

# VILLAGE VIEWS

TERRACE PARK • OHIO

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VOLUME 26, ISSUE 2

February 1992

## Council Seeks Tree Grant, Approves Recycling Survey

Village council at its February meeting moved to obtain a \$10,000 grant for tree purchase and planting in 1993. Grants are being administered by Ohio's Department of Natural Resources for the National Small Business Tree Planting Program.

Winning approval to apply for the grant, Barbara Howland noted that while it is restricted to tree planting, it would free village tree assessment funds to allow pruning-up of trees which, planted in recent years, now need work to prevent interference with traffic.

Council gave its approval also to a proposed survey on recycling suggested by Camilla Warrick and Robin Pendery of the Village Recycling Awareness Committee. The survey, expected to be distributed through Village Views, would probe village opinion concerning existing recycling measures and possible curbside collection options.

Other Council-related business:

\* Assistant Life Squad Chief Sally Gilchrist reported that eight residents will begin squad training in a class opening February 18th, and listed 11 squad calls in January.

\* Fire Chief Pierce Matthews reported that five residents had indicated interest in taking training, and reported two fire runs by the village fire department and two responses here by Milford during the past month.

\* Police Chief Bob Bacon said his department had received \$400 as its share in a car sale resulting from a drug arrest, and had turned another vehicle over to the FBI.

\* Mayor Casteel referred to committee complaints concerning signs on the village green and mal-adjustment of flagpole lights. Responding to complaints of litter along Stumps Lane and the former railroad right of way, he noted that those are private properties beyond village jurisdiction.

\* Building Inspector Tim Harth reported issuance of only two permits for \$13,500.

\* Council denied a waiver of Community House use fee requested by Dot Sperry for a hospital-benefit rummage sale.

\* Council approved an ordinance raising to \$65 from the earlier \$15 the fee required to file an appeal for a zoning variance.

\* Real estate developer Jack Brendamour has proposed to exercise the first-refusal option in terms clouding the sale of 7.8 acres of village-owned property at the west side of Wooster and Elm to Mr. and Mrs. William Woods. Village solicitor Bob Malloy said that it may be up to the courts to resolve the issue.

The Woods had bid \$81,000 for the tract, proposing to build a home and stable, and accepting a provision limiting any future development to seven houses. After long discussion and over the protests of three residents, the Zoning Board of Appeals granted them permission to house four horses as against the present limit of three.

Brendamour sold the tract to the village in 1982 for \$103,000 in settlement of long litigation during which he filed suits for \$1,000,000 each against the village and its council. He charged bad faith in negotiations over a disputed plan to build

## Chief Bacon Reminds Residents To Comply With Leash Law

The Village has received many complaints from residents about other residents who walk their dogs without a leash, as required by Village Ordinance or who allow their dogs to run free without any control. I would like to remind each resident that your dog must be on a leash at all times unless confined on your property. One of the most used arguments against this law is that "My dog is trained and is always under my control." In 99% of the cases, these folks are probably correct. However, some feel they have control and don't, and this is when we have someone bitten or injured.

Another complaint is that residents who do comply with the leash law are confronted with dogs running loose, and the leashed dogs are injuring their owners in an attempt to get to the dog that is loose. What I ask of each resident is to be considerate of your neighbors. Think about how it is going to affect other people when you make the decision to allow your dog to run loose. Please help us to make this community safer, a place where all can walk and play without fear of what situation may present itself around the corner. Thank you.

Col. Robert W. Bacon  
Chief of Police

## School Plans Reading Garden As Memorial For "Mrs. K"

Following the death of Terrace Park Elementary School teacher Ann Kempczinski in July of last year, the school's staff, parents and students have considered ways of paying tribute to this extraordinary person. It has now been proposed that a reading garden be erected in Mrs. K's memory in the courtyard area in the rear of the building, as a special gathering place for children and adults to spend time reading.

Mrs. K's Reading Garden will encircle a crimson maple tree already planted in this area. It will be

surrounded by ground cover, encircled by paver paving, with four limestone benches.

Cost of this memorial is estimated at \$4,000.00. Terrace Park PTA has already donated \$2,000.00. It is hoped that the additional funding will come from private donations. Donations may be sent to Terrace Park Elementary School, in care of Mrs. Lin Bollinger, with checks made payable to "Mrs. K's Reading Garden." Planners hope to complete the project by May.

## Village Records To Be Organized By Commission

A village records commission, called for by state law, was formally organized on February 11. Members are Mayor Randy Casteel, Village Solicitor Bob Molloy and Village Clerk Janet Popelka, with Esther Power as records coordinator.

With Mrs. Power having, over the past year, organized records from the early days of the village, the aim now is to set up proper record-keeping within each department.

Mayor Casteel renewed an appeal to anyone having any old village records in their possession to return them to Mrs. Power.

## TP Fire Department Sponsors "Fire Safe House" For Kids

Terrace Park Fire fighters plan to bring a "Fire Safe House" to Terrace Park to give elementary-aged children an opportunity to experience fire safety techniques in an actual house setting.

The "Fire Safe House" was put together by a group of Blue Ash businessmen and donated to the Blue Ash Fire Department, which loans it to other communities. It is an actual model of a two-story home, constructed on a trailer. Children enter the house to learn hands-on how to get out of a house in case of

## TP's Tax Rate Ranks High In County

Terrace Park's total and effective residential property tax rates are the second highest in the county, according to a tabulation by the county auditor's office.

The village's total rate of 103.98 mills, is topped only by the 106.6 levied against property owners in the Kenwood Fire District area of the Mariemont School District. The Terrace Park effective levy, on which taxes actually are paid, is 63.88 mills, as against the 64.18 mills paid by residents of that part of Cincinnati in the Finneytown School District.

The effective levy is an adjustment made so that voted tax levies do not yield more as property values increase.

The effective levy is an adjustment made so that voted tax levies do not yield more as property values increase.

This demonstration is set for Saturday, March 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon in the rear parking lot of Terrace Park School. Children are encouraged to come according to the following time schedule: 9-10 a.m., first and second grades; 10-11 a.m., third grade; and 11-12 noon, fourth through sixth grades. Fire Department officials urge parents to attend with their children.

fire or smoke. While attending the "Fire Safe House" demonstration, Terrace Park youngsters will also be able to try on fire equipment.

Marvin Alexander, foreman of the village maintenance crew, isn't one to throw out something he might have use for later.

## Prompt Police Inquiry Nabs Burglary Suspect

Prompt checking into any possibility led Terrace Park police to a quick solution of a \$27,000 burglary at Hiners' service station at Wooster and Elm on January 22.

Most of the loot, except for \$1,200 in cash, was recovered.

The break came when Sgt. Mike Wright investigated a radio report of the capture of three men breaking into a Newtown service station. Clues picked up by a state investigator established that the three were involved in the Hiners burglary as well, and Terrace Park officers promptly obtained a search warrant for the Madisonville apartment of the three.

"It was unbelievable," said Chief Bob Bacon. "The place was full of all sorts of things, from vending machines down to medicine bottles taken in other burglaries."

The hoard included tools, test

equipment, battery chargers, cases of oil and other things stolen here.

Because the Hiners safe had been forced, village officers called an agent of the state Bureau of Criminal Investigation into the case. His matching of footprints here and at Newtown implicated the three Madisonville men in the Terrace Park burglary.

Chief Bacon said it was possible that the three had not planned the Terrace Park burglary but seized an opportunity when they saw Wright arrest an intoxicated driver and take him to police headquarters for testing and booking.

Bacon said the youngest of the three told him that the gang leader had always warned the group to "stay away from Terrace Park," and so was surprised when he pulled into the rear of the service station and proceeded to break in.

## St. Thomas Church Members Honor Pat Matchette

In August, 1992, Pat Matchette will complete 20 years of service as Music Director of St. Thomas Church. To honor her ministry, members of various church choirs surprised Mrs. Matchette with a program of lively song following the January 25th Annual Dinner.

Under Pat's leadership, members of St. Thomas Church enjoy an exceptional music program, featuring the Senior Choir, Junior Choir, and Women's Choir. In addition, Pat pulls together occasional choirs, such as the Christmas Family Choir, Messiah Choir, Men's Choir and Teen Choir to enhance certain times of worship. Many residents of Terrace Park have been entertained by countless musicals, skits and pageants which Pat has written and directed.



Pat Matchette

## PTA Features Dr. Thompson As Speaker

Dr. Donald Thompson, Superintendent of Mariemont City Schools, will be the featured speaker at the Terrace Park Elementary School PTA evening meeting, Tuesday, March 3. The PTA Board meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. in the school gymnasium, with the speaker following at 7:30.

Dr. Thompson will be on hand to discuss the 6.95-mill tax levy which will appear on the May ballot. He will respond to residents' questions concerning the reasons for the amount of increase being sought and how the monies will be used.

The PTA encourages all parents as well as all other Terrace Park residents to attend so that they may make informed choices about this important issue.

## Employee Ingenuity Saves Money

Marvin Alexander, foreman of the village maintenance crew, isn't one to throw out something he might have use for later.

There was the hydraulic lift equipment salvaged from a snow plow the village once owned. With a little ingenuity and welding, he fitted it to the village's new leaf machine, to handle the heavy pickup hose.

Built in at the factory it would have cost the village \$1,800.

## Commissioners Set To Meet In TP

Hamilton County's Board of Commissioners will hold a neighborhood meeting in Terrace Park on March 18 in a move to make the workings of county government more accessible to area residents.

The meeting at the Community House will begin at 9:30 a.m. Time will be set aside at the opening of the meeting to hear questions or comments.

Commission meetings are broadcast on cable TV (Channel 14) on Sundays at 12:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. and Fridays at 6 a.m.

## AARP To Meet

John Kiesewetter, radio-TV editor for the Cincinnati Enquirer, will tell "Tales of the Tube" at the March 9 meeting of the Terrace Park chapter, American Association of Retired Persons. The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the undercroft of St. Thomas Church.

# Church Holds 116th Annual Meeting

At its 116th Annual Meeting on January 25th, St. Thomas members re-elected Senior Warden John Tolleson and Junior Warden Hank Phillips for second one-year terms. New members elected to the church's 12 member Vestry for 3 years were Jenni Adair, Rodger Hara, Tucky Harrison and Wendy Howard. Offgoing Vestrypersons are George Comfort, Lee Hollister, Karen Long and Janet Popelka.

Treasurer Beatty Collins reported that a record response to the church's stewardship campaign pushed 1992 pledged income to over \$400,000 for the first time.

Major themes at the meeting were the success of Thomaston Woods—the church's low-to moderate-income housing project in Clermont County (see below)—and the challenge to make St. Thomas Church more accessible to the handicapped.

The Annual Meeting of St. Thomas Housing Corporation, which followed, honored offgoing trustees Bob Dunlap, Alan Joslyn and Beth

## Area Girl Scouts Plan Celebration

Terrace Park Girl Scout Troops will hold a recognition day Friday, March 13 in the elementary school cafeteria from 3:30-4:30 p.m. March 12 is the official 80th birthday of Girl Scouting in the United States. Each Girl Scout troop will present a brief skit or song for entertainment. Anyone ever participating in Girl Scouts is invited to enjoy the festivities.

Girl Scout leaders in Terrace Park are Linda Swensson, Renee Mabry, Teresa Hawk, Sandy Wittman-Shell, Julie Rugh, Lin Bollinger, Jill Croswell, Suzanne Lakamp and Janet Sarran.

Dear Editor:

We'd like to thank those who attended our January meeting to learn more about the programs we conduct for the children of Terrace Park. Your suggestions and offers of assistance have been duly noted and are much appreciated.

Our regular meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas Church. Our meetings are open to the public and we welcome your

To The Editor:

A few weeks ago, we attended the monthly meeting of the Terrace Park Recreation Commission, where, among other issues, was discussed the necessity and reasoning behind the increase in pre-registration fees for participation in sports activities. Like several others present, we had questions regarding the fairness of the \$100 per family fee and the expenditures that brought it about.

During the meeting there was misunderstanding on both sides of the issue. Those of us who distributed and signed a letter questioning the fee were never in disagreement as to its probable necessity, as pointed out in detail by the Chairman. Many of us do feel, however, that the increase should be based on a child-per-sport structure with a per family cap. Given the amount of funding needed to effectively provide a recreation program in our community, the number of children participating, and the number of families represented, one should be able to come up with a formula that is fair to both small families with minimal participation and large families who take full advantage of the programs offered. The current fee structure leans toward the "family membership" concept, and, we don't

Kauffman for their service. Newly elected trustees are Flach Douglas, Tucky Harrison, Grahm Jollis, and Minor LeBlond. Pierson Davis is president, and Rodger Hara and Jason Popelka are vice-presidents. Ted Ringwald replaces Helen Barnett as secretary, and the new treasurer is John Hodges. New head of the Thomaston Woods Operating Board is Nan Cowan.

Major successes noted for Thomaston Woods were: (1) The first family moved in on New Year's Eve, 1990; one year later the project was 97% filled and had families on a waiting list; (2) over \$50,000 in grant monies were obtained for the project last year by a committee headed by Rodger Hara; (3) the church is staying actively involved by providing a "lifeskills program" headed by on-site Coordinator of Resident Services, Hope Webster. Programs include adult basic education, budgeting assistance, family nights, Bible classes, and an after-school tutoring program led by Linda Smith of Terrace Park.

## Preschool Holds Fund Raiser

St. Thomas Nursery School will hold the fourth annual Easter Room fund raiser the week of March 22 in the church undercroft. Along with Easter basket stuffers, this year's sale will include many hand-made gifts from children and a variety of decorating accessories for the home. Proceeds from this event will help purchase new items for the preschool. All Terrace Park residents are invited to shop Sun., March 22 from 3 to 5 p.m., Mon. through Thurs. 9 to 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2:30 to 3 p.m., and Sat. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

participation.

Sincerely,  
Terrace Park Recreation Commission

Editor's Note: Terrace Park Recreation Commission drafted this letter after its January 20 public meeting. It was submitted after the January Village Views was ready to print. I regret any inconvenience this has caused.

a program where all are encouraged to participate.

We trust that the Recreation Commission will continue to keep expenditures at a reasonable level. We also need, as participants, to do our part to help hold costs of operations and, therefore, fees down. The program needs volunteers to help deter the labor costs involved in maintaining our facilities. Please do as we have done and contact a coach or commissioner with your time and talents.

Other senior adults need to become more involved. Grandparents are excellent coaches and players...all that experience. Perhaps we can organize some more activities aimed at our older athletes.

Lastly, we are not against having the finest possible recreational facilities and programs, and we think that we do. We believe that the Recreation Commission, team coaches and volunteers are doing an excellent job, but that communications must be improved and maintained to prevent misunderstandings.

Sincerely,  
James P. Schubert  
Kathleen A. Schubert

**Ash Wednesday**  
The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 4th, with Holy Communion and imposition of ashes at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday on March 3rd will be marked by a pancake supper.

### Lenten Series

A series of Lenten programs will be offered on six Wednesday nights beginning March 11 on the theme, "Love one another as I have loved you." Six different speakers will deal with such topics as "Loving Yourself" and "Loving Your Enemy." Programs begin at 7:30 and conclude with the service of Compline at 8:30. Babysitting is provided from 7:30 to 9:00, and anyone interested is cordially invited.

◆◆◆◆◆

Dear Editor:

As a local volunteer for the American Field Service, I am writing with a plea that more area families will consider becoming AFS host families for high school students from abroad. I have long been very proud of our community for embracing our high school student exchange program. We have all seen the tremendous merits of the program and how AFS has been a valuable partner in bringing the world to our doorstep in the form of vivacious young students from around the globe. At the same time, AFS has provided our own local students with the opportunity to set out and see the world for themselves. This year, however, area AFS chapters are facing a very real crisis. Simply put, we need host families to sustain the program in our community.

Host families come in all shapes and sizes. The one over-arching requirement AFS has is that host families are able to provide the love and support that all teenagers need. If we are unable to find area families who are willing to be AFS host families, it is not just the foreign student who misses out. Our community as a whole would lose the opportunity to share and learn from one of these students. These are young people who come away from the AFS experience and go on to do great things. Cesar Gaviria was once an AFS student. Today, he is the President of Colombia. The vice president of the Czechoslovak parliament and dozens of ambassadors around the world are former AFS students. When we bring these young people to our community, we become hosts to tomorrow's leaders, healers, educators, and peacemakers.

The experience of being a host family is deeply rewarding and, above all, fun. It is also important to know that AFS has a strong volunteer presence here and that host families and students can count on the support of AFS throughout the year. I urge more families to find out more about hosting an AFS student from abroad for a year. It is truly an unforgettable experience.

Sincerely,  
Bill Tobin "AFS Volunteer"  
271-5931

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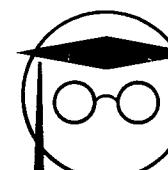
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By Dianne Donnelly

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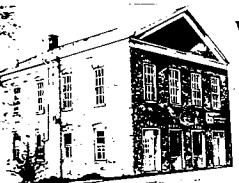
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find ways to look out for each other. The children focus on this year's theme in their daily school lives. They are reminded over the P.A., they read printed signs in the halls, they are rewarded for service in assemblies, and they receive personal notes of thanks for service in the mail. Children can realize that service brings great satisfaction. Adults sometimes need that same inspiration.

The dedicated volunteers of the Terrace Park Fire Department have not lost sight of the fact that service brings satisfaction. Evidence the long years of service of Chief Pierce Matthews (24 years), Captain Dennis Elliott (23 years), Captain Mimi Matthews (19 years), Senior Engineer Tim Harth (16 years), and Assistant Chief Jeff Carle (11 years). Ranging in years of service from 5-24 on the department, these and 11 other firefighters now appeal for help. More public servants are needed on this team.

There is a common misconception that a firefighter has to be able to perform all the firefighting duties. Not everyone can climb to the top of a ladder or enter a burning building wearing an air mask. But most adults are able to assist with hooking up a hose or driving a truck. Flexibility utilizes each person's strengths. Techniques such as using leverage instead of strength are used to help individuals overcome weaknesses.

The T.P.F.D. responds when there is a need in the village. Needs range in severity from serious emergencies, such as extracting victims from auto accidents and extinguishing house and auto fires, to minor problems like rescuing animals from trees or cliffs and pumping out flooded basements and garages.

The T.P.F.D. responded to 46 calls last year. Only a few of these runs were fire-related. Calls for help usually follow a seasonal pattern, according to Dennis Elliott. Spring storms bring downed trees and wires. Summer runs can involve accidents on the river or garage fires. Fall problems include smoke-related fires or furnace malfunctions. Winter calls are commonly fireplace or chimney-related.

Terrace Park firefighters begin their careers as average residents, age 18 or older, with no necessary experience or fire background. They begin with a commitment and willingness to take a 36 hour state-approved course in firemanship. During this course they learn about the chemistry of fire, use of hoses, ladders, and self-contained breathing apparatus (S.C.B.A.), how to salvage, how to protect property, and how to avoid panic. T.P. firepersons agree this course provides excellent training, not only in how to fight fires, but also in how to prevent them.

Following the state test, novice firefighters are given every possible opportunity to fight real fires set to old property ready for demolition.

In addition to this practice Dennis Elliott, Captain and Training Officer, runs two drills per month during which all village firefighters are present. One is an evening drill lasting 1 1/2 hours, the second a Sunday morning 3 hour drill. During these drills, the team reviews the use of equipment and strategies, tests equipment, and acquires new information deemed important by the state.

T.P. firefighters are equipped with their own personal helmets, coats, pants, and boots. In addition to the clothing items, they are provided with a radio with rechargeable beeper, and red lights and sirens for their personal automobiles. The village pays the \$1,200 cost of this equipment so the hope is, once out-

fitted, a person will serve for several years.

Normal team response time is five minutes from the time the 911 call comes in until the team arrives on the scene. All firefighters in the village at the time of the call will respond. (There are no scheduled shifts.) The T.A.S.K. Unit will usually go along with at least one of the pumpers. A minimum of five department members will respond to a call in addition to the police, who are on the scene first.

The T.P.F.D. has a written mutual aid contract with surround-

ing communities. They collect the information from residents, print and later sell the directory. Proceeds from these fund-raisers go to update equipment. In 1981, the T.A.S.K. Unit, the vehicle that carries all non-fire related tools and equipment, was purchased with money generated by these events. Other purchases have included rescue rope, 2 chain saws, hand-held emergency lights, and man-saver bars for the pumper. An ambulance was purchased in 1985.

T.P.F.D. members want residents to know that they consider



Dennis Elliott dons a SCBA tank, assisted by Pierce Matthews and Mimi Matthews.



Mimi Matthews, aboard the TASK Unit, displays the rescue rope and hose tester as Dennis Elliott looks on.

ing communities. If backup is necessary, it is usually provided by Indian Hill or Milford.

T.P. firefighters discussed a variety of reasons for joining the department. Chief Matthews once belonged to a civilian "fire buff" group in Cincinnati when he assisted in fighting fires in the role of "water boy".

Mimi Matthews, the chief's daughter, admits she grew up with an emergency radio announcing fires, so it became a way of life for her. It seemed the natural way to serve the community. Mimi was the first woman in the state to become a certified firefighter in 1973. She goes on to tell that a few years back, 6 women served T.P.F.D., some concurrently with E.M.S. Those women were Molly Harrison, Pat Hamm, Diana Greer, Ann Lindell, and Judy Lance (Schneider). (In the Fall of 1981, an all-woman team responded to a house fire call in Milford. Molly Harrison drove the truck while Mimi, Pat, and Diana served as the crew. Their mission was a success.)

Dennis Elliott worked on fire equipment during his Army years, so it made sense to continue using the equipment when he returned to civilian life.

Tim Harth once lived next door to the firehouse. He says he was up anyway every time the sirens sounded, so he decided to join.

Terrace Park Volunteer Emergency Services, Inc. (T.P.F.D. and E.M.S.) sponsor several fund-raisers in Terrace Park. The annual Pancake Supper is held at the elementary school the first Saturday in November. Biannually, these groups sponsor the Village Phone

themselves neighbors helping neighbors. Residents are reassured when their panic in an emergency is calmed by familiar faces responding to assist.

An example of this personal touch involves a Christmas morning chimney fire several years ago. After the fire was extinguished, the fire team assembled in the front of the house and sang, "We Wish You A Merry Christmas!" At other times, firefighters give assistance in finding a place to stay or advice concerning the safety and condition of the house following an emergency.

While the E.M.S.'s job is a response to an emergency, usually related to an accident or health problem, fire department runs are usually more involved with saving property. E.M.S. responds to fire department runs to handle the human component aspect.

The T.P.F.D. needs volunteers, especially for daytime duty. Terrace Park currently pays \$6,500 annually for daytime (6 am - 6 pm) service from Milford. Retired men and women, or men or women who work in or near Terrace Park might consider responding to the plea for help.

Current recruits are Tony Lehman, Jack Gambetta, Bob Donnelly, Lee Nordloh, and Matt Perry. The team needs 12 recruits to schedule the training sessions here in Terrace Park. Please call Tim Harth (831-5400) or Pierce Matthews (831-2196) if you will help. Join the team of quiet community heroes who know that there is satisfaction in service.



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## Monte Carlo Tickets

After-Prom Tickets to Monte Carlo Night at Mike Fink will be on sale February 24-28. Tickets are available to Mariemont juniors and seniors at \$8.00/single or \$15.00/couple. Call Eileen Stratton at 271-5273.

## Church To Hold Rummage Sale

The Bazaar Committee of St. Thomas Church is organizing a Rummage Sale for Saturday, March 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Planners hope that residents will donate furniture, household items or clothing they wish to dispose of after spring cleaning. For further information, contact Patty Hara, 561-4645.

## CCDS Honors TP Students

Four Terrace Park students have earned honors at the Cincinnati Country Day School for the first quarter of the 1991 academic year. Being recognized for their achievements are Lee Jennings, grade 10, Alex Phillips, grade 10, Larissa Myslik, grade 11, and Sandra Scholl, grade 12.

Cincinnati Country Day School middle school student B.J. Cotter of Terrace Park has been named as a recipient of a Charles F. Yeiser award for high academic achievement, citizenship, leadership, co-curricular activities and sports.

The award, which carries a \$100 honorarium, is given to selected new students in grades 6-8. Yeiser was an alumnus of Country Day and headmaster from 1971-77.

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