

# Mariemont TOWN CRIER

FEBRUARY 2012 • MARIEMONT, OHIO • VOLUME XXXVI, No. 5

BY CLAIRE KUPFERLE, EDITOR

Leapin' lizards! January 23 began the Chinese New Year, and ushered in the Year of the Dragon. This is also a leap year, a necessary correction to the Gregorian calendar employed by most technological societies.

This month will have an extra day, called a leap day, which occurs every four years... unless it is a century year that is not divisible by 400, such as 1700 or 1800. Only century years that are divisible by 400 (1600 and 2000, for example) can be leap years. The solar year is not exactly 365.25 days long. There are an additional 11.5 seconds per year that require that complicated formula in order to make the calendar accurate enough for common use.

There are some quaint traditions associated with February 29. In the United Kingdom, there is an age-old custom that women can only ask men to marry them in a leap year. It eventually was restricted to leap day; not a very big window of opportunity! Supposedly, if a man refused the proposal, he had to forfeit a kiss, a pound sterling, or a silk petticoat, depending on your location in the British Isles. For a time, women who planned to proffer a marriage proposal were supposed to wear a bright red petticoat, perhaps as a way to signal their intent and give the men time to prepare a response!

A person born on February 29 is called a "leapling." Of course, the number of birthdays celebrated on that date is far less than their actual age in years. This is not usually a problem, except in the case of a leapling character from Gilbert and

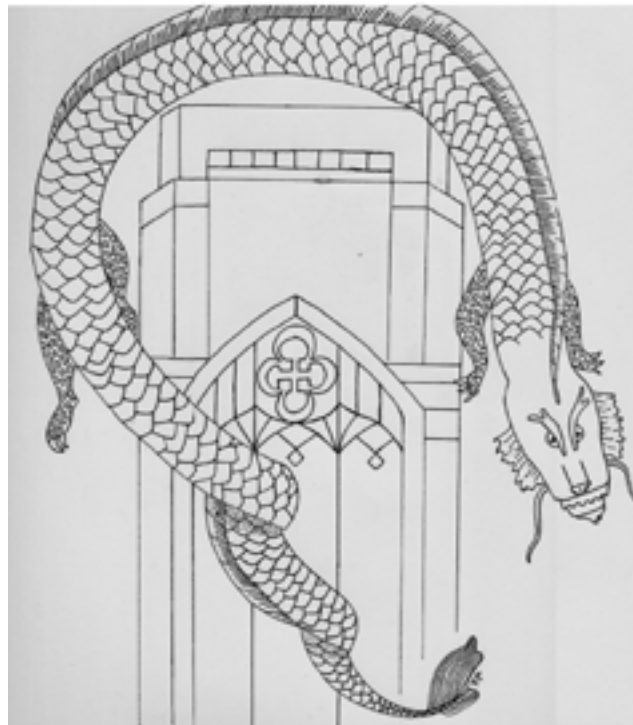
Sullivan's *Pirates of Penzance*. Frederic the pirate learns that he has agreed to serve the pirates until his 21st birthday rather than his 21st year. Most leaplings celebrate on the 28th or on March 1.

Turning to the lunar calendar developed by the Chinese, we find that 2012 is the Year of the Dragon. However, it is specifically the Year of the Black Dragon, an especially lucky designation that occurs only every 60 years. The dragon is a powerful symbol in Chinese astrology and mythology, usually representing the emperor. Chinese mythology holds that all Chinese people are descended from a dragon, giving the year great importance. It's also a time to expect a baby boom. Considered a lucky year in which to be born, many Chinese women plan to have their children in a Dragon year.

Legend has it that dragons are unpredictable, and that no one can see a dragon's head and tail at the same time. Therefore, Chinese astrologers predict that 2012 will hold some unexpected events (but what year doesn't?). Here is the entry for the upcoming year on [chinesenewyear2012.net](http://chinesenewyear2012.net):

"The Year of the Dragon will be marked by excitement, unpredictability, exhilaration and intensity. ... People respond to the spirit of the Dragon with energy, vitality and unbridled enthusiasm, often throwing all caution to the wind — which can be an unwise move: The Dragon is all about drama, but if you take unnecessary risks, you may find yourself starring in your own personal tragedy."

*Illustration by Rose Phillips,  
MHS Class of 2009*



## HAPPY LEAP YEAR OF THE DRAGON



THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGE

# Mariemont DAR Supports Troops

The Mariemont Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held their monthly meeting on Saturday, November 19. The guest speaker was Mr. Ace Gilbert, Vietnam War Veteran, United States Marine Corps, and recipient of two purple hearts. Mr. Gilbert presented an informative and moving tribute to the personal side of being a soldier serving in a combat situation.

In recent work to support our troops, the Mariemont Chapter has sent five boxes containing over 80 pounds of requested food to five deployed servicemen in Iraq and Afghanistan. Chapter members have also written 32 letters to









*Ace Gilbert, Vietnam War Veteran, United States Marine Corps, and recipient of two purple hearts*

military personnel. One of our November projects, in cooperation with the Thank You Foundation, provided four currently deployed service members with a table top Christmas Tree with tree topper, ornaments and garland, a stuffed stocking, and a wrapped gift.

For more information about the Mariemont Chapter DAR, please contact Jan Mauch at [jan.mauch@me.com](mailto:jan.mauch@me.com).

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## STAFF

<b>Editor</b>	Denis Beausejour	Joan Welsh	Will Henning
Claire Kupferle	beausejor@aol.com	561-2256/joanwelsh@gmail.com	Ana Hinebaugh
561-4428/ckupferle@cinci.rr.com	Michael & Shelley Paden	Randy York	Hans Hinebaugh
<b>Business &amp; Advertising</b>	Benson	271-8923/ryork@cinci.rr.com	Scott Holland
<b>Manager</b>	271-9774/michael.benson@uc.edu/	<b>Photographer</b>	Ally Maier
Claire Kupferle	slpaden@aol.com	Ron Schroeder	Ian Mikesell
<b>Distribution</b>	Rex Bevis	ronschroederimaging@gmail.com	Joe Molski
Beth Garrison	rexbevis@fuse.net	<b>Carriers</b>	Grace Teghtmeyer
271-0943/bethgarrison@fuse.net	Amy Hollon	Celia and Ginny Caesar	Emma Veeneman
<b>Proofreaders</b>	amymhollon@gmail.com	Margo Dailey	Joe Veeneman
Dick Adams	Andy Gordon	Mary Deadrick	Jack Wilder
Wes Iredale	271-2086/andygordon2@gmail.com	Luke Garrison	(Siblings listed together share
<b>Contributors</b>	Nina Iredale	Parker Gilmore	routes; siblings listed separately
	272-1551/nina90@cinci.rr.com	Drew Goheen	have their own routes)

### March deadline:

The deadline for the next  
*Town Crier* is

**February 16, 2012.**

All camera-ready ads and articles must be submitted by 5 pm to Claire Kupferle at ckupferle@cinci.rr.com. Articles should be sent via email in Microsoft® Word, with photos sent as jpg files.

Payment and advertising contracts should be submitted to:

Claire Kupferle, 3844  
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*The Town Crier* is published monthly from September through May as "The Voice Of The Village Of Mariemont." *The Mariemont Town Crier, LLC* is published as a service to the residents and organizations of the Village of Mariemont. Articles (typed and double-spaced) and photographs are welcomed. They may be dropped off or emailed by 5 pm on the article due date. Signed Letters to the Editor are accepted as space allows. The Town Crier reserves the right to edit letters for length. Letters to the Editor reflect the opinions of the authors and do not represent the views of *The Town Crier* staff. Photographs will not be returned unless indicated. Due to limited space, the editorial staff reserves the right to select and edit articles for both content and space. As a public service to the non-profit organizations of Mariemont, *The Town Crier* does accept inserts for a fee. The editorial staff reserves the right to select and edit inserts. Inserts and ads of a political nature are not accepted.

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# What Makes Mariemont Work: The Architectural Review Board



this historic character. Two MPF leaders, current Village resident Millard Rogers and former resident Fred Rutherford, defined a government oversight organization to be known as the Village of Mariemont Architectural Review Board (ARB). The purpose of the ARB, as defined by

statute, has governance over the Village Historic District and Landmarks. Most notable of these are the Old Village Square and landmark structures at the intersection of Oak and Chestnut Streets, the New Village Square area at the intersection of Wooster Pike, Miami Road, and Madisonville Road, and the many historic buildings located on Beech Street, Murray Avenue, Oak Street, Maple Street, Plainville Road, and Chestnut Street. Also included in the Historic District and Landmark Buildings are the residences on Linden Place, Denny Place, Albert Place, and Sheldon Close. Freestanding Landmarks such as the Mariemont Inn, the Mariemont Community Church, the Parish Center and the Resthaven Barn are also included. The ARB governance extends to areas and items such as the original lampposts and streetlights, Village park areas and structures, and the Indian Mounds adjacent to the swimming pool.

By REX BEVIS

## *The first in a series of articles on the Boards and Commissions of the Village.*

The uniqueness that is Mariemont began with a concept of Mary Emery and John Nolan and came to reality in the 1920's. It is not by accident or chance, however, that the early architectural choices and the attention to aesthetic detail have been maintained. When the Village was designated an Historic Village in the National Register of Historic Places on July 24, 1979, the Mariemont Preservation Foundation (MPF) seized the opportunity to promote an ongoing mechanism to maintain

these two advocates, was then and still is, "to maintain a high standard of community development and (incorporate) the principles of town planning...by regulating the exterior architectural characteristics of structures throughout the Historic District." Millard and Fred presented the concept of the Architectural Review Board, as well as the requisite structure and objectives of the Board, to Village Council in the fall of 1983. Council ultimately adopted an Ordinance enacting this legislation in 1984 and the ARB has been governing ever since that time.

The Architectural Review Board, by

So what does the ARB do? In a summary statement, the ARB "reviews and approves or denies applications for all of these Landmark structures, historic sites and districts, including signage, for Certificates of Appropriateness." The ARB reviews proposed construction, alteration, demolition, etcetera, with the goal of recognizing and preserving the historical and architectural character of the structure / area. The ARB regulates the exterior design, use of materials and orientation of all proposed alterations or remodeling in the areas under their governance.

And what does this mean to an affected resident / applicant desiring to make modifications, additions, or perhaps install new windows? It is the resident's responsibility to seek ARB approval prior to making any exterior changes. The Mariemont Building Commissioner, Mr. Dennis Malone, can assist in navigating the process. Look for new guidelines and forms on the mariemont.org website during February, as the content is being updated now. It is important to note that the Architectural Review Board approval (and issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness) must be secured prior to

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## VILLAGE

commencement of the project. Mr. Malone will also advise the applicant as to whether a Building Permit is needed and will assist the applicant in securing the Building Permit if needed. Lastly, if an applicant is seeking a zoning variance from the Planning Commission (a future article will deal with this Commission), the ARB Certificate of Appropriateness must be secured first.

The ARB consists of five Village residents who volunteer their time and expertise. By statute, one member must be a registered architect and one must be an owner of property within the Historic District. Members are appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by Village Council to two-year terms; these terms are staggered to provide overlap. Our current Architectural Review Board members are the following:

Paul Allen  
Mark Bruggeman, Architect  
Mary Ann Schwartz, Historic Property Owner and Resident  
Mike Stegman, Historic Property Owner and Resident  
Charlie Thomas

These dedicated volunteers meet on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 pm in Village Council Chambers, unless there are no pending projects for review. Dennis Malone, in his official capacity as Building Commissioner, gathers the applicant information and assists the ARB by documenting the facts of the project(s) being reviewed.

What makes Mariemont work? A well-conceived and documented concept, governed by the Architectural Review Board... a commission of Village residents volunteering their time and expertise.

*(Special thanks to Building Commissioner Dennis Malone for his assistance in my understanding of the ARB. For detailed information on resident/applicant requirements, please visit the [mariemont.org](http://mariemont.org) website and/or contact Mr. Malone at the Village Office.)*



## Elementary School Construction Updates

In February, Mariemont City Schools will be hosting Community Construction Update meetings to keep residents informed of construction progress at all three sites. For Mariemont Elementary, the meeting will be held on Thursday, February 16, 5:30 pm in Room 201, located in the west modular building.

The update for Terrace Park Elementary will be held February 9 at 7 pm in the Terrace Park Elementary library. Those interested in progress at the junior high can attend a meeting February 16 at 7:00 pm in the library of the current junior high, Dale Park.

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# Neighboring *with* Nina

By NINA IREDALE



Hello and Happy 2012! I caught up with a few of our new neighbors recently and hope you enjoy reading about them as much as I enjoy talking to them for this

article! I'm now looking forward to the arrival of snow. I just love the beauty of Mariemont after a good snowfall, don't you? Remember, if you are new to Mariemont and I haven't

contacted you yet, please feel free to email me @niredale@sibcycline.com and I will gather your information. It's never too late to be welcomed!

3852 Belmont was purchased by Marianne Prue who grew up in South Bend, IN but moved to Cincinnati about three and a half years ago. Marianne works for the Cincinnati Park Board as an Urban Forester. She works in about 14 neighborhoods planting and maintaining the street trees. She is a graduate of Purdue and has a cat, Maverick.

Tim and Miriam Riker purchased a condo in Emery Park. They relocated from Pleasant Ridge and are friends of the developer, Rick Greiwe, who helped them decide the timing was good for downsizing.

Nathan Reichardt and Lynn Tummeler purchased 3707 East Street in November and moved from Walnut Hills. They were looking for a move to a stable neighborhood to raise their family and feel that Mariemont is a great fit. They love being part of an active community that is walkable. Both of them are from the Cincinnati area; Nathan is from Fairfield and Lynn is from Anderson. They have a 2-year old daughter, Helen. Lynn is a Finance Director at Lexis/Nexis and Nathan is a Director at Wilmert Hales in Dayton.

26 Spring Hill was purchased in December by Paul and Svetlana Correa. They moved from Mt. Lookout to downsize into a condo. They have a 3-year old Maltipoo named Mitya. Svetlana is a philosophical counselor (working on people's philosophy of life, meaning, and ethics) and Paul is retired from P & G. He now does consulting in biomedical informatics and organic chemistry and as a hobby writes classical music. They chose Mariemont to be close to friends.

Chad and Melissa Holsinger moved into 6828 Mt. Vernon this fall. They moved from Dallas to be closer to friends and family along with wanting to raise their children in the Midwest. Chad grew up in the Dayton area and Melissa in Northern Kentucky. She attended grad school at Xavier and grew to love the east side of Cincinnati (Hyde Park and Mt. Lookout). Both Chad and Melissa love the accessibility to the square and family atmosphere, not to mention the safety. They also like to run, walk and spend time outside with their children, a daughter, Harper, who is 3 and a son, Henry, who is 1. Melissa is a stay-at-home mom and Chad is a VP for Steel Media, based in NYC and San Francisco.

6946 Nolen Circle was purchased by Rodney and Jane Taylor. They are moving here from New Hampshire to be closer to family. They have two daughters, Erika and Jessica. Erika and Steve Turan and Jessica and Nick Mavridoglou, along with the grandchildren, live on Homewood. Rodney is a physician and Jane is a volunteer. They love the beauty of Mariemont and the fact that it is a walking community.

I'd like to WELCOME all of our new neighbors and if anyone knows of a new addition to someone's family or a new neighbor that I may have missed, please let me know so they can be included in a future issue. My phone number is 272-1551 or email is niredale@sibcycline.com.

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# IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

BY DENIS BEAUSEJOUR

Something special radiates from 4310 and 4312 Grove Avenue. The best word to describe it is community. It is something you feel as soon as you walk up – both doors are open – a welcoming inclusiveness that feels like family and neighbor love – served like a warm cup of tea.

Kathleen Pompa purchased 4310 in 1998, and Steve and Wendy Achenbach bought 4312 in 2001. Kathleen is a neonatal nurse practitioner, and Wendy is a retired professional ballerina. Their schedules allowed some free time to connect during the week, and they developed a friendship. Steve, known as

J by his family and close friends, had a family where friends were included, even on

vacations! So Kathleen joined in, even skiing with the Achenbach clan in New Hampshire. When Wendy and J decided to adopt Rosie (born March 2003), Kathleen was also “adopted in” as Auntie. They celebrate Rosie’s official adoption day, October 6, 2003 as “family day” – together.

Their redefinition of family means that you will see a daily flow between homes (4312 is “the North Wing”, 4310 “the South Wing”), exchanging ingredients through open side windows, recipes, firewood, pet supplies, etc. Rosie spends time with Auntie, and Rosie’s friends are welcome too! J handles Kathleen’s lawn mowing, gutters, and snow shoveling! They eat dinner together most days. There’s more! The Grove Avenue Bike Parade on the Fourth of July is in its 6th year. There are the craft parties, Easter Egg Hunts, Valentine’s Day fun, “Secret Santa” and St. Patty’s day. Of course, so many neighbors make these things special – something they are all quick to point out.

I felt the Grove Avenue magic the first

***Do you know of other helpful Mariemont neighbors that we could profile? If so, please send your suggestions to the Editor, Claire Kupferle, at [ckupferle@cinci.rr.com](mailto:ckupferle@cinci.rr.com).***



time I was in the Achenbach’s home on January 16, 2011. That night, the shocking murder of Camille Stringfield Reynolds brought a community together in an amazing wave of neighborly solidarity and love. A web of caring and loving neighbors called, brought food, cleaned up, prayed and brought in help of various kinds. When my wife Marianne and I arrived to support our beloved Dell Stringfield, she and her granddaughter Autumn were at the Achenbach’s, being warmly and lovingly comforted while waiting for the police report. We could feel something unique, as it seemed the whole street had sprung into action. Dell is dearly loved – our woman of the year. However, one clearly senses this kind of love would be extended to anyone else in need. It did not end there either – meals flowed for several weeks, gardening, cleaning, you name

it! The Grove Gang keeps on keeping on!

Kathleen, Wendy, and Steve make it clear that I could write a story about many of these amazing neighbors. But today, they, and especially Rosie, have the spotlight and the spirit – she has a friend visiting from Milford, a spunky girl named Sam. You can tell Rosie is in her element, and Sam is warmly welcomed into the Grove Avenue Gang, just as we were.

As I leave, the sun shines warmly on the Achenbach’s front porch. The “family” gathers for a picture. Rosie and Sam bask in the moment, balancing on a bike. Wendy, Steve and Kathleen are having fun – they clearly enjoy one another. As I look around, I notice the doors to 4310 and 4312 are open. Hearts are open. This is genuine community, and it feels like a warm beam of sunlight.



# Anderson Honored at Retirement Celebration



Barb Anderson was honored for her many contributions as Director of MariElders with a gathering at Resthaven Barn on January 8. Administrator Mike Lemon (Columbia Township) and Mayors Ted Shannon (Fairfax) and Dan Policastro (Mariemont) were on hand to present proclamations attesting to her wonderful work over the years developing MariElders into a wonderful asset to residents in all three communities.



*Mayor Policastro presents a proclamation to Barb in honor of her years of service.*

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# Nobel Awards Ceremony Thrills Karen and Ed Berkich

Ed and Karen Berkich recently spent a magical week in Stockholm, Sweden attending the Nobel Prize Award ceremonies and festivities. Karen's sister Claudia, a Withrow High and Ohio State graduate, was the wife of Ralph Steinman, who was awarded the 2011 Nobel Prize in Medicine.

Ralph, a Harvard Medical School graduate, spent his professional career as a basic researcher at Rockefeller University in New York City. His research was in the field of the adaptive immune response and the role of the dendritic cell, which he discovered. Many researchers in this field feel his groundbreaking work will lead to advancements in the development of new vaccines and cancer therapies.

The family enjoyed a fairy-tale week, but it was bittersweet as Ralph, who had been battling pancreatic cancer for four years, succumbed to the disease two days before the Nobel Committee announced the awards. Claudia and Ralph's children and grandchildren, as well as his sister, Joni, and a cousin were able to make the trip. Ralph's 90-year-old mother, a resident of Montreal, watched the event live on Canadian television.

Both Ed and Karen thoroughly enjoyed the northern beauty of Stockholm and the hospitality of the Swedish people. They had an opportunity to attend the Awards Ceremony at the historic Stockholm Opera House and the subsequent banquet and ball at the 16th century Stockholm City Hall. The King and Queen of Sweden were in attendance as well as many previous Nobel Prize winners. Also in attendance were many of Ralph's former students and fellow researchers from around the world.

One of the week's highlights was a personal tour of the beautiful Royal Palace. On the walk back to their hotel, Ed commented that the palace was cold and



*Left to Right: Claudia Steinman, Karen and Ed Berkich, Joni Steinman.*

needed more central heating. He now has a better understanding as to why the medieval Vikings were always sailing off looking for warmer climates.

Another highlight was when Bob and Mary Crosset's daughter Ann, who lives in Denmark, was able to make a six-hour boat and railway trip to Stockholm to meet up with Ed and Karen for a leisurely breakfast. Ann stated that the Nobel Ceremony was "Super Bowl" week for the Scandinavian

countries and was watched by all.

The trip was truly an experience of a lifetime and Ed and Karen hope to return with their grandsons to the Nobel Museum where their great uncle Ralph Steinman is remembered for his contribution to the advancement of mankind through medical research.

*Submitted by Karen Berkich*

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# Woman's Art Club Receives Three Special Grants

The Woman's Art Club of Cincinnati Foundation is pleased to announce they are the recipients of three generous grants from local foundations.

The Robert H. Reakirt Foundation's grant will enable "The Barn" to make the parking lot safer and more accessible for patrons who sometimes have trouble walking on the uneven gravel pavement. Jan Boone, Foundation president, said, "We are grateful for the Reakirt Foundation's recognition of our efforts at "The Barn" and the importance of accessibility. The project fund has reached fifty percent of our goal, and we hope to complete the paving next summer."

The Cultural Center is presently serving an estimated 5,000 individuals annually. With this increased activity and interest, there is a need to expand programs and exhibit space. The Sutphin Family Foundation and the Oliver Family Foundation have given generous support for the second floor/phase III renovation of the former hayloft of "The Barn." According to Jan Boone, "We are very excited about beginning another big project at "The Barn." Development like this is a careful balance between preservation and enhancement. Support like this makes those dreams possible. As we grow and serve more residents of Greater Cincinnati, additional space is critical. We can't wait to get started."

Because of dedicated philanthropists, foundations, preservationists and artists, "The Barn" is now a vibrant and growing Ohio Cultural Facility.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### *Cincinnati's Taft Museum of Art presents "Dressed for Excess: Costume in Art in the Taft Museum of Art"*

Tuesday, February 7, at 7:00 pm, join us in the Barn Gallery for a fabulous program presented by Nancy Huth, the Taft's curator of Education. Ms. Huth will discuss the garments worn by people pictured in 17th -19th century paintings from the Taft's fine painting collection.



From the elegant black clothing worn by Rembrandt's and Hal's sitters, to the gossamer gowns of the 1700's, learn how dress evoked the sitter's status and provided a glimpse into the culture and society they inhabited. Call 272-3700 for

### *Celebrate Fine Arts Sampler Weekend February 25 at "The Barn"*

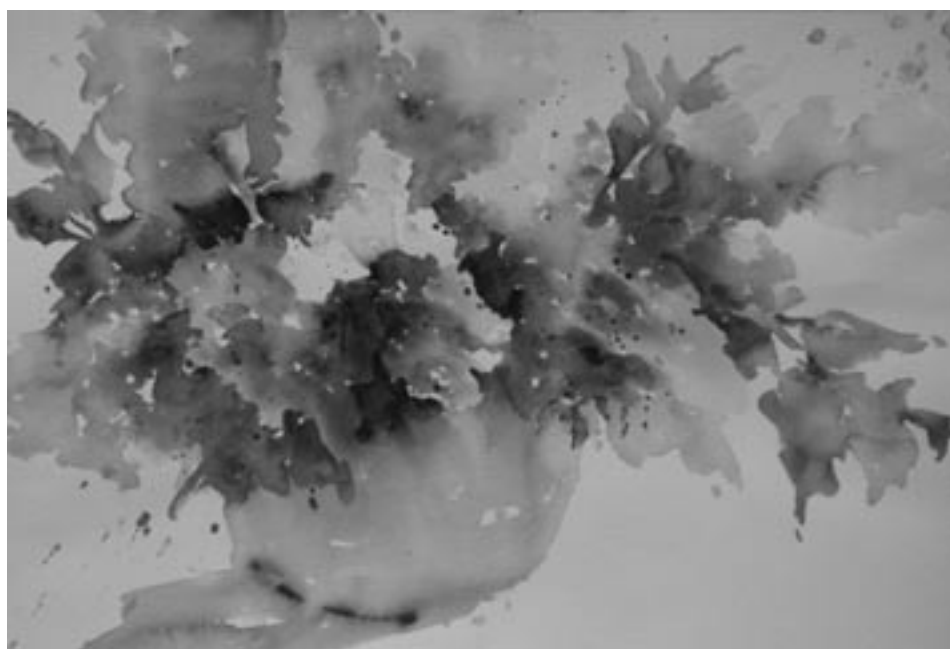
Sampler Weekend, sponsored by Macy's, celebrates its 25th anniversary! As part of this 12 week celebration, The Woman's Art Club Cultural Center will throw open its doors for a free, live "sampler" day of vibrant artist demonstrations. The event is from 11 am to 4 pm. This open house will feature over a dozen artists giving demonstrations throughout the day in a variety of media, including sculpture, oil painting, pastels, watercolor painting, clay, fiber arts (including spinning), and beading.

"Sampler" day will be fun for the entire family! There will be some interactive educational opportunities for children and adults, allowing "budding artists" to try a variety of media. This is a great chance to get to know the Woman's Art Club Cultural Center. Tour this charming, former working dairy barn, and find out about the many art classes and programs it has to offer.

Scheduled artists: Myrtle Blankenbuehler (pastels); Jan Boone (oil painting); Tim Boone (sculpture); Sandy Gantzer (ceramics); Mary



registration. All tickets are \$5.00 at the door. This program is made possible through a grant from ArtsWave.



*"Lilacs" by Ginny Tilbury.*

## W O M A N ' S A R T C L U B C U L T U R A L C E N T E R

Hoft (fiber arts and spinning); Ron Johnson (oil painting); Ursula Jones (beading); Diana Kilfoil (pastels); Nancy Neville (watercolor); Tricia Noe (enamelling); Deb Ridgely (oil painting); Linda Trucksis (painting/collage); and Mary Helen Wallace (watercolor).

### *Looking ahead to March...*

#### **2012 English Afternoon Tea**

The 2012 English Afternoon Tea will be held in "The Barn" Gallery Saturday, March 24, 3 - 5:00 pm. This yearly event has become so popular we sell out reservations well before the deadline! Mariemont residents Josephine Gately and Jane Coffee are the heartbeat of this endeavor, guiding decor, flavor and presentation. Nancy Bick Clark will again entertain with Celtic harp tunes while tea is poured to accompany petite bites made from authentic recipes.

This year the J.S. Gold Foundation is the proud sponsor of our tea!

Consult the website for additional reservation information: [Womansartclub.com](http://Womansartclub.com)

### *Looking ahead to April...*

#### **Modern Desire: Meanings in Manet's A Bar at the Folies-Bergere**

Please join us for the second in a series of art lectures by Richard Brettell, PhD, presented by the Woman's Art Club of Cincinnati Foundation. Dr. Richard Brettell, one of the world's foremost authorities on Impressionism and 19th century painting will discuss Manet's last masterpiece, A Bar at the Folies-Bergere. Edouard Manet (1832-1883) was at once the first undeniable modernist and the last old master painter. His last masterpiece, A Bar at the Folies-Bergere, teeters on the brink of formal museum painting and an all-out embrace of the ephemera of modernity. Dr. Brettell will examine its subtleties and propose a new reading of its mirrored realities. (From the Taft's Portico, Winter/Spring 2012). Advance paid registration required. Registration begins March 1. Information: (513) 684-4515. Members of the Taft Museum of Art and Woman's Art Club, and Patrons of the Woman's Art Club of Cincinnati Foundation: \$15. Public: \$25. This is a popular lecture, so register early!

#### **Gallery Exhibits at the Barn**

**Good Shepard School Exhibit:** Opening reception is on February 24. Exhibit runs from

February 22-28.

**"Just Add Water" Exhibit.** Opening reception March 2, from 6-9 at the Barn Gallery.

If you love watercolor with all its freshness and vibrancy, don't miss this exciting and beautiful show. "The Barn" Gallery will be exhibiting new works by watercolor artists who regularly meet at The Barn and study with Nancy Nordloh Neville. "Just Add Water" will be held from March 2 through March 25. The gala opening will be March 2 from 6-9 pm, and is free and open to the public. The hours of the show will be 1-4 pm on March 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18 and 25.

"Just Add Water" will showcase the various styles of the artists, ranging from Realistic to Abstract. As a teacher, Nancy emphasizes the freshness and spontaneity of paint with her devoted students. For 12 years she has worked with her ongoing students to facilitate their watercolor skills and help them develop their own unique styles. The twelve watercolor artists exhibiting are Nancy Neville with her class members Barb Clark, Kay Hartsel, Pat Knoll, Marilyn Lebhar, Jinny Mottet, Gretchen Reifsnyder, Ginny Tilbury, Kim Pickard, Nancy Wisely, Judy Brandenburg and Martha Ray. The 80 paintings exhibited will include a variety of subject matter including still lifes, landscapes, florals, and architecture.

#### **New Art Classes:**

**Drawing for Beginners:** A new adult drawing class for all skill levels, taught by artist Mary Louise Holt. January 19-March 8, Thursdays, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in "The Barn" tack room.

Learn how to see the world as an artist sees it. Using basic line drawing techniques, students will develop basic hand/eye coordination skills. With the classic use of still-life objects, students will use their drawing skills to concentrate on positive/negative shape, with the use of light, shadow and tonal techniques. As ability levels develop, students will draw from nature and be able to bring their own objects to class.

The last class will be a fun celebration and lunch in Mary's art studio. The registration fee is \$200 for 8 classes, payable at the first class. Please call Mary Louise Holt at 226-3833 to register.

**Movida: Drawing and Painting for teens:** Taught by Dave Laug, Art Educator and Artist.

**Middle School Students** - Have fun drawing and painting while focusing on basic elements of art making that will help you learn to express your creativity and draw and paint



**"First Signs of Spring" by Mary Louise Holt.**

your personal vision! Class emphasizes art making building blocks. Bring your creativity and inspiration and let's have fun and make art! Class schedule: 10 Saturdays from January 7 to March 10, 10 am to 11:30 am.

**High School Students** - Learn to draw and paint in a fun way and learn the basic elements of drawing that help your "vision" as an artist. Class focus is on basic color, light and shadow, values, composition, and the elements of good picture making. Ideal for portfolio development, or for any interested teen wanting to improve their art making skills. Class schedule: 10 Saturdays, January 7 - March 10, time to be determined. Fee: \$135 plus materials for each 10 session class. To register, contact David Laug 513.885.5284 [dvdlaug@gmail.com](mailto:dvdlaug@gmail.com)

**The Art of Wine:** Taught by Dave Laug, artist, educator and wine enthusiast!

Warm up with wine, conversation and art making. Learn how wine has inspired the colors, subjects and lives of the masters, while you develop your own wine-inspired style.

Session III: Wine Inspired Color, March 8, 15 & 22.

Materials provided. Bring a bottle of wine and your imagination. Registration Fee: \$350 for series of three; \$150 per session.

For more information about classes and events at "The Barn" go to [Womansartclub.com](http://Womansartclub.com) or call 272-3700. Visit and "Like" us on Facebook!

# Five Eagle Scouts Recognized



*From L to R: Joe Tontillo, Tim Purcell, Conor Coyan, Patrick Navin and Sean Mathews.*

Troop 149 recognized five young men as Eagle Scouts with a Court of Honor on December 18, 2011 at Mariemont Community Church's Memorial Chapel. Recognizing five Eagle Scouts at one Court of Honor is quite unusual! Conor Coyan, Sean Mathews, Patrick Navin, Tim Purcell and Joe Tontillo entered Boy Scouts together in the 6th grade and were members of the Flying Pigs patrol.

Having been together during summer camp, High Adventure trips and numerous outings over the years, these friends decided to celebrate with one Court of Honor, once all of them achieved the Eagle Scout rank.

While Conor, Patrick, Tim and Joe were Tiger Scouts and Cub Scouts here in the U.S., Sean began his scouting experience when his family lived in Rome, Italy. All five scouts earned the Arrow of Light patch, Cub Scouts' highest award. Conor, the son of Gary Coyan and Yvonne Martin of Terrace Park, graduated from Mariemont High School in 2011 and is now at Stanford

University majoring in engineering. While at MHS, Conor was a member of the soccer, lacrosse, swimming and cross-country teams. For his Eagle project, Conor led a team of 25 people in building a rabbit hutch for Mocha and Twizzler, residents at the Environment and Education Program at Greenacres Foundation in Indian Hill. This new hutch not only provided the rabbits a more natural setting, it also gave visitors an opportunity to more closely interact with them. High Adventure trips to Philmont and the Boundary Waters are among some of Conor's favorite experiences. He served as the Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Troop Librarian, and Patrol Leader.

The Village of Mariemont was the beneficiary of Sean's project. Sean, along with a crew of about 25, planned and established a bird sanctuary by working closely with Mayor Dan Policastro and a local ornithology expert. Birdhouses were built and put in, plus berry-producing shrubs were planted. In addition to a major cleanup of the area, a sign naming this new sanctuary was created, painted and installed. Sean, a 2011 St. Xavier High School graduate, is



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the son of Robert and Elizabeth Mathews on Center Street. Sean was a member of the school's swim team, part of the orchestra for St. X's production of "The Phantom of The Opera" and a student leader in his church's youth group. Those of you who frequent the pool may recognize him as one of the lifeguards! Now a freshman at Ohio State, Sean is an aerospace engineering major. A member of The Order of the Arrow (the Boy Scouts' Honor Society), Sean is a third generation Eagle Scout. His troop leadership positions included Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guide and Patrol Leader.

The son of Pat and Pam Navin of Williams Meadow, Patrick is also a 2011 St. Xavier graduate. He played guitar for the local band "The Woosters" and was a member of the school's rowing team. Patrick is now studying business economics at Miami University. Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader and Chaplain's Aide were among Patrick's leadership roles and he is a member of the Order of The Arrow. Patrick's Eagle project

involved removing shrubs from the Plainville Road entrance at Mariemont Elementary and laying paver stones to provide kindergarten students a clean, dry place to wait before entering the building. He led a crew of about 20 during the project execution.

Tim, a 2011 graduate of Mariemont High School, is the son of Holly and Dennis Purcell of Terrace Park. A member of the school's football, swim and lacrosse teams, Tim also participated in Latin Club, Leadership Council, Key Club, as well as the Green Envy Investment Club. His leadership positions included Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Chaplain's Aide, and Librarian. In addition, he is a member of The Order of the Arrow. For his Eagle project, Tim and a 29-person crew built three brick platforms around the water fountains at Terrace Park's Drackett Field. Not only were these platforms an aesthetic improvement, they also minimized the water and mud that typically surrounded the drinking fountains.

A freshman at Dartmouth College, Tim is undecided on a major but leaning towards

government and international policy.

Joe graduated from St. Xavier in 2011 and is now studying music education at Loyola University in New Orleans. He is the son of Shannon and Paul Tontillo of Jackson, TN, formerly of Mariemont. Paul served as the Village Clerk for a number of years before resigning to accept a transfer with his employer. Removal of old landscaping and installation of new plantings at the Woman's Art Club (aka "The Barn") here in Mariemont was the focus of Joe's Eagle project. He and his crew of 8 helped to improve the grounds of this notable village landmark. Total project execution required about 100 hours. Joe served as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and was captain of the St. X drum line.

Troop 149, an active, dynamic group of scouts, is sponsored by Mariemont Community Church and open to all eligible boys within the area. For more information, please contact Scoutmaster John Fakes (scoutmaster@mcc149.com).

*Dear Neighbor,*

*The number of homes sold in Mariemont is down 22% from the previous year. Buyers are more cautious requiring sellers to price aggressively to get the buyers "off the fence". With that being said, Mariemont continues to be a great place to own a home.*

*If you need real estate assistance, I hope you will call me. Even if you are just curious, I can provide you with a current market analysis of your home, updates on prices in the area, and current mortgage rates. There's always something interesting to discuss in the real estate business!*

*I would like to thank all of my friends who have made my real estate career so exciting. Your support means so much to me. God bless all of you in the new year.*



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## 2011

### The Year in Review in our Village

Number of single family homes sold	43
Total \$ amount	\$14,300,000
Average Sale Price	\$332,500
Days on Market	127 Days
List Price to Sell Price	91%

### Cost Breakdown 2004-2011

	Homes Sold						
Price	'05	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11
\$100k-\$200k	24	9	14	12	11	13	8
\$200k-\$300k	34	24	12	19	12	16	13
\$300k-\$400k	15	13	11	10	7	10	11
\$400k-\$500k	8	6	9	5	5	3	4
\$500k-\$600k	7	1	9	7	6	7	4
Over \$600k	4	7	5	5	6	6	3
Total \$ (in millions)	\$28	\$20.4	\$21.7	\$18.3	\$16.6	\$20.1	\$14.3
# of homes sold	92	60	60	58	47	55	43
Average sale price	\$304k	\$340k	\$362k	\$316k	\$354k	\$365k	\$333k

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# Enjoy Cajun Food With a Mardi Gras Meal

BY SHELLEY PADEN & MIKE BENSON

Mardi Gras, or Carnival as it is also called, refers to a season that is celebrated around the world in different ways and at varying times. In the U.S., it will be celebrated this year on February 21st. “Laissez les bons temps rouler” or “let the good times roll” characterizes the day of parades, singing & dancing, opulent masks, fireworks, and generally over-the-top behavior throughout New Orleans and many other cities. Happily, along with all of the partying and parades goes a lot of good food and feasting, and no matter where you are on “Fat Tuesday” (yet another moniker for the day) you can have your own Mardi Gras celebration.

Traditional Mardi Gras food in this country centers on the cuisine of New Orleans. The main dishes for many Mardi Gras celebrations often involve gumbo, jambalaya, or étouffée, or all three. The dishes have similarities, as each starts with the “holy trinity” of vegetables, a combination of aromatics in roughly equal parts, including onion, green bell pepper, and celery. Garlic, parsley, or shallots can be substituted for one of the ingredients. These are typically sautéed in butter and oil until tender but not browned. Gumbo and jambalaya are soups or stews while étouffée is thicker. Étouffée starts with a dark roux (cooked flour and fat). Spices, green pepper, celery, and onions are added along with seafood and possibly meat. It is finished with butter and poured over dirty rice or white rice combined with seafood stocks. Gumbo and jambalaya are cousins. Jambalaya is a one-pot sausage and seafood stew with rice cooked into the recipe. Gumbo is a meat and seafood soup or stew that is served on top of rice. With their unusual names, these dishes may strike some as being a little bit forbidding, but they really are less complicated than they sound and well worth the effort.

A while back, former New York Times food columnist, Mark Bittman, presented a very simple scallop gumbo that we can guarantee is outstanding. It requires only one unusual ingredient – a little bit of patience. The patience is necessary to make the roux.



To do it properly, you need to constantly stir a mixture of flour, butter, and oil over low heat for about 15 to 20 minutes until it becomes dark and fragrant. If you're willing to put in the time for the roux, you will receive in return a truly flavorful dish that will taste unlike any other shellfish or seafood stew you've ever had. Here's the whole recipe (and note, with this kind of cooking you don't need to be overly precise about the measurements; these are guidelines, not rules):

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 1/3 cup flour
- The “trinity” (1 onion, 2 celery stalks, and 1 green bell pepper – all chopped)
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- Salt and pepper
- 2-3 cups water, vegetable, or chicken stock (stock is better but not essential)
- 2 cups tomatoes chopped with juice (canned are fine)
- 1 teaspoon each of dried thyme and dried oregano
- 2 bay leaves
- Cayenne to taste
- 1 pound scallops (you can substitute

shrimp or any chopped up white fish)

Fresh parsley for garnish (if you have it)

1. Melt the butter and oil in a large pot over medium-low heat. When the butter is melted, add the flour and stir constantly until the roux darkens (somewhere between golden and dark brown is what you're looking for). Watch the heat and don't let the flour burn. Add the trinity and garlic, then raise the heat to medium, sprinkle with salt and pepper and cook for about 10 minutes until the vegetables are soft. Again, stir it a lot.

2. Stir in the stock, tomatoes, herbs, and cayenne (to taste). Cover the pot and bring to a boil, then reduce the heat so that the gumbo just bubbles steadily. Cook for about 20 minutes, and then add the scallops (or whatever else you have in the way of shellfish or seafood; we prefer shrimp) and cook until they are not translucent, about 2-3 minutes. Take out the bay leaves. Taste and correct the seasoning and serve. Although you can eat the gumbo straight, it's especially good served over white rice.

Laissez les bons temps rouler!

# It's Town Meeting Time on March 11

The annual Mariemont Town Meeting will be held Sunday, March 11th at 1:00 pm in the Dale Park Junior High School auditorium.

Our Village Town Meeting was established in 1941. It is a nonpartisan process through which nominations for Village offices are made. It ensures equal representation for each of our six districts in Mariemont. The annual gathering is also a forum for the sharing of information and ideas among Village officials and citizens, including a "State of the Village" address by the mayor.

In even-numbered years, like this one, the Town Meeting is informational in content with no Village nominations being voted



upon. This year, we will hear from our mayor and our school superintendent.

Mariemont's Town Meeting is an integral part of the village's history and character. Please make an effort to attend, as this is your

opportunity to enter into one of the most democratic processes in our country.

*Submitted by Bob Keyes,  
Town Meeting Chairman*

## Board of Education 2012 Meetings

DATE	DAY	TIME	PLACE	MEETING TYPE
*January 6, 2012	Fri	8:00 am	BOE Office	Organizational
*February 3	Fri	8:00 am	BOE Office	Special
*February 28	Tues	6:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
March 20	Tues	7:30 pm	JH Cafeteria	Monthly
*April 24	Tues	7:00 pm	JH Cafeteria	Monthly
May 15	Tues	7:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
June 14	Thur	7:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
July 17	Tues	7:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
August 21	Tues	7:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
September 18	Tues	7:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
October 16	Tues	7:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
November 15	Thur	7:00 pm	MHS	Monthly
December 18	Tues	6:00 pm	MHS	Monthly

(as of Jan 6, 2012)

\*Denotes a date change from the printed 2011-12 District Calendar and bold denotes a time change.

Please read over the schedule carefully since there are varying dates, times and locations. After April 2012, the Board of Education offices will be re-located to Mariemont High School (MHS), which will become the location for BOE meetings.

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# Council Meeting Highlights

BY AMY HOLLON

*Residents can view Council meetings Tuesday at 5 pm, Saturday at 3 pm, or Monday at 7 am. A Time Warner subscriber can watch on Channel 8. With no converter box, Channel 15. On your computer go to <http://www/icrctv.com/Mariemont>.*

## November 28 - Council Meeting

### Council to Consider Community Center at Dale Park

Mayor Dan Policastro told council he planned to put a survey in the first Mayor's Bulletin of the year to explore the possibility of a community center in the former Dale Park School. There would be a cost associated with the project. In order for the project to work, the school district would have to donate the building because the Village cannot afford to buy it, Policastro said. In addition, Policastro estimated it would cost approximately \$50,000 a year to maintain and money would have to be dedicated to the project. Councilman Dennis Wolter said it might be one of the last opportunities for a building to be owned by the Village for the Village. Policastro said the administration would wait for the school board to make a final decision about the building before any further action is taken.

### Council Accepts Traffic Calming Plan

Council unanimously accepted a traffic-calming plan prepared by the safety committee, but with a caveat: Village residents will now be notified via postcard about street surveys. Before a traffic-calming tool is implemented, street surveys will collect input from affected residents. Two

weeks before the surveys are circulated, residents will receive a postcard notifying them to expect the survey. The designated street representatives will circulate surveys.

## December 5 - Committee of the Whole Meeting

### Tax Administrator to Retire, Then Become Part-Time

Mariemont Village Council members unanimously voted in a Committee of the Whole meeting to allow Tax Administrator Darlene Judd to retire from her current position and then be rehired on a part-time basis two months later. Village officials believe the plan could save the Village up to \$45,000 the first year and approximately \$39,000 per year beginning in 2013. The advantage for Judd is she will be able to begin collecting retirement from the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and be rehired by the Village of Mariemont. But the plan should also mean a significant savings for the Village. Not only will the Village pay her less each year, the Village will no longer have to pay for benefits or pay into the retirement system on Judd's behalf. Still, Judd said she intends to work nearly full-time during tax season and urged council to hire someone full-time into the job when she leaves. In order for the plan to work, Judd said she would have to take two months leave following her retirement. During that time – between January 1 and March 1, 2012 – the assistant tax administrator will act as the administrator.

## December 12 - Council Meeting

### Tom Brinkman to Run for State Representative

Former State Representative Tom Brinkman Jr. told Mariemont Village Council he plans to run for the new 27th district. Brinkman was previously the representative for the 34th district, which includes the Village's surrounding neighborhoods, but was unable to run for re-election in 2008 because of the term limits. Since then, Brinkman has waited the required amount of time and plans to run again for state representative. This time, however, he will run in the recently created 27th district, which will include Mariemont, Indian Hill, Symmes Township and Loveland.

## December 27 - Council Meeting

### Council Opposes Mayor's Plan to Add Pool Commission Members

In order to increase diversity of the Swim Pool Commission, Mayor Dan Policastro said he planned to increase the number of members from seven to nine, but some council members believe nine may be too many. Policastro told the council that he thinks the pool commission ought to have residents from both the north and south sides of the Village to represent different viewpoints. In order to make that happen, he appointed two young mothers, Policastro said. But he also wanted to reappoint former pool commission member Scott McIntosh and an individual from the historic district, meaning he would have to increase the membership.

That plan was not well received by several council members. Although they agreed diversity was important and wanted to re-appoint McIntosh, many said nine members could make decision making difficult. In particular, Jeff Andrews said he believed the pool commission has been very effective in past years and additional members would not be beneficial. Further, Andrews said Legislative Authority Rule 20 gives council the authority to override the mayor's decisions.

So instead of approving the mayor's appointments, council voted unanimously to reappoint McIntosh and keep the



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## COUNCIL NOTES

commission at seven members. Ordinances recommended by the mayor making the remaining two appointments were tabled pending an opinion from the Solicitor.

Similarly, several council members verbally rejected a plan to add another member to the Parks Board. Although council members agreed additional volunteers are always helpful, they were concerned about too many board members. Policastro said the Parks Board would remain at eight members.

### ***New Assistant Fire Chief Appointed***

Tim Feichtner was named the new assistant fire chief and was praised by both Council Member Cortney Scheeser and Mayor Dan Policastro. Policastro said the Village would not hire a new Fire Marshall at this time; a decision he believes should save the Village between \$50,000 and \$60,000 per year.

### ***Park Renamed General Douglas Short Trolley Turn Around Park***

Shortly after his death, Mariemont Village Council unanimously voted to add General Douglas Short's name to Trolley Turn Around Park. Resident Joe Schneider suggested the name because of the care, diligence and personal attention Short paid to the park over the years.

### ***January 9 - Council Meeting***

#### ***Council Debates Communication***

What began as a question about December's monthly disbursements turned into a discussion about council communication during a January 9 council meeting. After Treasurer Andrew Kulesza presented his monthly report, Councilman Jeff Andrews asked why the monthly disbursements for December were 50 percent less than last year. Andrews said he noticed that the bills for Rumpke, the health insurance premiums and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Funds were delayed until January. Kulesza thanked Andrews for giving him a heads up that he would be asking the question and said that although he usually doesn't handle the expenses, it is good business practice to push out paying the bills as long as possible without incurring a late charge because it frees up

## **News Update:**

The *Town Crier* has learned that there will be a new tenant in the old Wendy's storefront in Fairfax. The new tenant is... Chipotle! More information about timing of the opening will be forthcoming.

cash flow and is legal. Andrews said he wasn't questioning if the move was legal, he just thought it was out of pattern and wanted to know why the decision was made. Councilman Cortney Scheeser said the move was particularly interesting in December, because the expenses were pushed into another year.

Kulesza repeated that the move was within accounting laws. "I'm sick of things getting (politicized) that don't need to be politicized. The campaign is over," Kulesza said. Andrews said he was not trying to create a political issue. "We are elected council members," he said. "We have a fiduciary duty to ask questions."

Although the mayor stopped further argument by calling the meeting to order, several council members commented on the discussion later in the meeting. "What just went on here cannot continue to go on," Councilman Andy Black said. "We've got way too much going on in this Village. Everyone who serves in this seat, past and present, it is because they want what's best for this Village." Councilman Joe Miller suggested members of council call Village officials if they have a question. "This is not the place to air out those questions because usually we don't have answers to them," Miller said.

"I agree with everything that has been said," Andrews said. "But we need to realize it is our duty to ask the questions we need to ask to understand what is happening."

### ***Police Department Receives Grant for License Plate Reader***

The Village of Mariemont will install a license plate reader on one of the Village's police cruisers. According to Rick Hines, Chief of Police and Fire, the reader is designed to identify stolen cars and individuals wanted by the police. Hines said without the officer having to take any action, the reader will scan

every plate that passes within its sight range. The department was awarded a federal grant through the Department of Homeland Security to pay for the \$14,000 reader.

### ***Black Re-appointed Vice Mayor***

Councilman Andy Black was re-appointed vice mayor by council because of his success in the position last year. Black said now that he is in his second year he hopes to help move the council out of a reactive mode into a more proactive mode. Black suggested each council member list the initiatives they would like to see completed this year.

### ***Council Approves 2012 Budget***

Mariemont Village Council approved a \$3.15 million general fund budget for 2012. The total expense for 2011 was approximately \$3 million, but some costs, such as health care expenses have increased. The amount budgeted for the tax department is lower, however, because Tax Administrator Darlene Judd will take January and February off – following her retirement – and will return to the Village as a part-time employee. Clerk Tony Borgerding said tax revenues in 2011 were more than the Village had initially predicted and he hoped they would be up again in 2012.

### ***Council Representative Information***

Jeff Andrews – [jeffcandrews@gmail.com](mailto:jeffcandrews@gmail.com)  
Andrew Black – [andy@blackformariemont.com](mailto:andy@blackformariemont.com)  
Joe Miller – [jmiller1@fuse.net](mailto:jmiller1@fuse.net)  
Cortney Scheeser – [cscheeser@yahoo.com](mailto:cscheeser@yahoo.com)  
Dennis Wolter – [dwolter@airmod.com](mailto:dwolter@airmod.com)  
Denise McCarthy – [dmccarthy@mariemont.org](mailto:dmccarthy@mariemont.org)

*For full minutes, go online to [www.mariemont.org](http://www.mariemont.org).*

### **Great volunteer opportunity to help seniors in our community!**

Deliver Deupree Meals on Wheels to older adults in need in our community - flexible routes and times are available to fit your schedule for as little as 1 HOUR PER WEEK.

*To help, call 513.561.8150.*

# Monthly Messenger

By CLAIRE KUPFERLE, EDITOR

The Mariemont Preservation Foundation is dedicated to enhancing Village life by working to preserve the vision of Village founder, Mary Emery. In 2011, MPF was able to accomplish much that supports this philosophy.



For the past four years, MPF board members Millard Rogers and Karen Monzel Hughes, with the help of committee members Amy Fischer and Pam Pfeifer Gaines have been working on the recently published coffee table book, "A Pictorial History of A Model Town". The book contains many photos from the extensive MPF archives, as well as contemporary photos of our beautiful Village. Copies are available at MPF or at the Villager. Production costs were covered through grants from the Reakirt and Dornette Foundations.

Mariemont now has a sister city! Thanks to the work of committee members Joe Schneider, Joe Stoner, Janet Setchell, David Robisch, Millard Rogers and Frank Raeton. The reciprocal program was established by MPF with Hampstead Garden Suburb, located a bit north of London. Both communities were founded by women and both represent successful examples

of town planning. Mary Emery's agent and close friend, Charles Livingood, visited Hampstead Garden Suburb in 1906 to get ideas for the design of Mariemont. A recent trip to England by Gloria and Arnold Morelli included a visit to HGS, where they were treated warmly, given tea, and shown around the community. As part of a trip to England in 2011, Janet Setchell also visited and presented the town with a Proclamation from our mayor and several items about Mariemont, including copies of the Town Crier, which we send to them on a regular basis. In return, MPF receives copies of their quarterly, Suburb News.

MPF is now on Facebook! Like MPF on Facebook to learn of upcoming events, see photos of the Village, and learn more about Mariemont.

Throughout the year, MPF sponsored several events. At the annual Open House at Resthaven Barn, Millard Rogers gave a talk and slide show entitled "Mary Emery and the History of Mariemont." Mariemont resident Tom Allman gave a lecture and slide show later in the year that was based on his many trips to our new sister city, Hampstead Garden Suburb. Guests enjoyed seeing the many similarities in architecture between the two communities. And of course, MPF sponsored the Taste of Mariemont at the Concourse. This annual event is the organization's gift to the Village, with activities for all ages.

The team of MPF docents was busy all year. This group of volunteers gave presentations to elementary school students on Mariemont Government, Mary Emery and the Indians who occupied the Madisonville Site. If you are interested in becoming a docent, contact Cindy Dougherty at 527-4042.

A new edition of the Mariemont Directory is underway. This handy reference book is published every other year. The 2012/2013 Directory will be available in the next few months.

MPF also published Vision 2021, a full-color booklet that incorporates ideas for the future of Mariemont that were collected in a series of surveys and meetings.



If you are not already a member of the Mariemont Preservation Foundation, consider joining this year! Membership packets will be mailed out to all residents in February. You can become part of helping to preserve Mary Emery's vision for as little as \$20.

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# Marines Honor Fallen Comrade Captain Tyler Swisher

On Memorial Day weekend in May of this year, a group of present and former Marines, known as ALWAYS BROTHERS, will be in Mariemont honoring the men of Lima Company. They will gather in Mariemont, at Patriot's Park, the green space between Wooster Pike and Elm, near Beech and Oak Streets.

Twelve active-duty and/or former U.S. Marines will then run 100 miles (yes, that is miles) to honor their fallen Marine Brothers of Lima Company, 3rd Battalion/ 25th Marines, and raise funds for the education of the children left behind. Several U.S. Marines will begin the 100-mile journey from Patriot Park at 0600 hrs on May 26 and run through the day and night until they reach Battelle Metro Park in Columbus.

Lima Company was activated in

January 2005 for deployment to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Lima Company ran continuous operations for seven months in Iraq, collecting valuable information, detaining suspected insurgents, inflicting many casualties to the insurgents and collecting caches of weapons and explosives. This came at the cost of 22 Lima Company Marines and one Navy Corpsman killed in action, with 28 wounded. The company redeployed back to Columbus, Ohio in October 2005.

There is a reason the Marines of ALWAYS BROTHERS have chosen to begin the run in Mariemont. They will come to honor their friend and fallen comrade, Captain Tyler B. Swisher. Captain Swisher, of Mariemont, Ohio, died when his vehicle was struck by an IED while conducting combat operations

against enemy forces in AL Amariyah, Iraq on October 21, 2005. Patriot Park was dedicated in memory of Captain Swisher and in honor of all fallen veterans.

In August of 2011, The Marines of ALWAYS BROTHERS held their inaugural 100 Mile Run in honor of Captain Swisher as well. It was when they had finished their run in August that they decided to continue their work and keep the memory of their friend Tyler and so many others alive. The mission of Always Brothers, to serve Veterans and their families with honor and integrity, will be upheld again this year, as it was last. To learn more about ALWAYS BROTHERS, please visit us online at [www.alwaysbrothers.org](http://www.alwaysbrothers.org).

*Submitted by Donia Swisher*



**Come Experience the Community**  
Join us Sunday mornings at  
10 A.M. in Dale Park Jr. High  
6743 Chestnut Street  
Sunday School available  
for Nursery to 6th Grade

**"If the foundations be destroyed,  
what can the righteous do?"**

- Psalm 11:3

*Current Series*

**Foundations:  
Exploring the  
Book of Genesis**

*Senior Pastor: Todd Keyes*



# What's Happening at the Library

## February Families and Kids

Kid Flicks: Join us for our family friendly movies. The Emperor's New Groove screens Saturday, February 25 at 1:00 pm.

## Children

African Folktales and Masks: Learn folk traditions and create your own masks with the Kennedy Heights Art Center. Saturday, February 4 at 2 pm. Ages 6 to 12.

Chocolate Tasting Party: Celebrate Valentine's Day with a chocolate taste test! Ages 10 to 14. Tuesday, February 14 at 4:00 pm.

PNC Bank's For You, For Me, For Later:

Ages 3 to 5 are invited to learn financial basics with materials developed by the folks at Sesame St. Tuesday, February 21 at 4 pm.

Crafty Kids: Fun crafts to make with your friends. Thursdays at 3:30 pm. Ages 5 to 10.

Collect the Button Book Club (CBBC): Each month, Ms. Kathryn's CBBC features a children's book series. Read at least one book from the series, then stop in the library to complete an activity and earn a button. Collect three buttons to receive a free pizza coupon from Snappy Tomato Pizza. February's series is "Pixie Tricks" by Tracey West. Ages 5 to 10.

Library Babies: The first Friday of the month at 10:30 am. Also Saturday, February 18 at 10:30 am. This is a great opportunity to introduce your baby to books, songs, and fingerplay. Ages birth to eighteen months. Registration suggested.

Movers and Shakers: Wednesdays at 10:30 am. Ages 1 to 4 years. Bring the little ones for stories, songs and dance as they learn about the library.

Pre-school Story Time: Wednesdays at 1:30 pm. Join Miss Kathryn for stories and crafts. Ages 3 to 5.

Special Needs Story Time: Kids with special needs and their caregivers can enjoy a library hour just for them. Call Miss Kathryn if you are interested at 369-4467. Thursday, February 9 at 10:30 am.

Tales to Tails: Read to a therapy dog and practice your reading skills. Thursday, February 2 at 5:00 to 6:00 pm. Ages 5 to 10.

## Adults

Needlecraft Club: New for 2012. Stop by with your current work in progress for pointers or just to have fun with co-enthusiasts. Knitting, crochet, needlework-- whatever you like to do. Saturday, February 4 at 11:00 am.

History of the Cincinnati Streetcar: Learn about our past projects in light of the current one! Monday, February 6 at 6:00 pm.

Understanding Social Security Benefits: Get the latest information about Social Security and how it affects your financial future. Monday, February 27 at 5:30 pm.

Technology Classes: Interested in brushing up on computer basics or want to learn how to download music or books? Call the branch and schedule a session.

Book Club: Join us for a discussion of The Submission, this year's On The Same Page selection to be read throughout Cincinnati for enjoyment and discussion. Copies are available at the branch. Thursday, February 23 at 6:45 pm.

The Library is open President's Day, February 20.

Mariemont Branch Library, 3810 Pocahontas Ave., 369-4467

Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday, Noon to 8:00 pm. Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10:00 am. to 6:00 pm.

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# MariElders News

*Hello neighbors...January has been quiet, with lots of napping in the windows and enjoying an occasional run through the center chasing that darn red light my human's tease me with. I can never catch it. I keep hearing my humans talk about all the fun things that are going to happen in February – I hope some of it includes food. Well, the sun is coming through my window and I am getting sleepy....talk...to ...you.... purrrrr! (M-E, the MariElders cat).*

## ASK A NURSE

On the 2nd Thursday of every month a nurse from Collier Nursing Services is at the MariElders from 1-3 pm to offer blood pressure screening. This service is free and open to the public. Just stop in and see how your heart is ticking.

## HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

HEAP is a federally funded program designed to assist eligible Ohioans with their winter heating bills. You are eligible for the program if you are renting or own your own home. Either way, the energy bill must be in your name. This program makes a one-time payment directly to your gas & electric company. Eligibility requirements are based on your total gross household income, which includes any wages, interest annuities, Social Security, retirements, pensions, SSI and others. If you would like an application or more information please call Kathy at the MariElders. (271-5588)

## TAX ASSISTANCE

AARP and the MariElders are offering tax assistance for people over the age of 60. The volunteers are trained to do simple taxes – no complicated ones please. Appointments must be made through the MariElders by calling 271-5588. The appointments will be held at the Fairfax Community Center 5903 Hawthorne Ave.

Dates are February 7 and 21, March 20 and April 3rd from 9 am till 12 pm.

## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

On Thursday, February 9, a nurse from Collier Nursing will be here offering blood pressure measurements. This service is free and will run from 1-3 pm. No appointment is needed.

## DINNER & A MOVIE

This month the MariElders presents, The Change-Up, starring Ryan Reynolds and Jason Bateman. Join us on Friday, February 17 at 4:30 pm for a great dinner and a funny comedy. Please sign up by February 15 at the Center's front desk.

## MUSEUM DAYS

Museum Days is a new program MariElders will offer every month. This month we will attend the Pablo Picasso exhibit and have lunch at the Museum's Terrace Café. Cost for this February 24 program is \$3.00 for transportation. We will be leaving the Center at 10 am. Please sign up by February 17.

# you<sup>2</sup>

An Exponential Life with God



## Jan 22 - Mar 25

Join us on Sundays at 10am through Feb 12  
Two services (9am and 11am) beginning Feb 19

## Ever heard of the prophets Elijah and Elisha?

In the Second Book of Kings we see incredible accounts of God's power and reflections of His Kingdom today through the life of Elisha. Join us for the "you<sup>2</sup>" series and discover how you can experience an exponential life with God.

## The Schedule

Jan 22 <b>The Call</b> (Parish Center) 10am	Feb 26 <b>The Authority</b> (Parish Center) 9am and 11am
Jan 29 <b>The Power</b> (Chapel) 10am	Mar 4 <b>The Kingdom</b> (Chapel) 9am and 11am
Feb 5 <b>The Risk</b> (Parish Center) 10am	Mar 11 <b>The Failure</b> (Parish Center) 9am and 11am
Feb 12 <b>The Reward</b> (Parish Center) 10am	Mar 18 <b>The Finish</b> (Parish Center) 9am and 11am
Feb 19 <b>The Humility</b> (Parish Center) 9am and 11am	Mar 25 <b>The Legacy</b> (Parish Center) 9am and 11am



Living and Loving in Jesus.

[www.mariemontchurch.org](http://www.mariemontchurch.org)

# ID Theft and Fraud Reports on the Rise

Over the past several months, the Mariemont Police Department has witnessed an increase in Internet identity theft and fraud reports made by our residents. I would like to take this opportunity to list ways in which you can thwart this increasingly growing problem:



- Exercise caution when opening and viewing unsolicited emails. If you are unsure of an email's source, the best approach is to simply delete without opening it.

- Don't respond to emails asking you for personal information such as your social security number, financial information, birth dates, etc, unless you have initiated the contact or transaction. Also, do not click any links that you find within the email. It's a scam, and your identity could be compromised if you play along, so click out immediately.

- Be careful when downloading. When you choose to download a file to see a picture, hear a song or play a game, you could be unwittingly downloading a virus that either corrupts your computer, changes your modem to a foreign telephone number (resulting in expensive phone charges), or even gathers personal information for a "hacker" to steal. Only download files or images from a trusted source, and always make sure you read and understand all user agreements before downloading.

- Protect your computer by making sure you're using current anti-virus or firewall security software.

- Make Internet purchases safely. When you pay for online purchases, always use a credit card. Most credit card purchases are protected and can be disputed. Also, keep a close eye on your monthly credit card

statements.

- Online Investment Fraud is a new medium, but the same old scam. Remember that fraudsters can use a variety of Internet tools to spread false information, including bulletin boards, online newsletters, spam or chat rooms. Consider all offers with skepticism - if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

Your Mariemont Police Officers are always available should you have any questions or

concerns regarding this costly crime. In the event that you find yourself in the middle of Internet identity theft or fraud, please report this to the police department immediately at 271-4089.

We will forever remain, "Committed to Excellence."

*Richard D. Hines, Chief of Police/Fire*

## In Memoriam:

### General Douglas Short

In December, Mariemont lost a special resident, Douglas Short. General Short lived in the Village for more than 30 years. He died at the age of 91.

A more complete tribute to General Short will appear in the March edition.

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