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VOLUME XXIV ISSUE 11 December 1998



Season's Greetings





Burton Good relaxes at his Marietta home after his historic surgery. Photo by Cyndy Finnigan

Terrace Park Residents "InSync" with Cutting Edge Surgery

By Cyndy Finnigan

On Tuesday, November 3, two Village residents united with University Hospital to make US medical history. Heart surgeon Wes Fisher operated on 79-year-old Burton Good, successfully installing a new type of pacemaker for people suffering from congestive heart failure. Doctors hope this pacemaker, smaller than a credit card, will help people live longer, better lives. It might delay or possibly prevent the need for heart transplants in some patients.

Congestive heart failure involves a gradual weakening of the heart muscle, resulting in shortness of breath, swelling in the legs and fluid buildup in the lungs. Causative factors include heart attacks, high blood pressure, viruses and genetic defects. The American Heart Association estimates that nearly 5 million Americans have congestive heart failure. Lifestyle changes and medications may help slow the disease, but the only 'sure-fire' cure in extreme cases is a heart transplant. About 2,300 transplants are performed annually for all causes of heart disease, about 74% on patients under 65. Medtronic, Inc manufactures the new medical device, named the "InSync" pacemaker. If successful it will be a major breakthrough in treatment of congestive heart failure.

Mr. Good, a Terrace Park resident since 1958, was selected by Dr. William Abraham, heart failure specialist at University Hospital, to participate in the American trials of the InSync device. Although fairly stable prior to surgery, Mr. Good was unable to exert himself comfortably and lacked energy due to his weak heart. The pacemaker, if successful, would resynchronize the beating of his heart to maximize its function, thus allowing him to be more active.

What makes the InSync different is the inclusion of a third wire, in addition to the two wires found in standard pacemakers, thus driving the left side of the heart as well as the right. Mr. Good underwent four hours of surgery and two days of hospitalization. He was restricted in the use of his left arm for the first month and in some activities, but he now has the green light to "do what he feels up to doing." Three hours of weekly therapy, medication and a diet he calls "low in everything tasty" keep him on the way to recovery.

Mr. Good states he is "feeling pretty well." The catch is he doesn't know if his pacemaker is actually turned on! He is participating in a double-blind study. Doctors hope to install 225 of these devices at 20 medical centers nationwide. No one will know if his or her pacemaker is activated for the first three months. This way doctors may be able to account for the placebo effect sometimes seen in post-surgical patients' reports of how they feel. Mr. Good will find out on February 3, 1999, if his pacemaker has been on or off; all pacemakers will be activated after the three-month wait.

Dr. Fisher, a Cardiac Electrophysiologist specializing in heart rhythms, hopes this will become a new niche for heart failure therapy. Moving with his family to Terrace Park 18 months ago from Washington, DC, Dr. Fisher flew to Ottawa, Canada to observe the operation before attempting the surgery here. "It's a very long, complicated, labor-intensive surgery," states Dr. Fisher. "The beauty of the device is that you can get 100% patient compliance with it. Not only will the pacemaker help resynchronize the heart beat, but it will also optimize blood flow in the heart."

Mr. Good is in regular contact with Dr. Fisher and is on the "hot line" to him if things go awry. "The doctors and University Hospital have been wonderful," asserts Good," and I am glad to be part of a study that may benefit a great many people."

Housing Contoversy Continues in Council

By Katy Wood

At the December 8 meeting, Council was asked if the position of Building Inspector was open, and how one might apply for it. [The position is appointed yearly by the Mayor and will be done so in January. Anyone interested may apply.] This was resident Robin Murphy's (701 Lexington Ave.) opening question. She also asked, "what it would take" for Council to be convinced that residents are concerned about zoning issues.

Both Mayor Jennifer Comfort and Dan Keefe, Chairperson of the Planning and Zoning Committee, attempted to assure Mrs. Murphy that Council is aware of such concerns. They informed her that monthly Planning and Zoning meetings are the best forums for residents to express their opinions. This committee has reportedly been struggling with zoning issues since February 1997, and meetings have not been well attended by residents. Mr. Keefe outlined a three-step process for changing zoning regulations. A new regulation must first meet approval by Planning and Zoning. Secondly, a public hearing must be held. Thirdly, Council must approve the change.

A brief discussion of the issues indicated that residents are primarily concerned about the increasing size of new construction dwarfing already existing smaller homes. Mr. Keefe indicated that despite considerable effort, Planning and Zoning has not found a practical solution for increasing zoning restrictions on new construction. (See October *VV*, p.6).

Mr. Keefe and Mayor Comfort agreed with resident Carol Hird (803 Floral) that homes with historical significance might require special protection, and reiterated that concerned residents **would** have a voice at Planning and Zoning meetings. Additionally, Mr. Keefe announced that the Planning and Zoning Committee would begin conducting a quarterly review of all building permits.

In a related issue, Greg Malone (945 Elm Ct.) approached Council concerned about a new building permit submitted for lot #8 on Elm Ct. Mr. Malone questioned the advisability of new construction there, given the failure of the drainage system (through the tunnel) to adequately handle June '98 storm water. Mr. Tim Harth, Building Inspector, replied that the developer's plans to comply with Village water detention requirements had been reviewed by engineer, George Kipp, and that he had not been given any reason to deny the permit. Mr. Keefe informed Mr. Malone that a building permit could be appealed by going to the Board of Zoning and Appeals. He added that in his opinion Mr. Malone has "a legitimate issue for appealing."

Council article continued on page 3



Notes from a Music Teacher's Life

By Cyndy Finnigan

Terrace Park's resident musicologist Ann Gatch has been teaching local children how to play the piano for 32 years; sometimes instructing the children of former pupils. She treats them to a piece of candy at the end of a lesson and applies colorful stickers to songs learned, hoping to encourage the youngsters to stay tuned.

Ann, the oldest of seven children, grew up on her great-grandfather's farm on Garfield Avenue in Milford. Her father grew up in Terrace Park and attended high school here. She went to Milford High School until her sophomore year before transferring to Hillsdale (now part of The Seven Hills School) for two years. Ann graduated from Smith College with degrees in Music and English; she went on to acquire a bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Cincinnati. She taught for one year at a girls' private school in New Hampshire, before entering WWII as a WAVE in 1942. She completed 'boot-camp' at Hunter College in New York and training in Atlanta to become a Link Trainer Operator. She was assigned to Pensacola, teaching Naval Air cadets instrument navigation.

She remained in that position for three years before returning to school on the GI Bill at the University of Michigan, where she received her masters in Musicology. Moving back to Cincinnati, Ann became the first music teacher at Cincinnati Country Day School in 1950. She instructed students in piano and singing for 35 years. After living for a time in Mariemont, in 1958 she moved to Terrace Park, where she has lived since. With two grand pianos, and organ and a harpsicord, Ann gave lessons before and after school. Still busy teaching, Ann also enjoys performing with the Music Lover's Club (an amateur ladies music group) and the Keyboard Club, a Cincinnati institution which she joined as a charter member in 1937.

An avid traveler, Ann made frequent visits to her brother in the Foreign Service. A favorite trip was an African safari with the Cincinnati Nature Center. She has worked as a librarian at the Pattison library in downtown Milford, only cutting back after eye surgery a year ago. Although somewhat sidelined, with careful planning and the help of family and friends, Ann will continue to enjoy her music and activities for years to come.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Mrs. Littlehale,

November 11, 1998

The following is an open letter to the editor.

About three months ago I received a letter stating that the Aframe style sign in front of my store, which has been in existence for approximately seven years, was not an approved sign and "...should be removed until such time, if any, that they receive approval...." (Letter from Daniel A. Keefe, undated). After three months, several meetings, numerous presentations and many telephone calls and conversations, the issue was tabled last night by the Village Council, and the approval process is to begin anew.

Most indecisive situations arise, in my opinion, from a lack of direction or commitment to a policy that would guide the decision-makers. I believe that the Village Council lacks this commitment.

I see the question around which a policy needs to be formed as follows. What level of visible public presence can a business project into this community that is compatible with the nature of the community? Placing it in terms of the current situation, how much needed signage can I have before it offends the residents?

No one from the Zoning and Planning Committee nor the Council nor William Drackett, the only resident to have voiced complaint, has been able to articulate why my individual sign has become so offensive as to require removal, especially in light of its long existence with no previous complaint. All reservations have centered on speculation and supposition of what could be. The decision on my sign today should not be based on what someone else, an imagined bad person, might

It is time for Council to develop a vision for businesses in Terrace Park and not wander in the wilderness of indecision. It is time for Council to work with businesses as individuals for the betterment of Terrace Park and not group them with make believe adversaries. It is time for Council to lead and govern Terrace Park in the manner in which this body was intended. It is time to use its backbone and make decisions.

Sincerely yours,

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<u>January Deadline:</u>

The January deadline for Village Views is January 11, the second Monday of the month. All cameraready ads and articles must be submitted by 9 p.m. on Monday January 11, 1998. All advertisements go to Gerri Kennedy at 152 Wrenwood. All articles go to Gillian Littlehale at 2 Denison

Advertisements for Village Views may be placed in a variety of sizes. A business card size (2 x 4) is only \$24 per month. A classified ad is \$5 to village residents only. Full payment must accompany ad. Call Business Manager Gerri Kennedy @ 831-2388 for additional rates. Village Viewswelcomes your business.

Village Views welcomes reader mail. Signed letters to the editor must be received by 9 p.m. on the second Monday of the month. Please limit length to 350 words. Letters over 350 words will be published as submitted subject to space availability. Send to Village Views, P.O. Box 212, Terrace Park, OH 45174 or e-mail to GILViews@aol.com

Who to contact:

News & Editorial: Gillian Littlehale @ 831-6248 **Announcements:** Features Coordinator Cyndy Finnigan @ 831-5121

Business Manager Gerri Kennedy @831-2388

Advertisements:

Where to Send:

Village Views P.O. Box 212 Terrace Park, OH 45174 Articles are accepted in any form. If possible the staff prefers to receive contributions on disk. Save articles on disk as MicroSoft WORD files. Please put your name, article name and date on disk. Or e-mail your articles to GIL Views@aol.com

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Holiday Interview with The Rev. Wes Hinton

Associate Rector, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Terrace Park By Noel Julnes-Dehner

What do the holidays mean to you?

'There's no place like home for the holy days." The Gospel of John says that God loved us first and that we experienced that first love in our mothers' arms. Later we experienced it in our families, and through people in our parish

To return "home" at Christmas is to return to the place where we first experienced God's love for us. For some that may be in the house in which we arew up, for others it may be the parish in which we worshipped and where people love us. And some of us have become those graying parents, aunts, uncles, etc. waiting for others to return to us.

A person comes to you and says, "I can't feel the spiritual part of Christ-

mas, the love and joy." How would you respond?
I would respond, "Tell me more," and I would listen. Depression around Christmas is not unusual and I am familiar with the way in which depression can obliterate a sense of God's presence along with feeling in general.

Why depression? Possibly because of loss of family members, of an idealized Christmas, and also there is less sunlight. When our minds and bodies suffer depression, so do our spirits.

Finally, a trip to the altar rail to pray for healing. I still find it miraculous to see how often a simple, verbal acknowledgement of God's presence can begin the healing process.

What is your favorite holiday symbol?

I like the tree! That wonderful pagan symbol covered with family decorations collected over the years. And the lights! There is something about a tree that embodies a sense of life and peace. And with a warm fire and a storm outside, there is something womb-like about the room. You know that you will have to go out into the world, but for the moment.

Jesus had his time in the womb, basking in its warmth and peace. With his birth he took the first steps toward the storm of his crucifixion, but for the

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Council Sets Long Range Goals

By Jennifer Comfort, Mayor of Terrace Park

As the New Year approaches, Council has a clearer vision of where we want to take Terrace Park in the years ahead. At a September 1998 long range planning meeting, members of Council, village officials and interested residents discussed our weaknesses, our strengths and our goals for the future. The goals were prioritized by Council interest and distributed to appropriate Council committees for action. If you have questions or input regarding a particular project, please call the committee chairperson, listed below. We will have updates on these projects presented at future council meetings. Please remember that the best way to get the real scoop on what is going on in your village government is to come to Council meetings!

The results of the meeting are as follows. Goals within each committee section are presented in descending order of priority.

GOALS FOR ENTIRE COUNCIL

- Continue responsible spending habits
- Continue to promote community and family
- Continue to show respect for all people and ideas
- Continue to support volunteerism
- Make more effort to recognize citizens who give to the community
- Communicate more effectively with the public *
- Continue to avoid tax increases and, if possible, lower taxes
- * Be more proactive
- Investigate the advantages of the Charter form of government *

GOALS FOR PUBLIC WORKS (Dan Startsman)

- Make more infrastructure repairs—streets
- Make water main improvements ASAP, with or without state help
- * Put together or update long range infrastructure repair plan
- Accelerate sidewalk program
- Continue at least present level of maintenance services
- * Acquire more maintenance personnel
- Consider sewers

GOALS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (Julie Rugh)

- Continue at least present level of safety, consider increasing Acquire emergency generators for community
- Put more money into safety & emergency services:

Radios for the fire department

New sirens and lights for the police cars

Replace intoxilizer

Larger firehose

- Upgrade computer systems
- More police "presence" in the community
- Replace 1953 fire Jeep

GOALS FOR PLANNING & ZONING (Dan Keefe)

- Investigate the feasibility of adding a boulevard down Wooster Pike with bike path
 - Put together a long range land use plan:

Consider creating a committee that includes a variety of residents not on Council Consider larger firehouse and archives storage

- Be more responsible to private zoning issues
- Investigate possibility of acquiring school property if that fits into long range plan
- Encourage development of a condo/retirement unit, so down-sizers do not have to leave, if that fits into long range plan

GOALS FOR BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (Stephen Holmes)

- Make capital improvements and repairs to current buildings:
- New furnace in community building
- Air condition the community building
- Create or find safer storage for archives

GOALS FOR RULES & LAW (John Finnigan)

Investigate the possibility of a long term lease of ODNR real estate

GOALS FOR FINANCE (Jack Brown)

- Consider allocating more money for recreational activities
- Save any surplus for emergency use
- Consider allocating more money to the tree program

Council continued from page 1...

Safety Committee Chairperson, Julie Rugh, gave a first reading of a resolution to hire an additional full time police officer. Mrs. Rugh stated that this recommendation was made following considerable review of police logs and comparison of time spent by officers patrolling the Village vs. time spent on other legitimate activities. The committee concluded that there is a need for increased coverage during the evening shift in order to increase visibility. This need is due in part to a decrease in the availability of auxiliary officers. Mrs. Rugh noted that while incidence of crime has not increased, type of crime, such as domestic abuse and adult drug abuse, has become more severe, necessitating more time spent on investigation and paperwork.

Rules and Law Chairperson, John Finnigan, has reviewed parking regulation ordinances in regard to parking on Stanton Road, along Stanton Field. During soccer seasons particularly, parking on Stanton has presented major safety and residential concerns. Presently, there are "no parking" signs on only the field side of Stanton, even though there is an ordinance restricting parking on both sides. It was concluded that additional signs should be installed to comply with the ordinance and that the police should provide stricter enforcement. It was also suggested that the recreation commission communicate to coaches that parking is available behind the elementary school.

Additional business included the following:

- Village employees were granted a 3% salary increase for
- Fire Chief Glassmeyer announced that the squad has 2 new firefighters, Tim Grabenstein and Steve Wilson. More volunteers are needed
- Mayor Comfort announced an opening for a new archivist, a volunteer position requiring approximately 5 hours per week
- Resident Becky Carmen questioned Council's lack of action regarding the Elm Rd. bike/walk path
- A U.S. Cycling Federation Racing Event to take place inTerrace Park is being coordinated with Councilperson Stephen Holmes
- Auxiliary police officer Bradley Lloyd was sworn in
- Sarah and David Lewis were commended for their recent efforts in widening the abandoned railroad path through Terrace Park

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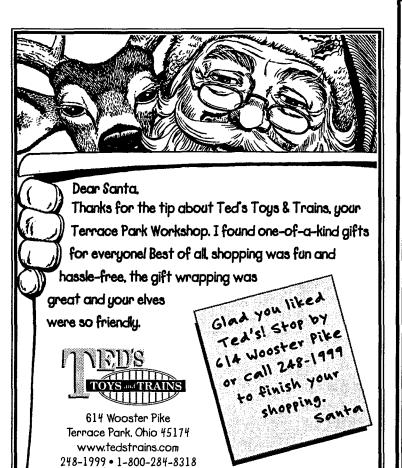
Christmas Eve Services 5:00 PM Family Service Traditional Service

8:00 PM Traditional Service

Pastors Bill Bowdle, Ben Weisbrod Youth Director Deb Tuttle 5125 Drake Road 561-4220

Classified Ad

I would like to buy a copy of A Place Called Terrace Park. If you have a copy that you would like to sell, please call Jane Yancey @ 831-1246. Thanks.

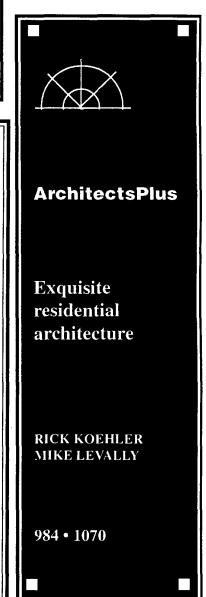


You're Invited

to stop by the recently updated Terrace Park web site at http://www.TerracePark.com



If you are interested in a free listing or a page of information on the site about your club or organization, or if you want information about being a sponsor, visit the site for details or contact Gregg MacMillan at 248-2121 or by email at gjm@macwww.com



Neighbor to Neighbor

NEW IN '98!

By Dick Johnson, Enrolled Agent

It's not too early to start thinking about April 15! There is something new to take note of on the 1998 1040 and 1040A tax form. The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 provides for a \$400 credit in 1998 (increasing to \$500 in 1999) for each "qualifying child" you claim as a dependant. A "qualifying child" is your birth or adopted child, grandchild, stepchild or foster child under the age of 17

For certain higher income taxpayers, there is a credit phase-out. The amount of the credit is reduced by \$50 for each \$1000 (or portion thereof) of modified adjusted gross income above a threshold amount of \$110K on a joint return, \$75K on a single, head of household or qualified widow (er) return and \$55K on a married, filing separate return.

If the child tax credit is greater that the amount of income tax owed, the excess may be refunded under a formula that takes into account your share of social security taxes and the amount of your earned income credit.

Young Adults' Essay Contest Announced

Public Allies is sponsoring the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream" Essay Contest. Young adults, between the ages of 15 and 30, are invited to submit creative, reflective essays of no more than 1000 words, typed, doublespaced, on 8 1/2 x 11 paper, answering the following questions:

What is your Dream for your community?

What types of leaders are needed for the Dream to become a reality? Preliminary judging will narrow the field to 24 Distinguished Essays. Three Outstanding Essays will be selected from each of three age categories (15-18, 19-23, 24-30). A select number of essays, with permission of the authors, will be chosen for publication and public reading at Barnes & Noble's Sycamore Plaza location on Sunday, January 17, 1999.

Essays may be submitted by mail or in person to the office of Public Allies at 411 Oak Street, Suite 301, Cincinnati 45219, by the close of business on Monday, December 27, 1998. Please include your name, date of birth, address, daytime and evening telephone numbers on a cover sheet. Do not include this information on any other pages. Questions may be directed to Jeff Hutchinson @ 559-1300.

Kid Smarts—The Resource Guide for Parents

Kid Smarts is a guide no parent or caregiver should be without. The only one of its kind in Greater Cincinnati, this book has information on childcare, educational opportunities, community health, safety and recreation. This directory is a cooperative effort by Margie Powers, a graphic designer from Ft. Thomas and mother of three, and Comprehensive Community Child Care, a United Way agency. The cost of this 144-page guide is only \$5. It can be purchased at the Mariemont ET classroom or from the 4C office @ 221-0033.



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TSHS Annual "Books for Lunch" Tickets On Sale

The community is invited to hear nationally acclaimed novelist Russell Banks at noon on Friday, February 5, in the Omni Netherland Hotel Hall of Mirrors. The author will speak at the luncheon on his latest novel, Cloudsplitter, about abolitionist John Brown. Sponsored by the Seven Hills Upper School Parent Association, the event also includes a Dinner with the Author on the evening of February 4. Ticket prices are: Lecture/luncheon only-\$35 each; Dinner with Author only-\$50 each; Patron (includes to Dinner with Author tickets and two luncheon tickets -\$175; Sponsor (includes two Dinner with Author tickets and a table for eight at the luncheon)—\$400. Reservations are requested by January 25. For reservations and more information, phone Marsha Belonsky @ 321-0008 or Carol Boymel @ 984-8490.

NUTS FOR KNOWLEDGE

Get your supply of delicious holiday nuts from Mariemont Kiwanis Club members or from a designated area bank: 5/3, Home Federal, PNC, Provident or Star Bank. This campaign benefits deserving Mariemont High School seniors with college scholarships.

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St Thomas Choir of Men & Boys CD Available

The Saint Thomas Choir of Men & Boys, Carleton Monroe, choirmaster, is selling a CD of live and studio performances, O Sing unto the Lord a New Song. To purchase the CD, contact Carleton Monroe at St. Thomas Church. The price is \$10, and the funds raised will be used to offset music camp costs for the boys and to help with travel expenses when the Choir performs on the road.

The choir will present a Festival of Lessons and Carols at St. Thomas Church in Terrace Park at 4 p.m. on December 20. Village boys currently in the choir are Logan Barnhill, Bradley Carman, Austin Fisher, Colin Fisher, Mitchell Frey, Hunter Phillips, Mac Phillips, Reed Seward and Carter Woolsey.

Think Fast

By Officer Doug Sowders, Terrace Park Police Department

What costs society \$44,193 per minute? Check your speedometer as you drive home! Exceeding the posted limit and/or driving too fast for conditions are the most prevalent factors contributing to traffic crashes. Speed is a factor in nearly one-third of all fatal crashes. Speed-related crashes cost society more than \$23 billion a year. Too few drivers view speeding as an immediate risk to their personal safety or the safety of others. Yet speeding reduces a driver's ability to steer safely around curves or objects in the roadway, and it extends the distance required to stop a vehicle in emergency situations. Did you know the following facts?

- Rural roads account for over 60% of all speed-related accidents
- 66% of speed-related crashes involved a single vehicle
- 60% of all speed-related fatal crashes occurred at night (6 p.m. to 6 a.m.)
- Drivers involved in speed-related fatal crashes are more likely to have a history of traffic violations
- On average 1,000 Americans are killed every month in speed-related crashes

Please take these statistics into consideration over the busy holiday season.





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St. Thomas Church Invites You to

Celebrate Our Lord's Birth with Us

December 20, 4th Sunday of Advent

8:00 am - Communion, Sermon, Music 9:15 am - Christmas Pageant, Communion* 11:15 am - Communion, Sermon, and Choir* 4:00 pm & 7:00 pm - Lessons & Carols, Choir of Men & Boys

December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00 pm - Communion and Children's Creche Filling* 8:00 pm - Communion, Sermon, Men & Boys' Choir* 11:00 pm - Communion, Sermon, Messiah Choir

December 25, Christmas Day

10:00 am - Communion, Sermon and Music

December 27, First Sunday after Christmas

8:00 am - Communion, Sermon and Music 10:00 am - Communion, Sermon and Choir* (No Church School)

*Nursery Care

Police Reports Oct/Nov **YTD** Help Runs 18 188 Mutual Aid Runs 12 04 137 Investigations 14 17 180 Arrests or Citations Alarm Drops 05 01 53 Prop. Fd. Unsecured 04 03 64 Accident Reports 02 00 16 Domestic Violence 00 11

Terrace Park Village Crime and Police Activity

Noted:

There were 6 DUI arrests, up from none in Oct. and Nov. Please watch drinking and driving during the holidays

There were 5 thefts from vehicles. Juveniles are suspected due to the type of CDs stolen

There were 2 juvenile drug arrests. LSD was confiscated

FVI:

"Help Runs" are defined as anything outside the parameter of arrest or investigation (e.g. response to a silent 911, response to a car lock out, etc.)

"Mutual Aid Runs" occur when police officers respond to a call from a neighboring community

"Alarm Drops" occur when and alarm goes off and police are called to investigate

Citizens' Forum on Housing Scheduled for the New Year

By Camilla Warrick

The ongoing debate in Terrace Park over big homes on small lots has taken a new turn.

Organizers of an informal citizens group have invited an architect, a zoning expert and an historic preservationist to a public forum at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 20 at the Community House. They will be asked whether changes could or should be made to the village's zoning code to preserve architectural, historic and economic diversity.

Speakers will be David S. Arends, president of Architecture One, Inc. and secretary of the Mariemont Planning Commission; Robert H. Richardson, an architect with the city of Cincinnati; and Beth Sullebarger, executive director of the Cincinnati Preservation Association.

The source of dissension is the increasing number of "tear-downs" — the old, small homes that get bulldozed so larger, pricier homes can be built on the same lot. Developers say they are responding to the demands of a vibrant market and thereby increasing property values throughout Terrace Park. Robin Murphy, a Lexington Ave. resident, who moderated the first public meeting, made it clear that she doesn't like the practice and wonders whether all building restrictions are being honored. "If there are people who aren't following the zoning code and are being granted variances, I want to know why," she said at the meeting on November 11.

Others, including Alice Eberhard of Stanton Ave. challenged the current arrangement in the village whereby Tim Harth, one of the most active builders, also serves as building commissioner, although he inspects none of the homes he builds or remodels.

Ms. Eberhard said she thought it would be a better use of public money to have a commissioner who has no actual or potential conflicts of interest. As it is now, the village pays Harth a stipend and also pays an outside engineering firm to inspect any work that his company does.

About 40 people attended the meeting, representing a spectrum of opinions and professions, including the building and architectural trades. A majority of the people at the gathering were approaching retirement age and are longtime residents.

"What bothers me," said Jill Sauter of Denison Lane, "is the reckless abandon of tearing down a small house which is perfectly lovely and putting up a huge monstrosity with no regard to who or what's next door." Others spoke of the frustration of being that next-door neighbor and for the first time feeling crowded and enjoying much less privacy.

Does that violate current laws? No, said builder Stock Keffer, a resident of Denison Lane. "If everything meets modern codes, setbacks, rules and regulations, then there's no argument." Keffer noted this isn't the first time Terrace Parkers have quibbled about new construction. "I sat in a meeting like this 12 years ago," he said. "... I can't tell you how many people were buying up extra lots and building on them. Heck, I was one of them."

A concern then and a concern now is how large homes on small lots endanger the open, park-like look of the village. Attorney Ken Bassett, a Miami Ave. resident, said, "you can't legislate aesthetics. It's just not going to work" in an established community. It would only work at the launch of a sub-division.

However, he said that the zoning code could be modified to put in height restrictions and "to limit the square footage of a house based on the size of a lot." This was done in Newton, Mass., a Boston suburb, to ensure that large homes would be placed only on large lots. On a 10,000-square foot lot houses may not exceed 3,000 square feet, excluding the basement and attic.

Lee Cole, a Myrtle Ave. resident, said he knows of a local business owner (and former resident) who "has been buying up some of the small houses so no one else can get them." His intent, Cole said, is to keep them available for people who prefer or can afford no more than a modest home.

Bill Drackett, a founding partner of Drackett-Harth Construction, fielded many of the questions challenging either Harth or the building practices of his company. He said that "any time anyone would like to come and have a tour of one of those houses under construction, you are welcome to do so."

For more information about the citizens group, the upcoming forum or about the group's survey, interested persons may call Carol Hird @ 831-9204 or Linda Naylor @ 248-4250.

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The Perez de Olaguer presepio on display.

"Let Heaven and Nature Sing"

An eighteenth century treasure is on display at the Taft Museum this holiday season until January 10, 1999. A Neapolitan nativity scene, called a *presepio*, comes from the collection of Francesca Perez de Olaguer Angelon, of Terrace Park. This baroque work of art has been in her family for many years and may be the only *presepio* in the United States presented in the traditional manner of a stage-like setting within a domestic interior.

More than 200 objects fit into the 10' by 8' by 13' setting designed by Sycamore Street Studios. The stage is integrated into the main foyer of the Museum. In 17th- and 18th-century Naples, staging a *prescipio* was the hobby of the day.

The Taft Museum is located at 316 Pike Street. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for seniors or students, and free for members or children under 18. Admission is free to all on Wednesdays. Museum hours are Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. The Museum will be closed December 25 and January 1. For more information, call the **Museum @ 241-0343**.

Janet Sarran



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Fall Marathoners Clock Some Miles

By Robin Pendery

183.4 miles! On two consecutive Sundays this fall, six Terrace Parkers collectively completed seven marathons. Nuts? Maybe. Healthy? Certainly!

Terrace Park residents Craig Sattergren, Louise Stalnaker, Paul Pendery and Robin Pendery took a scenic 26.2-mile tour on foot of our nation's capitol as participants in The Marine Corps Marathon. Cheered by thousands of U.S. Marines and civilians, it was a banner day! Mrs. Stalnaker even had her own corps of children and grandchildren assembled to urge her on.

One week later, in our nation's "apple," Theresa Bain, John Burbank and Robin Pendery accepted the 26.2-mile, five-borough challenge of the New York City Marathon. Two million people came out to cheer, cajole, encourage and gawk at this historic spectacle of human effort. It is the best 26.2-mile block party you could imagine! New York's finest hours? Perhaps!

Cincinnati will play host to its first 26.2-mile marathon this spring. Named "The Flying Pigs Marathon," due to our city's "swiney" local history. This race will be held on May 9, Mother's Day. This too could become a banner day for Cincinnati. Those of you so inclined to run-GO FOR IT! Those of you so inclined to cheer, cajole, encourage, gawk, GO FOR IT! Cheering at a race is great fun, and the marathoners need and appreciate it!

Marathoners do not have to be fast. They just need to be determined. The victory lies as much in the distance as in the speed. Could you do a marathon? Maybe when pigs fly! If you are interested in participating in the Cincinnati Flying Pigs Marathon or in volunteering in the event, please contact **Robin Pendery @ 831-8502**.



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Racers Save My Day

By Paul Pendery

After a mediocre attempt at running the Cincinnati 10K Thanksgiving Day Race, one of the oldest races in the Midwest, I shuffled across the finish line and promptly lost my way. Having spent myself trying to pass the eleven year old whom I trailed down the stretch, I became disoriented and dehydrated. I was also cursing myself for not being able to catch him or any of the other 1,500 or so people that beat me. From there, I figured things could only improve.

I was slightly mistaken. First, I realized that my tentative ride home had ditched me. I'm pretty sure they were in the van snacking on Power Bars and drinking bottled water while I was in a life and death struggle with that pre-teen reincarnation of Jim Fixx. I really don't want to mention any names here, but one of my van buddies was a very fast runner from Terrace Park and her initials are CG. Anyway, after receiving what my wife tells me were very solid instructions on finding her after the race, I must have been overwhelmed with the thrill of the event, because I quickly forgot those very good directions to her van and was left without a ride home.

Panicked at this point and with no money, I went begging for a lift. This is where my luck started to change. As I was executing my Walter Brennan hop-step all over downtown, I ran into Team Porst from Terrace Park. This included the famous distance runner himself, Mark Porst, along with the sneaky quick Michael Gaburo, fleet-footed John Finnigan, and John (the human pace-setter) Burbank. While it looked as though we may not be able to leave the parking garage due to a shortage of attendants, the problem was soon rectified, and we were on our way.

The entire ride home we traded running stories and shared the highlights of a battle well fought. Although Mark Porst did not mention it, he was the first Terrace Parker to cross the finish line in a fine 37:42. We later found out that Tony Lehman won his division, while the father and son team of Henry and Nicholas Thoman recorded very good times. Breck Weigel and Roger Davis ran another quality race this year, as did Tom Sylvest and Dennis Purcell. All in all, these runners, along with several others from TP, had a great day. Most importantly, I didn't miss Thanksgiving dinner.





Who would have expected a tropical Terrace Park Tree Lighting?

But thanks to Mother Nature & a bunch of generous folks, that's exactly what we had!

The Village of Terrace Park extends its gratitude for a festive kickoff to the holidays to the following elves:

Steve & Debbie Fletcher of Fletcher Homes for generously providing the wagon rides!

Ogle Annett of Coldwell Banker/WestShell for our Polaroid photo ops with Santal

Terrace Park Garden Club & Steve Smith of Smith's Camargo Landscaping for their help in sponsoring the event!

Kindervelt 76, Sandra Taylor & Julie Smith for illuminating us all

Incredible Davey Tree for expertly adorning our community Christmas tree!

Barbara & Clark Howland for imparting their invaluable tree lighting know-how.

Robin Pendery & Crew who offered cocoa & cookies to the festive masses!

Organizers Consie Berghausen & Jack Gambetta & Choir who led us in joyful song!

Al Nelson and his Terrace Park Band of Renowned for their musical feast!

Brownie Girl Scout Troop 4492 who offered their angelic voices!

Junior Girl Scout Troop 3430 who replaced many a tired lightbulb!

Betsy Ecker -- Seamstress to the elves!

Carol Barnes & Sandy Wittman-Shell -- photographers extraordinaire!

Holly McCormack, Associate Tree Elf, who's always up for a fun challenge!

And, of course, a huge thank you to SANTA CLAUS himself and his delightful elves!

Thanks to everyone who joined in. It was a special Terrace Park evening. If you would like to contribute to this event, please send your check to The Terrace Park Tree Lighting Fund c/o Betsy Porst 733 Elm.