

Mariemont Town CRIER



OCTOBER 2012 · MARIEMONT, OHIO · VOLUME XXXVII, No. 2

Don't Be Spooked!

BY SETH ROSIN

Although some of us already know the significance of the cemetery located here in the Village, Mariemont third graders will soon discover the rich history that rests beneath its sacred ground. When we think of all the spooky myths and settings that go along with Halloween, a cemetery often sits somewhere in our minds between a haunted house and a batch of witch's brew. As Mariemont students will soon discover, there is nothing spooky about the tranquil cemetery that sits next to the Mariemont Community Church chapel. In fact, it's one of the most significant indications not only of Mariemont's pioneer history, but the greater Lower Little Miami Valley's early pioneer history as well. This



Mariemont's pioneer cemetery is maintained by the Thomas J. Emery Memorial.

fall, the Mariemont Preservation Foundation's Docent Program will visit Mariemont Elementary School to educate third graders about the interesting people who now rest in Mariemont's pioneer cemetery.

Before Mariemont became the acclaimed "National Exemplar" planned community we know it as today, it made up only a piece of the Columbia settlement founded by



happy halloween!

Major Benjamin Stites in 1788. About eleven years after Stites' founding of Columbia, the portion of land that now includes Mariemont was sold to Eliphalet, Joseph, and Andrew Ferris. The Ferris brothers ultimately enjoyed success in our area and prospered

(Continued on next page)

'Spooked,' continued:

commercially through a variety of endeavors, that included corn farming, hog processing, and whiskey production.

Although not much remains to remind us of early pioneers like the Stites and Ferris families, the homes of both Eliphalet and Joseph Ferris still stand today. Eliphalet's home at 3915 Plainville Road is located next to the Mariemont Preservation Foundation, and is considered to be the oldest brick building in Hamilton County, dating from 1802. As far as Joseph's home is concerned, many of us drive past it everyday when we come home from work and enter Mariemont through Fairfax. The Eisele Gallery of Fine Art located at 5729 Dragon Way now occupies the former home of Joseph Ferris.

Although the homes of the Ferris brothers still stand, these buildings provide little to exemplify their pioneer heritage. Instead, the legacy of Mariemont's early settlers can be found in the Village's pioneer cemetery.

As Mariemont School third graders will soon discover, as has anyone else who has visited the cemetery, the names Ferris and Stites are on many of the headstones. With the Stites and Ferris families being two of only a handful of families in our area, intermarriage was common.

For this reason, Mariemont's cemetery is filled with generations of these families. Interestingly enough, it was only a decade ago that marked the 200th anniversary of the Stites family landing in Columbia and the passing of Mariemont-born Benjamin Ferris Stites, in 2000.

For many pioneers, success was rare. When and if you did make it in such an uncertain environment, you would hope at the end of your journey there was somewhere peaceful to rest your remains. For the members of the Ferris and Stites families, you really could not ask for a better resting place. Still maintained today by the Thomas J. Emery Memorial, the cemetery stands as one of Mariemont's key landmarks.

The story of our area's pioneer history is a fascinating one. As residents of Mariemont, we are not only fortunate enough to be surrounded by one of the most significant Native American sites in the United States, we are lucky enough to have a rich pioneer history as well. At every turn, in every nook and cranny of our National Landmark community is an important piece of American history to glean. So the next time you pick your child up from school, don't just ask them what they learned today, drive around the corner and show them.

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(Siblings listed together share routes; siblings listed separately have their own routes)

November deadline:

The deadline for the next Town Crier is

October 18, 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

Claire Kupferle, 3844 Indianview, Cinti., OH 45227

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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Tending Mariemont's Secret Garden

BY AMY HOLLON

When Ed Tuttle's wife, Carolyn, told him she wanted tomatoes, he knew the squirrels

said he first rented a plot in the gardens close to when they began about 36 years ago, but he had to give it up. After retiring from the Department of Housing and Urban Development in 2002 he reserved a 25 foot by



animals. This year they had lots of corn.

Tuttle doesn't have a set schedule or a certain number of hours he gardens each day, but what he does have is passion. "I get up in the morning and I can't breathe. And I come down here and work in the hot sun and it clears me up," he said. He's also developed a lot of knowledge of the area while spending his days fighting Johnson grass and harvesting his crop. He knows the names of most of the gardeners around him. Almost every morning a dense fog covers the valley, he said, meaning he rarely has to use his 55-gallon drum and pump. Tuttle also regularly sees fox, deer and all kinds of birds. He still laughs about the time a bird stole his string for tying up tomatoes, trailing it 30 feet behind her as she flew away.

Tuttle is the first to admit his garden isn't the neatest, and he shakes his head in admiration at many of the other plots. "No weeds!" he says. However, few can compete with the sheer number of plants Tuttle grows. "I'm crazy," he laughs. "I am absolutely nuts.

in his backyard would never allow it. "They'll grab it, and they take a bite out of it and they take it away," Tuttle said. And so one of the largest garden plots in the South 80 was born. Now he has more vegetables than anyone can count. Tuttle grows spinach, peas, strawberries, raspberries, broccoli, cabbage, potatoes, eggplant, peppers, corn, zucchini, and jalapeños, just to name a few.

And as for the tomatoes... he calls his wife 'the tomato fairy' because she brings plump red tomatoes and bright yellow cherry tomatoes to everyone she meets."I supply half of Cincinnati," Tuttle said. "I have more than 200 tomato plants. I give them away. There is nothing more delicious than an Ohio tomato." Tuttle is one of several farmers who regularly farm the community gardens in the South 80. While the park has received quite a bit of attention recently because of new walking/ bike trails and the possibility of relocated State Route 32, the community gardens have been there for years, supplying vegetables for Mariemont's most dedicated gardeners.

Tuttle moved to Mariemont in 1972 and



25 foot plot the next year. That plot has since multiplied into several plots and Tuttle is still making improvements. This year he built a "contraption" to fence in the corn, protecting it from the raccoons and other hungry

It takes a lot of time. I'm retired, and if you don't have the hours it won't work," Tuttle said. "You've got to love it. Just getting in the dirt, the fresh air and the exercise. You've got to love it to do it."

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Changes for Mariemont Restaurants

LaRosa's Offers New Hospitality on the Square

There's a lot to like about Mariemont, and the village square is certainly one of its best features. Every weekend, hundreds stroll through the square to catch a movie or visit one of its shops or restaurants. For LaRosa's Mariemont franchise owner Randy Lipps, however, it was a missed opportunity.

"If it happened once it happened a 100 times- people would come into our delivery and carry out location and say 'Oh, you don't have a place to sit down' and walk back out. We really hated to disappoint them and turn them away," said Lipps. So, he did something about it.



Lipps recently added sit-down amenities, expanding on the pizzeria's longstanding carryout and delivery services. Owner of the Mariemont location since 2003, Lipps is excited about the new feature. "We want to give folks the chance to stay and have a quick meal with us. We invite them to hang out on the square and enjoy something delicious from our menu." According to Lipps, the seating is simply intended to bring more convenience and charm to his Mariemont pizzeria- he notes that there are no servers, and orders from the full menu of 40-plus selections for the sit-down area are placed at the walk-up counter. Guests will find small café-style tables inside and outside; indoor tables offer a mix of chair and bench seating, and several counter spots provide a view of the village square out the front window.

Lipps expects that the new seating will be popular with LaRosa's Mariemont patrons, and he knows a thing or two about hospitality. He spent half of his more than 20-year career working for the famous Cincinnati pizza company, learning the finer points of customer service, Buddy LaRosa-style. "I learned from the best. The LaRosa family is nearly obsessed with making sure guests are delighted with their food and service. That's what I teach my team and what our Mariemont guests should expect every time they visit us," he said.

New Partner and Executive Chef Joins the National Exemplar

Mariemont residents were disappointed to learn that Hugo's restaurant would not be moving into the empty storefront next to the Mariemont Theatre. However, Sean Daly,

> former owner of Hugo's, has been named as an operating partner, executive general manager, and executive chef for the National Exemplar.

Favorite menu items will be retained, and Daly plans to add some new items which reflect a focus on local produce and meats. Daly said, "People shouldn't expect dramatic change, but more of an evolution as I incorporate my love of food while preserving the heritage of the National Exemplar

and its adjacent tavern, Southerby's." Having Daly on board should increase the restaurant's profile in the Cincinnati area.

Hats Off!



...to Denis and Marianne Beausejour, leaders at Mariemont Community Church, who are on a three-month sabbatical to Israel to study the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. They will be sharing their learning on two Saturdays in December – the 8th and 15th – from 8 am to 12 pm at the Parish Center at 3908 Plainville Road in Mariemont. Services are Sundays at 9 and 11 am.

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Mariemont Remembers September 11

Reverend Todd Keyes coordinated a September 11 remembrance service at the Mariemont Municipal Fire Station. The service was held at dawn on a crisp and beautiful September morning. Reverend Keyes led with an introduction and a prayer of invocation. Rex Bevis provided a remembrance of Cincinnati-area victims of the tragedy that day 11 years ago.

Chief Rick Hines remembered the fallen fire and police first responders and called for a moment of silence. Father David Robisch then read Psalm 23 and offered a prayer for the families of the victims and for those who serve our country. Clem Luken played Taps as the U.S. flag was lowered to half-mast. The moving ceremony was a fitting tribute to those who died in the attacks on September 11, 2001.

Mariemont Elementary School Dedication

BY CLAIRE KUPFERLE, EDITOR

On Sunday, September 9, Mariemont City Schools and the community of Mariemont celebrated the official opening of the Mariemont Elementary School with a special program and ribbon-cutting. Kelly Kauffmann, a senior at Mariemont High School, performed a gorgeous rendition of the national anthem. A group of elementary students followed with the song "Tomorrow Belongs to Me."

Indeed, several speakers echoed the theme that the creation of this amazing learning environment will benefit generations of students. Paul Imhoff, superintendent of Mariemont City Schools, said, "I know the new building, and all of the educational advancements and achievements that will occur within the school walls, will exemplify our motto, 'Scholars of Today, Leaders of Tomorrow."

The dedication ceremony was an opportunity to thank all those involved for their tremendous efforts to get the building funded, designed, and constructed in a relatively short period of time; all without

interrupting the learning process for hundreds of students.

The process began five years ago, when Mr. Imhoff appointed a group to look at major repairs and replacements that would arise in the future. It soon became

clear that taking a "band aid" approach to fixing aging systems was not an efficient use of taxpayer dollars. After a great deal of time spent talking to the communities in the school district, voters approved the funds for renovation and construction of three buildings. Many of the speakers spoke of their gratitude to the residents who approved the tax measure.

The building is a mix of new construction and renovation of some existing areas. Gone is the dungeon-like cafeteria, which has been replaced with a bright, airy lunchroom with windows



overlooking Dale Park. New construction was designed with safety and functionality in mind, with special care taken to incorporate sustainability into the designs through the use of high-efficiency windows, demand-controlled ventilation, and storm water quality and quantity measures.

The building was completed in only 10 months, and many thanks went to Kathy Ryan for overseeing the project and attending to the myriad details that arose. The construction teams and prime contractors also received congratulations for completing the project on time and on budget.

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IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

BY DENIS BEAUSEJOUR

True collaboration is a rare and beautiful thing. It has a sweet aroma, free of ego and contentious jockeying, and there is a warmth and welcoming feel to it. Yes, the tough decisions are taken, but in a spirit of camaraderie. As I walk into Bob Rich's dining room as a guest of the Mariemont Recreation Association's (MRA) summer board meeting, I feel this teamwork ethic. It's as if I had stepped into the locker room of an enduring championship franchise before the era of the big buck.

There is plenty of humorous banter exchanged as they work though the agenda.

Bob sits at the head of the table, looking over his laptop as the various sports leaders give their reports. He offers comments and so does the veteran

Do you know of other helpful Mariemont neighbors that we could profile? If so, please send your suggestions to Denis Beausejour at beausejourde@aol.com.

team around him. Each contributes ideas, memories of how they got started, what worked, and how they can improve. It's really fun to watch.

As I gaze down the agenda, I see this is Bob's last meeting as President. He is stepping down after 17 years of serving in the MRA, 12 as President. There are pints of beer, a gift, and some funny recollections. Bob's wife, Michelle, is toasted in absentia. The cake is served. A gift of a gavel is opened. And, in a well planned succession, John Getgey is unanimously elected as the next President.

I am drawn to Bob Rich, I want to know more. I can see his architect's touch on this group: well-crafted bylaws, a culture of participation and honor, precedents discussed, newer people and ideas welcomed, each sport encouraged to build a board, and principles of operation documented for discussion. Web sites and registration rules too, all for the benefit of hundreds of children being served.

Bob moved from Texas to Homewood Avenue in 1988, giving his young family a



Bob Rich served the Mariemont Recreation Association for 17 years.

deeper community experience than he ever had in Houston and Fort Worth. From three kids, then to Crystal Springs Road and five grown kids now, Bob has been a coach. He is not a "wins" guy but focuses on character. He is not a sports nut, but he loves organizing, designing, building, and growing. That's how a farm boy became an architect with a beautifully planned garden – an ideal MRA chief.

Bob travels the world with his architecture practice. Recently in the former Soviet republic of Georgia, he is helping rebuild the bombedout city of Poti. Locally, he has designed Sycamore Plaza, Tri-County Mall and several Macy's stores. A keen eye for design - and building things that last - is also reflected in his work serving the MRA.

Bob's daughter and her classmates had a love for running, so he started a track program. Michelle handled the concessions for most of the 17 years the MRA hosted a youth track meet. The annual meet is a huge challenge, with 1200 athletes participating. Track, soccer coaching and MRA fund-raising are just some of the memories that Bob shares. Obviously it was all great fun, and time flew by.

Recently Bob realized his oldest grandson was almost 21, the age of his youngest daughter, and it was time to pass the torch to

the next generation. Like many of the team around the table, John Getgey loves serving kids, has four of his own in the program, and has a desire to keep this Village treasure going for the benefit of all. The team around him is ready to serve and to welcome others!

In next month's *Crier*, we will take a look at Bob's team, which boasts almost 100 years experience: John Getgey (Incoming President), Rich Ewald (Treasurer), Missy Fields (Secretary), Steve Barker (Soccer/Web site), Mike McCracken (Softball), Robert Pettifer (Track), Wes Iredale (Volleyball), Hal Northrop (Basketball), and Randy York (Baseball).

As we close the interview, we end up in Bob's garden. He shares stories of his love for cooking, fresh spices and chilies - all of which were brought to bear in MRA fundraising adventures. Bob is open, engaging and well-rounded. He has added so much to our community. Yet Bob's closing thought is that it's really not about the MRA. It's about the kids and the parents who volunteer and give of themselves. That makes it work. That makes it worthwhile. That also attracts the next generation to step up. If Bob Rich could wave his architect's wand, I am positive he would like to see that spirit growing in Mariemont 20 years from now. How about you?

Introducing a New Neighboring Website: Nextdoor Mariemont

BY JOAN WELSH

Have you heard about the new website that's just for Mariemont neighbors? It's called Next Door Mariemont and you can log on at this web address https://mariemontoh. nextdoor.com/join. Nextdoor Mariemont is a free and private social network designed just for Mariemont. On Nextdoor Mariemont, neighbors can ask questions, get to know one another and exchange local advice and recommendations. Nextdoor Mariemont is a clean interface with no annoying pop-ups. There are 5000 established neighborhood groups using Nextdoor in 48 states. Neighbors are using Nextdoor to:

- Track down trustworthy babysitters, plumbers, and dentists
- Get the word out about break-ins and other safety concerns
- Organize neighborhood groups, garage sales, BBQs, and block parties
- Ask for assistance in finding lost pets and missing packages

Nextdoor's mission is to bring a sense of community to the neighborhood. The inspiration behind Nextdoor was to give people a social network via the computer to connect them to one of the most important communities in their lives - the neighborhood. In the US, 65% of adults online use some form of social networking. Nextdoor takes the same approach to help neighbors connect. Nextdoor



believes that when neighbors start talking, good things happen.

Our Nextdoor Mariemont site was initially started by Claire Kupferle. Other members of our community have spread the word about Nextdoor Mariemont by sending email invitations encouraging residents to join. Terrace Park has enjoyed a community resource similar to Nextdoor for many years. It's proven to be a valuable asset and a popular way to share information and concerns. Now we have the same opportunity to have a sense of community through sharing. Instead of tossing unwanted items on the curb for trash pickup you could post a "take it" message on Nextdoor Mariemont and some other family could recycle these items. Nextdoor

Mariemont is like having your own private classified ads section through your computer.

Let's address some common questions:

How much does Nextdoor cost? Nextdoor is completely free.

Am I going to get a ton of email? You control the amount of email that you receive. You can choose to be notified of new updates from neighbors as they happen, see everything in a single daily digest, or opt out of emails and just go to the website when you want new updates. Members are always in control of the email they get.

How do I know that only Mariemont neighbors can access Nextdoor Mariemont? Nextdoor uses four methods to verify member addresses.

- · Phone verification
- Neighbor invitations
- Credit card billing address
- Postcards





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Do I have to share my email or street address with my neighbors? The email address attached to your Nextdoor account is not shared with your neighbors, but you may choose to provide an email address on your profile if you'd like. If you'd prefer not to share your email address, neighbors can still contact you by sending you a private message on Nextdoor Mariemont. You may choose to display only your street name on your profile if you'd prefer.

What if there are inappropriate postings? Nextdoor flags any suspect postings for the gatekeeper to review and delete if necessary. Instances of inappropriate comments or postings have been very rare on Nextdoor sites because the poster does not have anonymity.

How is Nextdoor Mariemont safe? Nextdoor makes it safe to share online the kind of things you'd be okay sharing with your neighbors in person. Here's how:

- Every neighbor must verify their address. In fact, one of their lead designers used to work with Google Maps. Nextdoor is very strict about verification.
- Each neighbor signs in with their real name. Just like in person.
- Only neighbors can see information shared on your neighborhood site.
- Information shared will never show up in Google or other search engines.
- Nextdoor never shares your personal information with third-party advertisers. Kelsey Grady of Nextdoor states that, "Nextdoor would never sell or store participant information for profit. That would be against our company philosophy. Our goal is to build stronger communities."

Isn't Nextdoor Mariemont just like Facebook? No. Facebook connects you with friends around the globe. Nextdoor Mariemont is only for Mariemont residents. Content shared on Nextdoor Mariemont would be pertinent to any resident. Categories on Nextdoor Mariemont include Neighbors (where members post what they wish to share in their profiles), Recommendations (where you could get suggestions for an excellent plumber, for example), Buy/Sell (Perhaps you don't want to open yourself up to the entire Craigslist community. Here you can sell items you no longer need to other Mariemonters) and Crime/ Safety. In many ways Nextdoor Mariemont is much more practical than Facebook.

Do I have to post to the entire community or can I respond privately to someone on Nextdoor Mariemont? If you wish to just reply privately to someone, all you have to do is hover over their profile and clicking "Send message" underneath their profile picture.

How can I get help? Email Nextdoor at support@nextdoor.com They respond to your questions within 24 hours.

Recent postings on Nextdoor Mariemont included discussion about a robbery at the Dollar General in Madison Place. Members were able to alert others as to why the police helicopter was hovering in the area. A member sold her baby grand piano to another member. Another member requested recommendations for someone who does computer repair and quickly received 3 suggestions. Kindervelt and the Mariemont Preschool Parents groups shared

information about their upcoming meetings. A resident asked to borrow a chainsaw. A couple would like to join others in a friendly golf game. These are all things we would share with our neighbors if we were chatting over the backyard fence. Now we have the opportunity to chat via our own website, Nextdoor Mariemont.

In addition to Next Door Mariemont, our Village also has a new website, www.Mariemont. com, which provides a focus on our local businesses and civic events. Past issues of the Town Crier are archived on this website.

We invite you to join other Village residents by logging on to Next Door Mariemont at https://mariemontoh.nextdoor.com/join and connect today! If you are already a member, you can help our online community grow by sending an email Nextdoor invitation to your Mariemont friends.



WOMAN'S ART CLUB CULTURAL CENTER

ArtsWave Programs Coming to The Barn

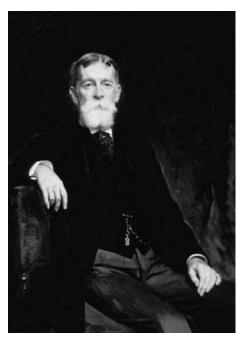
Here are some of the wonderful ArtsWave Programs coming to the Barn. For more



information or to register for these programs online, visit www.artatthebarn.org:

Talks of the Taft

Join us for a Wednesday night escape from the ordinary, as we welcome Taft Museum of Art docent Sue Monteith with her presentation "The Collectors." The collectors are, of course, Anna & Charles Phelps Taft, who bequeathed their historic home and private collection of 690 works of art to the people of Cincinnati in 1927. Find out about their life in the house that became the Taft Museum of Art,



Charles Phelps Taft Raimundo de Madraza Garreta,1902 Taft Museum of Art,Cincinnati, OH

their relationship to President Taft, and their adventures amassing their priceless art. This special "Talks of the Taft" lecture will take place in the Gallery of the Barn on October 10 at 7 pm.





MadCap Puppets

We are thrilled to host MadCap puppets at the Barn for the first time on Sunday, October 28 (2 pm). The Madcap Puppets will present Rumpelstiltskin right here in our Gallery. Spinning straw into gold sounds impossible, but that's exactly what Rose must do in order to win the King's favor and save her father's life! With the help of a mysterious little troll, the piles of straw are spun into beautiful piles of gold, but Rose must return the favor. The strange little fellow demands Rose's first-born child unless she can guess his unusual name. This musical adaptation is sure to delight audiences of all ages!

Actors & Directors Workshop

Want to be a "star?" Then sign up for the Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati's "Actors & Directors Workshop" on Saturday, November 3 at 10 am. What does it take to be a good director or actor? More than an acting class, this one-hour workshop challenges students

to work in small groups to direct and perform scenes from classic fairytales. An exciting and powerful way to build teamwork and leadership skills, this challenging experience often has humorous and surprising results!

Cincinnati Ballet

On Sunday, November 4, we reprise last year's wildly popular Cincinnati Ballet "In-Step" program. The Cincinnati Ballet brings a special floor into the Gallery and recreates "A Day in the Life of a Ballet Dancer," inviting young audience members to join them on stage. This engaging family event starts at 2 pm.

October In the Gallery

The family of longtime Woman's Art Club member, Dee Fagedes, is proud to exhibit a retrospective of Dee's 50-year journey in art; gallery hours are October 11 & 12 from 9 am -2 pm and Saturday October 13 from noon – 3 pm. Next, Cincinnati Artist (and Mariemont High School parent) Dave Laug opens his exhibit "Mo'Vida." Dave describes his painting style as energetic - his goal is to put more life hence "Mo'Vida" into his paintings, through color, movement, and the way it all comes together. He strives to communicate unobserved moments and emotions through his work. The public is invited to join Dave in the Gallery for his Opening reception on Friday, October 19 from 6 pm to 9 pm. "Mo'Vida" is on display from 9 am - 2 pm

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WOMAN'S ART CLUB CULTURAL CENTER

Tuesday through Friday, through October 26; and from 1 pm – 4 pm on Saturday & Sunday, October 20 & 21.

Silversmithing Workshop

"Silversmithing 101" Workshop on October 19 from 10 am – 5 pm. Learn the basics of silversmithing in this hands-on workshop in the Tack Room. Experience the techniques of sawing, drilling, soldering, setting a cabochon and more, as you create an original sterling silver pendant of your own design. Taught by local artist and silvermith Karen Trimble-Shell; cost is \$175 and includes all materials. To register, contact Karen at kstshell@gmail.com.

Fall Classes

Our calendar is chock full of classes for artists of every skill level and age, both daytime & at night. Our teachers are well-known Cincinnati artists who love to teach! Many enjoy teaching "en plein air" when the fall weather is beautiful. To register for any class, contact the teacher directly (information is at www.artatthebarn.org under

"The Barn"/"Classes" or call 272-3700).

Our Monday night watercolor class is taught by Bruce Neville, who starts every class with a demonstration. On Tuesday evenings, Ron Johnson teaches oil painting techniques in the Classroom. The last Tuesday of the month brings Ray Hassard to the Tack Room to teach his afternoon advanced pastels course.

Wednesdays feature numerous opportunities for oil painters. In the morning, Tina Tammaro teaches "Oil Techniques" in the Tack Room (or at various locations, outside, if weather permits), while Jan Boone teaches oil painting in the Classroom. Interested in portraiture? Deborah Ridgley offers a class on Wednesday afternoons beginning September 5. For those looking for an evening class, Jonathan Queen teaches "Still Life Oil Painting" in the Tack Room.

On Thursdays, novice drawing students are encouraged to join "Drawing for Beginners" with Mary Louise Holt, in the morning. Ron Johnson teaches an afternoon oil painting techniques class in the Classroom. Thursday evenings feature painting for adult beginners taught by Dave Laug: "The Art of Wine."

Classes for young artists include "Draw What You Love," taught by Deborah Ridgley after school on Thursdays. And on Saturday mornings in the Classroom, Dave Laug holds "Mo'Vida," an art class focusing on drawing & painting, for students grade 5 - 8.





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MARIEMONT TOWN CRIER PAGE 11

Neighboring with Nina

BY NINA IREDALE



Happy Fall Everyone! This month, I'd like to start off by correcting an error in last month's column. 6823 Hammerstone was purchased by Joe

and Carol Aaron in May. I mistakenly put the wrong last name. My apologies. At any time, if you are new to Mariemont and I haven't contacted you yet, please feel free to email me and I will gather your information. It's never too late to be welcomed!

John Lavelle and his wife, Erin Delaney, purchased 3815 Indianview in August. They previously lived in a townhouse on Maple



Street and were delighted to be able to stay and purchase a home in the Village. They love the walkable community and beautiful neighborhoods. John works in market research at Nielsen (downtown) and Erin is a Junior High Math Teacher in Finneytown. Both are avid cooks, lovers of good beer and wine and they spend a lot of time hiking and running. Both John and Erin each run one to two marathons a year.

James and Jenny Ferguson are happy to have found a new place to call home after having lived on Emery Lane for many years. They purchased 3810 Miami Road in August. For those of you not familiar with the Fergusons they have three children, Christopher, Chelsea and Charlie.

Luis and Priscilla Hernandes moved to 3816 Indianview from Hendersonville, NC. They have three children; Luis is 12 and a seventh grader at MJHS, Eli is six and in first grade, and Yanirah is six months old. Priscilla is a registered nurse but is currently staying home with their baby until everyone gets settled here in Mariemont. The Hernandeses opened El Trio Mexican Grill and would like to thank the community for all the support of their restaurant. They chose Mariemont for the restaurant's location because of the community feel and the family-oriented neighborhood. The kids love the schools, the ability to walk everywhere and the pool!

Karen Hollyday purchased 3902 Pocahontas in June. Karen and her children, Evan, Alex and Kaleigh are long-time residents of Mariemont, having previously lived on Mariemont Ave.

Brad and Felicia Wymore purchased 6987 Grace Avenue in August. They sold their last home, off Muchmore, back in February and had been looking for the right house and neighborhood ever since. They are so happy to have found both! Both work downtown, Brad at the marketing firm, Eric Mower & Associates, and Felicia for Macy's in Learning



& Development. Brad grew up in Indian Hill and Felicia moved here 4 years ago from the east coast. Their daughter, Molly, just celebrated her first birthday and is delighted to be in a neighborhood with so many friendly kids.

3812 Homewood Road was purchased in July by David and Sarah Downs. They have a 9 month old baby, Anne Crosby and a yellow lab, Mojo. Sarah grew up in Mariemont and is very excited to be back home. David is originally from Virginia but they have been in Cincinnati for about four years. Sarah is an Account Manager for TEK Systems and David is a Student Services Liaison at Hamilton Clermont Cooperative Association. They look forward to reconnecting with neighbors new and old!

Aaron and Melinda Greenburg purchased 6924 Thorndike Road the first of August. They were married in May of this year in beautiful Ault Park and are excited to be living in Mariemont. Aaron is employed by Jaguar/ Land Rover North America in management and a alumni of Xavier University. Melinda is a senior RN for a spine surgeon in Blue Ash and her alma mater is Boise State University where she was a competitive gymnast. Aaron's passion is vintage British automobiles and they own a right hand drive 1953 Bentley. Be sure to wave if you see them driving around town! Melinda's hobbies are scrapbooking, arts & crafts and reading. They have an orange tabby, Dudley, who you will find perched in many windows or out on their "catio."

3604 Mound Way was purchased by Ben and Maggie Anderson in August. They are originally from Indianapolis but moved to Mariemont from Mt. Lookout. They chose Mariemont because of our good schools, and being "kid friendly." Ben and Maggie have a daughter, Lydia who is 2-1/2, and are expecting a baby due on Christmas Eve. Ben sells pacemakers for Medtronic and Maggie is a parttime mental health therapist. In their free time, the family loves to ride bikes.

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(home), 484-2647 (cell) or email is niredale@sibcycline.com.

Mariemont Civic Association News & Updates

Buy a Raffle Ticket!

\$1 (6 for \$5). Prizes include:

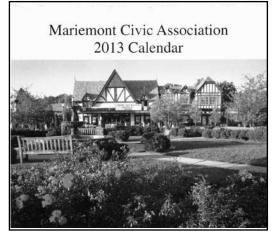
- Needlepoint art scene of Carillon
- Lionel Train circa 1952
- 4 Mariemont Theatre Tickets

The drawing will be held December 20.

2013 Calendars

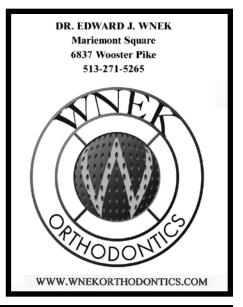
2013 Calendars are available for \$10 at MariElders, Graeter's, the Villager and other local establishments.

Mariemont Civic Association is proud to



have donated \$500 to help defray costs of the recent Porsche Rallye event.

Our next meeting is Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 pm. The featured speaker will be Appeals Court Judge Pat Fisher. Consider joining the Mariemont Civic Association!







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What's Happening at the Library

October

October is a busy month at Mariemont Branch Library. We offer programs for all ages. Stop by and have fun!

Families

Autism Family Night-Out: An afterhours program for families with a member on the spectrum. Friday, October 12, 6:30 to 8 pm.

Magic in Mariemont: A fun magic show for all ages, Saturday, October 27 at 2 pm.

Children

Lego Party: We provide the Legos, you bring your imagination! Tuesday, October 23 at 6:30 pm. Ages 6 to 12.

Crafty Kids: Fun crafts to make with your friends. Last Thursday of the month, October 25 at 3:30 pm. Ages 5 to 11.

Collect the Button Book Club (CBBC): Each month, Ms. Katheryn'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. October's Series: "Guinea Pig: Pet Shop Private Eye" by Colleen Venable. Ages 5 to 10.

Library Babies: Saturday, October 6 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 Katheryn for stories and crafts. Ages 3 to 5.

Pumpkin Circle: with Gwen Roth on Wednesday, October 17th at 1:30 pm for a special story time.

Tales to Tails: Thursday, October 4 at 5 to 6 pm. Kids read to a certified therapy dog to practice their reading skills. Ages 5 to 10.

Teens

InBeTween Club: Gaming, movies, crafts

& fun for tweens and teens. There will be something different each month. Thursday, October 18 at 4 pm.

Anime Club: New! Check it out, Saturday, October 27 at 1 pm.

Adults

Introduction to eBooks for Kindle: Learn how to download to your Kindle. Thursday, October 4 at 6 pm.

Job Search 101: Get tips to guide you through the maze of job searching. Monday, October 15 at 6 pm.

Which Craft Needlecraft Club: 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. October 20 at 10:30 am.

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 Moby Dick. Copies are available at the desk. Thursday, October 25 at 6:45 pm.

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

That spooky time of year is coming; I know what you want to be for Halloween, a beautiful cat like me! Ha, Ha! Well, even if you aren't a cat stop by and show me your purr-fect costume. I will be in the window on Halloween! MEOW-Miss ME (The MariElders' Cat)

Volunteers Needed!

The MariElders is in need of volunteer drivers. We have members that do not drive anymore and need rides to their medical appointments. If you can spare some time each month, maybe as little as three hours, we could sure use you. If interested, please call Kathy at 271-5588.

Elder Law Series: Medicaid Planning

Our Law Series continues in October with Elder law attorney William Hesch on October 18th at 6:00 pm. This month he will discuss planning for Medicaid and how to protect your assets if you need nursing home care. Sign up on the Center bulletin board for a reservation. Appetizers and refreshments provided.

Waynesville Trip

We will head to Waynesville on Wednesday, October 17 for a fun-filled Halloween Adventure. We will eat at The Hammel House Inn where the food is fabulous and you will be treated to stories of all the haunted places in Waynesville. Did you know that Waynesville is one of the most haunted towns in Ohio? Then you can hit the streets and start shopping in all the historic gift and antique shops that Waynesville has to offer. We will be taking deluxe motor coach transportation to Waynesville. Price for members is \$50 and for non-members it is \$60. Sign up with a paid reservation by October 9.

Caregiver Series: Dealing with Alzheimer's and Dementia

Our Caregiver Series also continues this month with a talk about How to Care for a Loved One with Alzheimer's or Dementia. It is being held at MariElders on Wednesday October 23 at 6:30 pm. This program will discuss the how-to's of caring for a loved one and what can be done to enrich the life of the person while being a good caregiver at the same time. Refreshments provided. Sign up on the Center bulletin board for this program by October 18.

Museum Days: The Cincinnati Fire Museum

This month we will be touring the Cincinnati Fire Museum, on Tuesday October 23, since October is Fire Safety Awareness Month. Cincinnati has a great fire history and tradition. Come and join us as we explore this very interesting museum with lots of fire history and artifacts to explore. We will head to lunch at Johnny Rockets on the Banks after the museum tour. Meet at MariElders at 9:30 am and we will leave from there. Price for members is \$8, non-member price is \$10, and lunch is on your own. Sign up with a paid reservation at the Center front desk by October 18.

Medicare Information Session

Turning 65? Retiring soon? Looking to make a change during the annual enrollment period? We are hosting an education seminar, on Wednesday November 7 at 10:30 am. It will take place on the first floor of MariElders. Learn more about all the Medicare Programs available and which one is more appropriate for your medical needs. At this time you may also sign up to have a one-on-one consultation with a professional who will provide you with

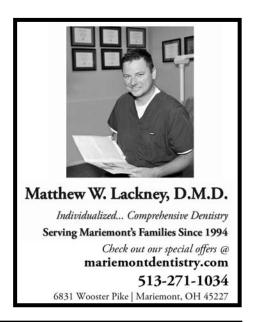
specific information about which program is best for you. Sign up on the Center bulletin board if planning to attend by November 5.

Tour of Music Hall and Lunch @ Arnold's

Join us as we tour historic Music Hall downtown, on Monday November 26 @ 9:30 am. We will have a guided tour of the building and its rich history. After the tour we will have lunch at Arnold's. Price for members is \$5, non-members price is \$8, and lunch is on your own. Sign up with a paid reservation at the Center front desk by November 15.

MariElders 1st Annual Craft Show

MariElders is having a Craft Show on Saturday December 8. It will be held at the Mariemont Elementary School. If you know a crafter, or are one, please call and get an application to take part in our show. We hope to have at least one hundred different crafters and vendors. There will be food and good shopping so please join us in December.



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Down and Dirty with the Mariemont Garden Club

BY LAURA McMahon and Carolyn Tuttle

Fall brings many gardening questions. Here are some tips that will make your garden a delight when spring rolls around.

Is it too late to buy bulbs?

It might be too late to buy those bulbs, but check the stores anyway, this is when they are on sale. If the bulbs are already sprouting don't buy them, but if they look good, no mold or obvious damage, then go ahead.

You will need to keep them in your refrigerator or very cold cellar until it is

cold enough outside to plant them. Spring flowering bulbs can be planted anytime in the fall before the ground freezes. You should plant bulbs in the fall because they require a long period of cool temperatures to spark the growth process that causes them to flower. We usually plant them near the end of October through the beginning of November.

Hats Off!

...to Tommy Kaufmann and Chelsea Koglemeier for finishing third and fifth respectively in the Hudepohl 14K Brewery Run on September 22.

Are there any deer resistant spring flowering bulbs?

There are very few plants that deer tend to pass by. Deer seem to pass on daffodils, but alliums, crocus, scilla, grape hyacinths and snow drops are all supposed to be deer resistant. If deer get hungry enough, they'll eat anything. The foolproof system is a tall fence or a dog trained to keep deer away.

How do I know the depth to plant the hulbs?

Bulbs should be planted at a depth three times their height. For example, if a daffodil bulb is two inches tall, dig a hole six inches deep. If you add mulch, factor it in to your planting depth. Rather than dig individual holes for each bulb, dig out an entire area. Dig it to the required depth of the largest bulb. If you have smaller bulbs, create little mounds of soil for them to sit on so that will bring them up to the proper planting depth. Place the bulbs in the area with the POINTED end UP and the flatten end sitting on the bottom of the bed. Add bulb food and refill with soil. Use a synthetic bulb food because it is less attractive to animals than bone meal.

Get the whole family involved in selecting your spring bulbs. There are many varieties and colors of both tulips and daffodils. The daffodil is the official flower of Mariemont. You might try crocuses that will greet you in early spring with an abundance of color. Their short stature makes them a good choice for borders or walkways. Crocuses look best when planted in groups, so plant a dozen or so bulbs together roughly three inches apart. The easiest way to add drama and excitement to your landscape is to try allium bulbs. The flower heads come in a variety of colors with some spherical blooms up to five inches across, crowning the tall, sturdy stems in late spring to early summer.

How far back can I cut my Hydrangeas?

It is best to cut back most bushes and perennials in the fall. Hydrangeas should have only their hard wood cut back. I always struggled with that until it was explained to me that if the stem looks like it has bark then that is the hard wood. You can cut it back to 2-4 inches from the base of the plant.

When should I transplant?

It's best to do your transplanting of plants in the fall. The cooler weather allows the plants to remain dormant until spring and have a better chance of survival. Add a half to one-inch layer of top soil mixed with equal parts peat moss to protect the garden over the winter.

Come join us for the October 3rd meeting - Carpooling from The Barn at 12:15 for a field trip - Botanical Garden Tour.



Mark your calendar!

Mariemont's Annual

Christmas Tree Lighting and Luminaria Night

December 1, 2012 5:30-8:00 Old Town Square Mariemont Preschool Parents Group Bob Zellner, Owner "Let me help you help yourself!"

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Mariemont DAR Meets Oliver Hazard Perry

BY JON MAUCH

Mariemont Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution held their first meeting of the new year on September 15 at the Parish Center in Mariemont in the presence of 28 members and guests. A variety of honors given to the chapter at the Spring State Ohio Society of Daughters of the American Revolution Conference were presented at the business meeting. Certificates were given to Maxine Mace as Chairman of the Service for Veterans Committee and Pat Sammons for her work in the Every Name Indexing Project.

Certificates presented to the chapter included Outstanding Service for Veterans, Excellence in Website Construction, Historic Preservation and Outstanding Computer Activity for the electronic monthly newsletter.

Craig Heimbuch, award-winning journalist and author presented an extremely



Vice Regent Miriam Lillback, Author Craig Heimbuch, Regent Jan Mauch.

entertaining and informational program, which coincides with the anniversary of the War of 1812. Mr. Heimbuch's presentation entitled "Chasing Oliver Hazard Perry" provided the background of both Oliver Hazard

Perry and of his own journey to learn about this amazing American hero responsible for the famous quote, "We have met the enemy and they are ours." This was the dispatch to Major General Henry Harrison after the battle of Lake Erie on 10 September 1813, which secured the Great Lakes region from the threat of invasion from Great Britain. Mr. Heimbuch has an extensive professional writing career and is the founding editor of ManoftheHouse.com. The Great Lakes Booksellers Association named his book, "Chasing Oliver Hazard Perry" the best non-fiction

book of 2010. He is a travel writer who rarely leaves the Midwest and believes the greatest adventures are found close to home.



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Pizza, Tortas & Fine Dining: New Eateries in Mariemont

BY SHELLEY PADEN & MIKE BENSON

Along Wooster Pike between Southern Avenue in Fairfax and Newtown Road in Columbia Township, there is no shortage of places to grab a bite to eat. Regardless whether you're looking for a simple sandwich, a hamburger, a fine steak, an egg roll, pizza, or some soup and salad, this roughly two-mile long strip on the Pike has something for even the pickiest of eaters. And over the summer the choices have expanded with the addition of three new restaurants, each with a different theme.

Mac's Pizza Pub

Opening just a few weeks ago in the spot previously occupied by the Wooster Tavern, Mac's Pizza Pub brings gourmet pizza to Mariemont and Fairfax. Owner and manager, David J. Rinderle has redesigned the interior space adding new lighting, brightly colored walls, extensive neon signage, and 16 large sized HDTVs. Although the decorative process is not yet complete, Mac's already has a warm family-friendly feeling. Mr. Rinderle chose the Fairfax location for several reasons, including a desire to expand the Mac's franchise from its original location in Clifton, the new location's close proximity to Mariemont and Fairfax ("walkability" as he puts it), and the new streetscape design in Fairfax. The streetscape was particularly important because the slower traffic and central turn lane improve access to the parking lot in the back of Mac's.

Besides pizza, Mac's offers an extensive full service menu. It includes a variety of appetizers, salads, sandwiches and burgers. There are a number of vegetarian and vegan options, and even locally-made gluten free pizza. Some of the vegan ingredients are secured close to home from Clifton Natural Foods.

The bar at Mac's hosts over 100 different bottled beers, 19 beers on tap, a selection of wines, and the usual spirits for those who want something stronger than beer or wine. Beer and wine are discounted during happy hour (Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 pm) and during game day specials whenever the Reds or Bengals are playing in town.

The second floor at Mac's is being refurbished to serve as a party room for special events such as birthdays, reunions, wedding receptions, fantasy football drafts, and sports team celebrations. The



room will hold parties of up to 50 and has a self-contained bar, private bathrooms, dart boards, a shuffleboard table, and a private patio for outdoor seating.

El Trio Mexican Grill

El Trio Mexican Grill is a family owned and operated business located in the Mariemont Promenade that opened its doors May 1 of 2012. The two brothers and a cousin who run the restaurant chose Mariemont because they liked the nice location and family-oriented nature of the village area. Indeed, the owners are very grateful and want to say thanks to the community for all of the support they've received from Mariemont families.

The menu features a wide variety of enchiladas, burritos, tamales, tortas, and quesadillas, along with chicken, steak, pork, seafood, and vegetarian entrees. The owners are trying to stay away from the standard Mexican-American approach and are using more authentic ingredients and methods of preparation. Some of the items are unusual and unlikely to be found at other Mexican places in Cincinnati, such as bacon wrapped shrimp (camarones con tocino) and tortas (the Mexican version of a sub or sandwich). Among the most popular items are tortas, tamales tipicos (pork tamale), tocino ranch quesadilla (chicken, bacon and avocado), and quesadilla braba (steak, jalapenos, onions and avocado). The prices are wallet friendly at perhaps a dollar or two less than at other places. The full menu is available at www.eltriomexicangrill.com. In addition to the extensive menu, a free salsa bar with 12 different salsas is available. El Trio has a full bar with the standard selection of Mexican and American beer, but seating at the bar is limited.

The atmosphere is causal with seating

arrangements that can accommodate larger sized parties as well as couples. All in all, it's a great addition to the Mariemont dining scene.

Heritage Tastings at the Cottage

Karen Lyon who owns, manages, and cooks for the Heritage Tastings at the Cottage is pioneering a new approach to dining out. It's a little bit like having a very good private chef come to your house and serve you a meal that is specially designed to pair food and drink. But instead of coming to your home, the chef asks you to make a short trip down to 7664 Wooster Pike to an attractive little cottage right next to the new 50 West Brewery. There you will find a small intimate dining room and an outdoor patio surrounded by plants, herbs, and vegetables used in many of the dishes.

Heritage Tastings is open for dinner Friday and Saturday evenings by reservation only (513-322-1881 or at www.heritagetastings.com). By requiring reservations, Ms. Lyons knows exactly how many she will have to cook for and that enables her to keep costs down. In addition, she does not have to turn tables. So, once you are in, you can relax like you're at home and stay for a long time. This system enables the Heritage Tastings to offer a five-course meal at a fixed price that is significantly below what you would have to pay in a regular restaurant. The five courses can be paired with a "flight" of wines or beers in which you get a small glass of specially selected wine or beer with each course. If you would prefer not to have a "flight," you can just purchase a regular glass or bottle of wine or beer of your choice. Some of the beers served at Heritage Tastings are locally brewed at 50 West Brewery. One of her recent menus had a summer harvest theme and included corn, chile, and cheese quesadillas, a chilled avocado and crab soup, a mixed green salad with peaches and gorgonzola, and a choice of steak with blue cheese sauce or lemon chicken with shallots, accompanied by a wild mushroom risotto and haricots verts. The last course offered a choice of raspberry parfait or white chocolate cheesecake.

Besides dinner, Ms. Lyons also serves tea luncheons from 11-3 on Saturday and Sunday by reservation with a fixed price menu that includes multiple courses of lighter foods, such as cheese, fruit, finger sandwiches, scones, chowder, quiches, and deserts. Like the dinner menu, the luncheon courses can be paired with a selection of teas. On weekdays, both the indoor and outdoor spaces are available for meetings or private parties with customized menus.

Council Meeting Highlights

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.

The following was excerpted from minutes of Mariemont Council and Committee meetings. For full minutes, go to www. mariemont.com and click on Village of Mariemont, then Village Government

Planning Commission Meeting August 23, 2012

Nolen Park Development

The only request was from Mr. Richard

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Greiwe, Greiwe Development Co., 9355 Holly Hill, Cincinnati, OH 45243 for a Property Variance at the proposed new condominium development at 3902 West Street to allow for changing the point of garage access and pedestrian access from West Street to Madisonville Road from the locations approved by the Planning Commission on December 1, 2009.

Mr. Stich said this would not be a typical variance where we would have to look at the code, but would rather be a change in the original development plan that was approved. It would simply be an amendment or modification of the original plan.

Mr. Greiwe introduced Ms. Sari Lehtinen, who has been the lead architect on the design of the Nolen Park Condominium project. Ms. Lehtinen stated that, during a review of this stage of the plans for Nolen Park, some issues with the placement of the entry to the garage from West Street had come to light. For one thing, drivers exiting from the garage would be entering West Street from an uphill grade out of the driveway, rather than from a surface level with the street. Additionally, in conversations with their trash hauling contractor, Rumpke, they discovered a garbage truck could not enter the garage to empty a dumpster because of the height limitation in the garage and the overall building. Further, a proposed ramp at the

west end of the building for trash collection was rejected by the developer and Rumpke as it would cause the garbage truck to be parked on Madisonville Road for approximately 15 to 20 minutes each time trash was collected, thereby blocking that portion of Madisonville Road. It would also have caused them to eliminate the sidewalk that provided pedestrians with access to the business area of the Village. That is why they found the need to move the driveway and the front entrance to the building from West Street to Madisonville Road. The new design would mimic that of Emery Park Condominiums, with the entrance to the garage at the end of the building, which has worked very well. To accomplish relocating the entrance, some space was taken out of some of the units, so it would not change the look of the building or the approved design of the building. It also gives every unit on the ground level access to the outside, which was something ARB had wanted, and now the building has that.

Mr. Dan Spinnenweber, owner of Spinnenweber Builders and property adjacent to Nolen Park Condominiums said he is pleased with the new plan as long as it would not interfere with his need to have a driveway off Madisonville Road when he develops the adjoining property. There is a code that requires a safety zone between driveways. This issue came up in the past when the



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driveway for the Strand was being planned. He feels this could be successfully addressed in this case. He feels that it could be worked out and that, all and all, he has no objection to the change as long as he can still have a driveway for his property when he develops it.

Mayor Policastro moved to allow the change to what was approved in 2009 contingent upon an agreement between the two parties with that agreement being filed with the Building Commissioner. Mr. Sturtz seconded the motion. On roll call, five ayes, no nays. The request was approved.

Roundabout Update

Mr. Stich said he wanted to give the members of the commission an update regarding the roundabout. He handed out a copy of a letter that KZF Design had submitted to Hamilton County Engineer Ted Hubbard on behalf of the Transportation Improvement District (TID). KZF Design has been asked by TID to assist in the preliminary engineering of the proposed improvement of the intersection of Plainville Road and Murray Avenue. The TID will have a meeting to vote on whether or not to go ahead with the study to compare traffic operations for a variety of different potentials, including a roundabout, but not exclusive to a roundabout. KZF's letter specifically references the Mayor's letter to ODOT. Mr. Stich asked to see the resolution that is being submitted to TID and was sent a copy by TID's attorney. The resolution includes all the considerations that we wanted, such as that there is to be further public input and that all options are going to be on the table. Mayor Policastro said he is working on a second letter to ODOT, because he wants the estimated increase in traffic from the proposed 115-unit apartment building to be included in the study and wants to make them aware there will now be a third school around the corner when the Waldorf School comes in.

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Council Meeting August 27, 2012

Relocation of Route 32 Through Mariemont

Mr. Millard Rogers, 3942 Miami Road was granted permission to address Council. The Mayor's letter to Mr. Hubbard regarding the Eastern Corridor alerted us all to a very serious problem with great potential for damage to the integrity of the Village. The new proposed route, if enacted, affects the physical environment of a large section of Mariemont, the integrity of the John Nolen plan, and the status of our National Historic Landmark (NHL) award we received in 2007. Assuming that the Eastern Corridor Project will involve Federal funding for portions of it, and because Mariemont is established as a Historic District in its NHL status, this initiates the requirements for "Section 106 Review Process" under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Some of the action prescribed in this review should focus on: (1) Determining adverse effects on the affected property (such as the acreage immediately below Miami Bluff Drive and Mariemont land in the 80 acres adjacent to the Little Miami River; (2) Negating a significant

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portion of the Nolen plan for Mariemont as well as impacting negatively on the integrity of our NHL award; (3) Identifying Federal involvement in any part of the project and to what extent; (4) Engaging the United States National Park Service in Omaha, attention: Geoffrey Burt, who works with NHL's in Ohio; (5) Engaging the Ohio Historic Preservation office, Columbus, Ohio attention: Nancy Campbell; and (6) Establishing a "Consulting Party" described in the Guide as a "Local Government" which would be the Mayor and Council, who participate in the review process. The Mariemont Preservation Foundation is supportive of any action that rescinds the new proposed Eastern Corridor recommendation. He noted that the MPF has long monitored the Eastern Corridor Project through the efforts of Trustee Don Keyes. He also said he will leave copies of emails between himself, as the National Park Service contact for our NHL award, and Linda McClelland, Historian, National Register of Historic Places; Geoffrey Burt, National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office; and Nancy Campbell, Ohio Historic

(Continued on next page)



Preservation Office, as well as a copy of the Section 106 Citizen's Guide.

Village Mowing Contract

Mr. Jerry Vianello, 6570 Wooster Pike, was granted permission to address Council. He said he believes in 2011 there was discussion regarding what outsourcing mowing company the Village was going to use to cut the grass. There was a lot of discussion about saving the Village \$1.15 per household. One of the things Council did was enact a rule that we would not continue to pay for services we were not getting. So in the hot weather when it was not necessary to cut grass under that contract we would not be billed for that grass cutting fee. With the hot weather we had this summer he was curious how much money the Village had saved. He approached the Maintenance Supervisor and was informed that that was no longer in the contract. His belief was that Council put that in the contract to save money. With all the drought conditions he thinks it was a missed opportunity to save money. He would like Council to give the citizens an explanation perhaps through the Mayor's Bulletin.

Election of New Council Member

Mr. Vianello said he was hoping that the

Village Solicitor was present so he could respond to his concern regarding Council indicating they broke the law when voting Mr. Stelzer to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Black as reported in the Eastern Hills Journal. He believes it would be appropriate for the Solicitor to address the issue. He is not the only citizen who is concerned about this kind of comment in the press. He would like to know the remedy to the situation. He suggested addressing the matter in the Mayor's Bulletin. Mayor Policastro said he spoke with the Solicitor who indicated that we did not break the law. Mr. McTigue will put together an opinion letter with case law etc. and he will be present at the next meeting. We will have documented proof and he will plan on putting it in the Mayor's Bulletin.

Council Meeting September 10, 2012

Relocation of Route 32

Council member Joe Stelzer said residents Doug Welsh and Karen Sullivan distributed comment forms on the Eastern Corridor to residents in the Village and they have collected over 200 of those comment forms that were sent to ODOT objecting to the selection of the preferred route of the Eastern Corridor. We had the period of time to submit those objections extended by seven days. They had only given us 30 days to respond and we did not feel this was fair due to the magnitude of the decision they had reached and the fact that the maps and information were not shared with the public until August 2, 2012. Mr. Stelzer said he is very proud of the way the people of our community have come together to object to this project that would be detrimental to our South 80. Mr. Welsh and Mrs. Sullivan did a good job getting the comments together.

Issues From Last Council Meeting

Mayor Policastro said that resident, Jerry Vianello, had asked if the way Mr. Stelzer was voted into Council was done correctly. No law was broken. Solicitor McTigue looked into it, and as his letter shows, Mr. Black did have the right to vote. The process was correct.

Mayor Policastro asked Service Department Superintendent John Scherpenberg to explain how the Public Works and Services Committee came to a decision about what to include in the grass-cutting contract. Mr. Scherpenberg said that we had two options for a contract. The first option would have been to ask for a flat rate for cutting all areas once per week. As a possible way to save money, they considered the second option of asking for a price to cut irrigated areas more often and non-irrigated areas less often, with the Village getting money back if the weather allowed the contractor to cut the grass less often. We used this option when Grass Cor had the contract and they gave us a credit of \$1400 for the Municipal Building and \$500 for Dale Park, but then we had them do extra work during leaf season, so it ended up balancing out. Last year, since the bids came in around \$5000 less than in previous years, we decided just to ask for a flat rate. It's been his experience that most contractors take into consideration that there will be two or three weeks in the heat of the summer or in the case of a drought that they will not have to cut and they factor that into their bids. When Mr. Scherpenberg met



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with Mr. Scheeser last week, they discussed the 'flat rate' option and an option to list each individual parcel and have the contractors submit a bid to cut each parcel once per week and give the Village a credit if hot and dry weather eliminated the need for cutting that often. It was decided that it would be too hard to police the work, because we would constantly have to check each area to see when it was cut and how often and keep a running record of the expenses, so they decided to just get bids with one flat rate.

Energy Aggregation

Mr. Stelzer said the Finance Committee is continuing to investigate the energy aggregation agreement. They have made contact with other communities who have entered into agreements or are currently considering doing so. They did reach out to Indian Hill for advice because they were the first community to sign an aggregation agreement. They have also spoken with the City of Cincinnati since they just entered into an agreement. The committee is benefiting from communicating with other communities. They are also speaking with representatives from Duke Energy. There are a lot of things to consider here. There are different types of aggregation agreements and we need to understand all the pros and cons and the possible savings for residents. There is still a lot of homework to be done before they can make a recommendation to Council. They have also discussed the radios requested by the Maintenance Department and will have another Finance Committee meeting to discuss a recommendation.

Tax Abatement For Mariemont Theatre Expansion

Mayor Policastro explained that about eight years ago, we put a 'fence' around a certain area of the Village as a reinvestment area where if \$50,000 or more is spent, they get a 50% abatement and the theatre is in that area. Mr. McTigue clarified that the abatement is only on the increase in the value of the property. Mayor Policastro said we have been working hard to add two more screens to the theatre. It is going to cost around \$1.5 million dollars for all new technology plus the building. The theatre asked for a 100% abatement. We went to the school board who approved it right away. Mr. McTigue said it is legal to do this. We created the Community Reinvestment Area in 2007 and that automatically allows for a 50% exemption on the increased value of property. These abatements are primarily driven by the school board, because the school board receives the vast majority of the taxes that are generated. When we took this to the school board, their lawyers wanted to tweak a little bit what we wanted to do. We agreed with that and the school board did approve it and that is why we are here now to ask Council to go ahead with this. Mr. McTigue said where we may be losing a small amount in real estate taxes, this should generate an increase in earnings taxes because the theatre will have to hire more employees. Building Commissioner Dennis

Malone said the Village gets about 11% in real estate taxes while the school gets about 66%, so it is a relatively small impact on the Village. Mayor Policastro said this should be helpful to bring a restaurant to the Square and it will also help Mr. Greiwe with developing his third and fourth condominium projects in the Village. Mr. McTigue said this is certainly legal to do, but more than that, in his discussions with the school board's lawyers, it seems it will be a good deal for the Village. What we included in the resolution is that if they don't use that property for a theatre, the exemption would go back to 50%. Mayor Policastro stressed the exemption is just on the new part of the theatre. Mr. McTigue said the owner of the building, Dan Spinnenweber, would be spending about \$800,000 in improvements, and the theatre owner, Gary Goldman, would be spending about \$600,000 into the new screens and technology. Mr. Wolter says this shows a real commitment from Mr. Goldman that he plans on being here for a long time.

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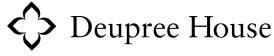


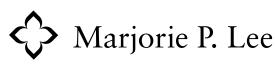
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