Force. First reading accepted.

Ordinance 03-2008 - Repealing ordinance 3-94 and adopting a replacement chapter 860 of the MP codified ordinances regulating canvassers, peddlers, and solicitors. Third reading accepted, passed.

Safety: Councilman Todd Walter reported that his committee is reviewing wages, merit pay, and rank salaries for the police department, there are still no solar lights for the court entrance pillars, and the engine in Car #3 has malfunctioned.

Service: In Councilman Kent

Stanley's absence, the Mayor reported that proposals for the 2009 Leaf Contract are being sought. A motion was approved to dispose of the leaf machine.

Streets: The Village received 7 bids for the 2009 Street Repair Project ranging from \$173,000 to \$205,000. The bid was to be awarded at a Special Council meeting to be held August 13.

Special Council Meeting held August 13 - legislation continued:

Resolution 2009-17 - Mutual Aid Compact with the Columbus Regional Airport Authority. Third reading accepted, passed.

Resolution 2009-18 - State Route 3 Road Improvement. Second reading accepted.

Resolution 2009-19 - Agreement with Franklin County for DUI Task Force. Second reading accepted, rules suspended for the third reading, passed.

Resolution 2009-20 - 2009 Street Repair Contract. Rules suspended, three readings waived, passed. •

Medic 119 ...

Where are you?

July 2009

In July, Medic 119 made 14 runs - 2 into Blendon Township (exclusive of MP) and 2 into Minerva Park; 8 patients were transported to hospitals.

22 members volunteered a total of 598 hours for the month, bringing the total for the year-to-date to 4,224.5 hours. Leading volunteers for the month were **Caleb Stelzer** (83.3 hours), **Tim Lockard** (61 hours), and **Tony Williams** (37 hours).

MP Runs

7-4 Ill person

7-29 Unconscious person

Masked Bandits Invade MP

By Greg Wittmann, Neighborhood Naturalist

You do know I am referring to raccoons, right? They snoop around our roofs and trees and yards and trash cans and climb on our cars and chimneys and bird feeders and raccoon-proof composters and eat our tomatoes and peaches and apples and cherries and pet rabbits. Yes, I said pet rabbits, and anything else they can get their little bandit hands on. Looking for food is their specialty and because they are omnivorous (eat vegetables and meat), their diet is not picky. They even are known to scavenge on dead things.

"They are cute, though," you may say. Yes they are, and I am sure they deserve to be here as much as you and I do. However, there are not enough predators to keep their numbers in check, so they have become more numerous than most neighborhood habitats can accommodate. They have become a problem, and now we don't know what to do about it.

Raccoons have interesting behaviors, such as washing their food when they are near water, even though they eat our garbage out of garbage cans. The "bandit" part that I mentioned earlier refers to the black mask around their face. It is very fitting that they look like robbers. Their opposable thumb allows them to be one of the most dexterous mammals around. Because they are nocturnal, we often miss out on their mischievous night time thievery until the next day when trash and scat litter our driveways and yards.

Raccoons carry distemper, rabies, and a parasitic nematode called roundworm (*Baylisascaris procyonis*), found in yards and gutters in the form of raccoon feces. Household pets easily can contract roundworm from raccoon feces. It is important to have your pets vaccinated.

Raccoons are not true hibernators. They "den up," meaning they will hunker down for long periods of time in chimneys,

attics, trees, under decks and porches, and in out-buildings. They will come out to feed during warm spells in the winter.

How to prevent raccoon invasions:

1. Do not feed raccoons. We think we are helping these animals when indeed we are actually hurting them. Providing easy meals for them causes dependency on food that is not healthy for them to eat and can create an unnatural increase in their population.
2. Cover your chimneys. There are many designs and products on the market to keep critters out of your chimneys. Most hardware stores carry relevant information. Any other holes or areas such as attic vents should be screened or boarded closed.
3. Trim tree branches away from your house. This does not mean cut all of the trees down. Simply trim branches away from your roof to eliminate easy access.
4. Be smart around raccoons and any other wild animals. **Do not pet wild**

animals- especially ones that carry many diseases as raccoons do.

Animal control specialists say there are 3 options in removing raccoons from their existing locations.

1. You may move them out of a building away from your porch or garden shed but not into other habitats where they may not have previously lived unless you ...
2. Bring the animal to a holding place for a period of observation for two weeks to ensure that distemper and rabies is not present. These first two options are least practical for long-term exclusion.
3. Euthanizing the animal is the third option that is most often used when the first two won't work.

It is too easy to transport disease when you move animals from one habitat to another



Mayor's Court

Mayor's Court is open to the public — our next sessions are Sep 1, 15, and 29, at 5:30p. If you have any questions, please call Christi Nordman, Clerk of Courts, at 882-1408 (Community Building).

	Apr	May	Jun
Citation payments	35	32	33
Village Computer Fund	\$160	\$81	\$80
Village General Fund	\$2,673	\$2,305	\$1,604
Remitted to the State	\$990	\$939	\$641
Refund from FCMC	\$1,690	\$1,680	\$1,875
Total Court Receipts	\$5,513	\$5,005	\$4,200

and it alters the carrying capacity (ability for that habitat to sustain a population).

For information, call the Ohio Wildlife Center at 794-WILD or MP's Neighborhood Naturalist, Greg Wittmann, at 523-2178. •

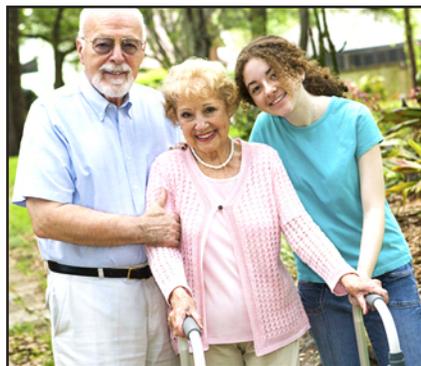
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Providing home care to seniors in an effort to promote independence, ensure recovery, and protect well being. Whether you or your loved one needs general assistance around the house or skilled services like nursing or rehabilitative therapy, Advanced Senior Support can help!

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Programs include:

- Memory Plus designed to provide care for those dealing with memory loss, Alzheimer's, or dementia
- Deaf Services Program designed to provide care for the Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and hard-of-hearing communities



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Conveniently located on the corner of Sunbury Road & Central College, Westerville.

Donate School Supplies

Support Hawthorne Elementary's teachers by donating basic school supplies. A box will be at the Community Building for collecting colored pencils, construction paper, Kleenex, Clorox wipes, dry erasers, colored copier paper, etc.



Welcome

Our New Neighbors!

Underwritten by your MPCA dues

Alex & Allison Moore,
2524 Minerva Lake Rd.,
787-0553, from Worthington

JoAnn & Phillip Ensminger,
2525 Lakewood, from Sunbury

Keith & Toya Mathis, 2540
Lakewood, from Canal
Winchester

If you learn of any new residents,
please advise the

Newcomers Committee

John Rue, 899-1360

Steve & Lisa Thitoff - 891-2166

Glenda Morris - 882-2359



Minerva Park
Police

July - MP Police made 13 misdemeanor arrests; all were transported to the Franklin County jail.

7-1 ... 8:27p, African/Western Head Gear, 5240 Cleveland Ave., false alarm

7-3 ... 4:20p, 3000 Valley Rd., theft

7-4 ... 7:00a, 5300 blk Ponderosa Dr., rape, assault, domestic violence, aggravated menacing reported

7-5 ... 2:01a, 2900 blk Minerva Lake Rd., telecommunications harassment

7-6 ... 2:05p, 5460 Cleveland Ave., Minerva Park Nursing Home, theft reported

7-7 ... 12:55p, 2700 Lakewood Dr., criminal damaging reported

7-11 . 6:30p, 5400 Cleveland Ave., drug possession

7-12 . 10:00p, 5400 Cleveland Ave., menacing

- 7-15 . 7:13a, 5200 Cleveland Ave., forgery reported
- 7-23 . 9:13a, 2700 blk Wildwood Rd., false alarm
- 7-25 . 8:53a, 5400 blk Cleveland Ave., recovered stolen property, drug possession, drug paraphernalia, unauthorized use of property,
- 7-25 . 11:22p, 2800 Alder Vista Dr., assault, aggravated menacing
- 7-28 . 8:00a, 5300 East Shore Dr., harassment
- 7-28 . 7:49p, 5300 Cleveland Ave., false alarm
- 7-29 . 3:56p & 4:09p, 5100 blk Lakeland Ct., loud noise •

Garage Sale Angels

Thank you for all your help this year! Sharon Bierman, Dick Busick, Lynn Eisentrout, Marilyn Herboltzhiemer, John Michels, Kristan Onofrio, MP Police, Chelsie & Mark Poncinie, David Way.

To the few sellers that we missed during collection who still owe 10% of your proceeds, please drop it off at 2718 Alder Vista Drive.

Thanks for your participation! •

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Composting Workshop Heats Up the Neighborhood

The Green Team sponsored its first workshop on composting Saturday, August 29, with great enthusiasm and hope for "greener," healthier gardens during the next growing season.

Green Team members Liane Buckingham and Tommy Sasfy led the workshop, which focused on simple ways to turn garden, table, and yard scraps into rich healthy soil that will cause plants to be stronger and healthier and send even the orneriest of bugs to weaker plants for their meals.

This hands-on workshop, held in the yards of the Buckingham's and Sasfy's, discussed how to start composting, what to put in a compost pile, and how to maintain them. Perhaps the most spectacular part of the workshop was touring the two yards to see first-hand what good compost can do for your plants.

Thank you to the Green Team for holding this event and thank you to Tommy Sasfy and Liane Buckingham for sharing your expertise with us. Stay tuned for announcements on many future Green Team workshops, including making your own rain barrels, creating a rain garden, and sustainable wildlife gardening practices. •



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).

July 2009

Beg balance general fund	\$293,601.81
Revenue collected	53,324.97
Expenses	(100,817.71)
Ending balance	\$246,109.07

License Plates

When getting or renewing your license plates, remember to say you live in Minerva Park. When you do, some of that motor vehicle money comes back to the village, and it may save you money! •

Flu Clinic

Seasonal flu shots (not H1N1) will be offered by the Franklin County Board of Health at the Community Building on Thursday, October 8, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. •

TIM the HANDYMAN
370-1957

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taylor.rene.babysitting@gmail.com



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Sunday 10:30a
Wednesday 7:00p

Prayer Service
Friday 7:00p

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Pastor Dan & Kim Cascioli

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Minerva Park Community Association
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Deliver by Sep 8.

Cops & Kids Expo



Join the Minerva Park Police at the Cops & Kids Expo ...
Hoff Woods Park, Westerville

556 McCorkle Blvd, between County Line Road & Polaris Parkway
Sunday, September 13 • 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Attend with your kids and enjoy this law enforcement expo with cruisers, motorcycles, and helicopters. The event also has games for the children and good information for parents.

For more information, call Minerva Park
Sgt. Adam Beach at 614-882-1408, extension 202.

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:
Friday, Sep 18, 5:00p



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