

Village meetings focus on St. Thomas proposal

By Cyndy Finnigan

[Editor's note: The following article is comprised of four segments; each covers a meeting that took place during the past seven months. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss the proposed expansion of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Terrace Park. Any ordinances referred to in the article may be found at the Village Office.]

St. Thomas Church, located at 100 Miami Avenue, currently stands at 22,650 square feet. The renovation plan calls for 11,000 square feet to be demolished; 55,000 new square feet would be added for a net gain of 44,000 square feet. The completed project would be 67,359 square feet. It is expected to take two years to complete. It must be recognized St. Thomas is private property. The majority of Church members, even if they are not community members, voted in favor of the expansion proposal. Village residents who have voiced opposition to this expansion have taken pains to point out that their objections are to these particular plans, not to St. Thomas and the evolving needs of its congregation.

Three different Village Committees have discussed the proposed expansion. The Planning and Zoning Commission reviews zoning or-

dinances and recommends to Hamilton County whether commercial building permits should be issued. They decide lot split-ups and subdividing of lots; they are, in essence, the 'zoning experts' of the Village. The Commission is composed of five members; two of which are standing members (the Mayor and the Council head of Planning and Zoning). There are no special membership qualifications beyond being a resident of Terrace Park. Current members are Dick Wachterman (Chair), Dan Startzman (Mayor) Dan Keefe (Council), Ken Burkman and Barb Howland. Members serve six-year terms.

The Zoning Board of Appeals is also composed of five members. There are again no special qualifications beyond being a Terrace Park resident. Members serve five-year terms. The Board responds to applications for variances to the zoning codes; they also hear objections to building permits from the community. The members are Barb Howland (Chair), Dick Wachterman, Russ Wilson and John Bowers, with one seat currently vacant.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee has three members, all of whom are on Council: Al Duplace (Chair), Jim Peterkin and Stephen Holmes. They are responsible for Village health, sanitation, parks,

community property, building improvements and rights-of-way. Terms are served at the discretion of the Mayor.

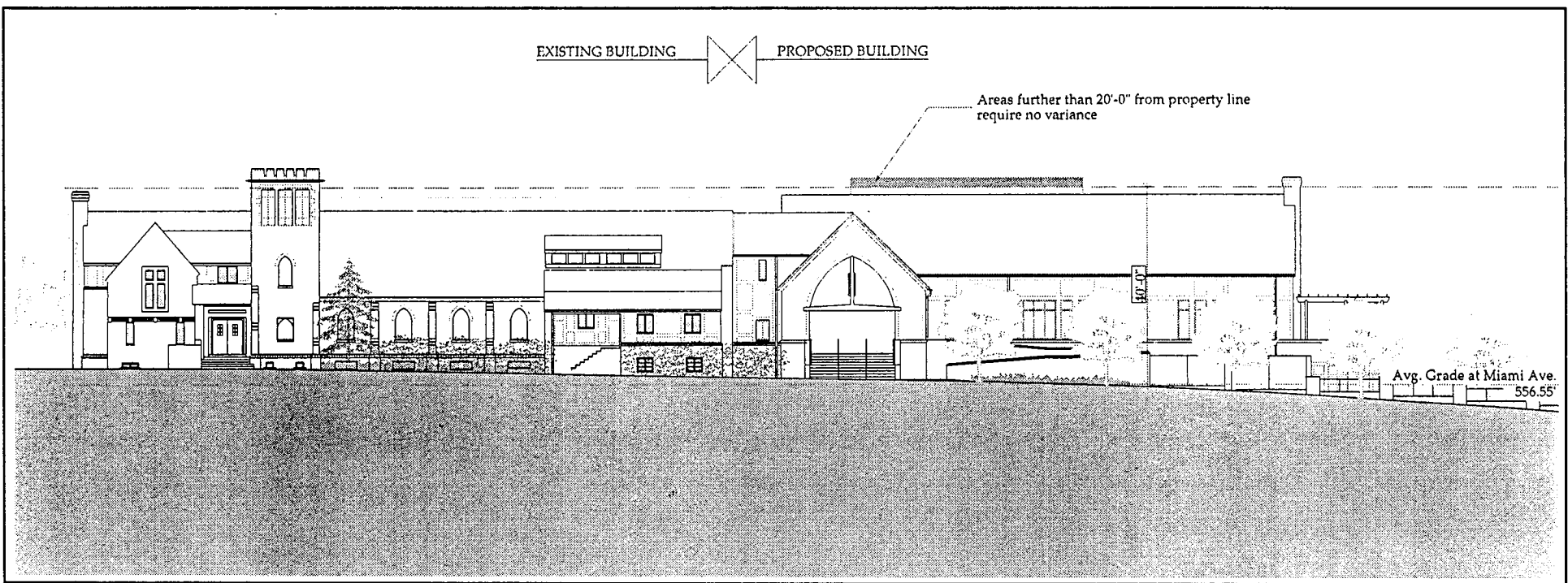
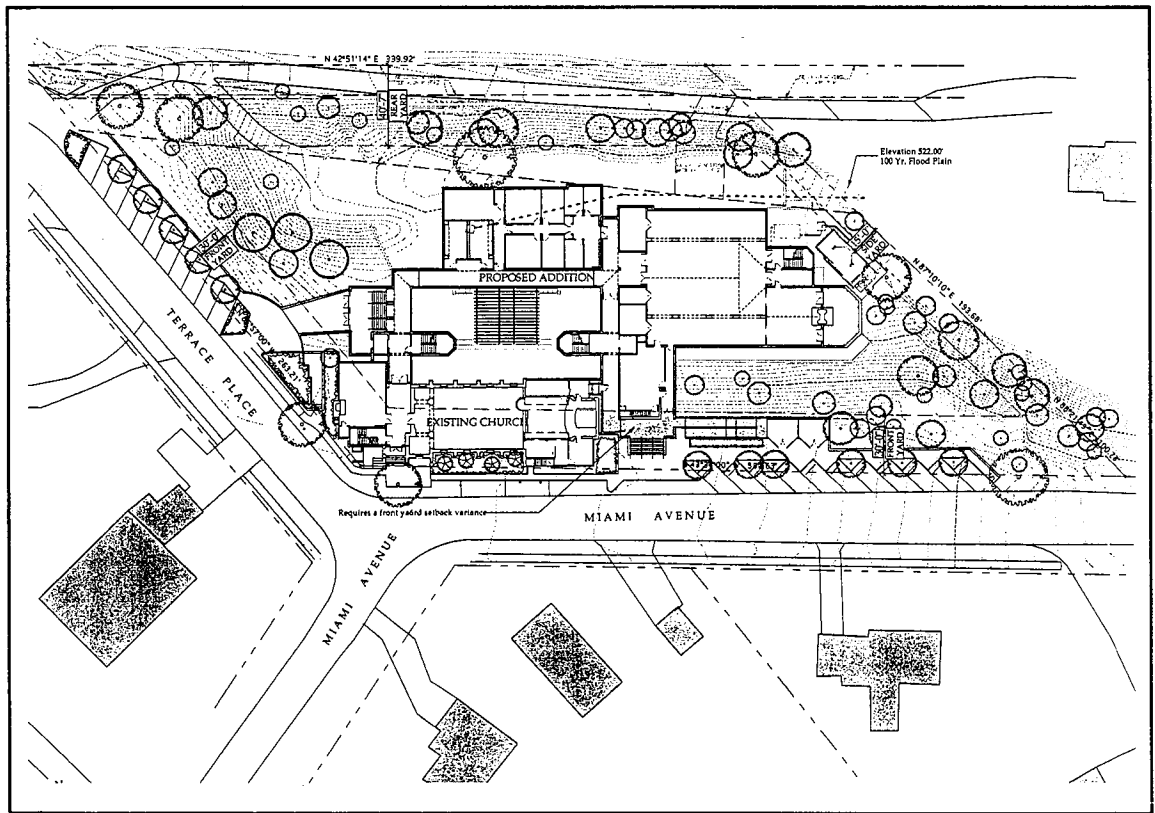
The Mayor appoints all Committee members. Meetings are open to the public; dates and times are posted on the Village bulletin boards. You may also call the Vil-

lage Office @ 831-2138 to inquire.

The Planning and Zoning Commission of T.P. met Monday, March 20 at the Community Building at 7:30 p.m. to determine whether the proposed plans for addition/renovation to St. Thomas met with current zoning codes. The Commission certifies such plans

are in compliance with zoning codes. The Zoning Board of Appeals must grant variances, if applicable, before recommendations can be made to Hamilton County to issue a building permit. At issue was whether or not the expansion

St. Thomas continued on page 4



Community interest in Church expansion evident at Council

By Katy Wood

The Community Building was packed with people, primarily those interested in St. Thomas Church expansion developments, at the September 12 Council meeting.

Representatives from the church addressed Council at the behest of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA); neighbors of St. Thomas responded.

Reverend Donald Waring (900 Princeton), Rector of St. Thomas Church, was the first resident to speak. Rev. Waring, and other Church representatives, was asked by ZBA to enter into a dialogue with the Village regarding parking and safety issues prior to further con-

sideration of St. Thomas' variance requests for the expansion of the building. Rev. Waring referred to this and to a meeting on September 11, when Church officials met with members of the Building and Grounds Committee to discuss their proposals and to solicit suggestions from Council (see Finnigan article, above).

Rev. Waring also said, "We are open and willing to discuss [the parking and safety] issues, and we welcome suggestions from the Village. We have a lot to bring to the conversation." Rev. Waring then referred to studies reviewed and commissioned by the Church. "And, we are offering considerable financial

resources to improve the rights of way around the Church, because so many Church users park in those places. Legally we are not required to do so, but we feel it's the right thing to do."

Residents Jeff Chapman (111 Terrace Place), Wes Fischer (402 Miami), John and Karen Souhrada (110 Terrace Place), Annie Bauer and Riley Humler (108 Miami), Jerry Koszycki (305 New St.) and Jeff Koreman (212 Cambridge Ave.) responded with concerns regarding the impact on the community of the Church's 44,000 sq. ft. expansion. (If construction begins, approximately 11,000 sq. ft. of the current building will be demolished;

55,000 sq. ft. will be added). These concerns involved parking, congestion, safety, detriment to adjoining properties and changing the character of Terrace Park.

Ms. Bauer suggested a community forum to examine the impact, noting that immediate neighbors of St. Thomas had not been considered in the Church's long-range planning.

Mr. Humler observed, "St. Thomas has done an admirable job of being a community church for 93 years. Now, it seems, they are trying to be something else. We've been assured that the quadrupling

Council continued on page 9

A luncheon honoring Butch Sowder, Village maintenance crew member, will be held Sept. 29 from 12-2 p.m. at the Community Building. Mr. Sowder is retiring after 25 years of service. Please stop by to say goodbye and wish him well; as well as thank him for his years of dedication.

LEAF COLLECTION Begins on October 16 no brush collection at this time

Letters to the Editor

8/29/00

To the Village of Terrace Park:

There are heroes living among you in Terrace Park! I should know because they are my parents. They are quietly and peacefully fighting a battle that has been waged against not only their home, but also the home of deer, birds, fish, hedgehogs and rabbits that live happily in their yard. These heroes are working to preserve the beauty and the balance of YOUR neighborhood.

There are those among them who want to destroy what [my parents] are trying to protect. They are of the mind that bigger is better. Bigger is NOT better when it will destroy an eco-system as well as the very spirit of a neighborhood. This is NOT progress, this is a huge step backwards.

Is there not anywhere that is safe from these pillagers? I know that my family thought Terrace Park was a haven from this sort of environmental assault. It CAN remain a haven from that negativity if you, their neighbors, stand behind them and support them in what is right. I ask you, not only as their daughter, but as a defender of nature, to do what you can to prevent a great injustice being done to your neighborhood!

Elizabeth Souhrada Kilminster
Charlotte, NC

September 2, 2000

To Members of the Terrace Park Zoning Committee and Board of Appeals:

Having attended three meetings (one in May and two in August) concerning the plans for the expansion submitted by St. Thomas Church, I am compelled to set forth a few comments.

The magnitude and scope of the project are almost inconceivable. I am disappointed that the plans have not been publicized widely enough to acquaint more Village residents with them.

At the meetings, I have sensed some unwillingness on the part of St. Thomas representatives truly to listen to and address concerns expressed by those residents whose property lies within close proximity to the Church.

The additional 55,000 square feet to the existing building will make the facility the single dominating feature of our community. It will announce that Terrace Park is an Episcopalian village—a concept not borne out by statistics which indicate that only approximately 20% of St. Thomas attendees are Village residents.

Yes, I am in the demographic category of "older person". No, it does not follow that I am therefore against change. What I do object to is what I perceive to be unreasonable or unfavorable change that will affect the tenor of the entire community while benefiting largely a single institution.

Should the proposal come to full fruition, the resulting end product will impart to me the message that the Church is not here to serve the Village; rather the Village is here to serve the Church.

Respectfully,
Elizabeth Martin
608 Lexington

September 5, 2000

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thirty-five years ago my wife and I moved to Terrace Park with three children. Here we found everything we wanted for our young family. Close proximity to schools, church, recreational facilities and all located in a safe environment.

St. Thomas Church has served our needs well in that time with confirmation, family weddings and baptism of four grandchildren. Although St. Thomas is Episcopalian by denomination, it is also a community church. On a regular basis it opens its doors to many outside activities. It sponsors Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts and Brownies, meetings of the Terrace Park Recreational Committee, Parent-to-Parent, quilting and sewing groups, AARP, Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon. The Nursery School and Vacation Bible School are open to the public. Space in the Church columbarium is available to all Terrace Park residents. The Church facilities are open for public meetings. During times of community strife, i.e., the Mariemont teachers' strike, it was St. Thomas that offered space for group meetings to seek a solution. The Red Cross designates St. Thomas as a shelter in the event of a local emergency. Christmas dinners have been held in the Undercroft for Village employees.

Now the Church wants to upgrade and expand its facilities to meet its needs and the needs of the community. Again public meetings have been held and are being held to meet the needs of all. Meetings to address the concerns of the Church's neighbors are being held even as this letter is being written. Volunteers and professionals have planned for three years tirelessly to answer all the issues. We support the plans of St. Thomas Church and strongly urge the Village Council and involved committees to approve these plans.

Sincerely,
Doug and Anne Cherry
402 Yale

David L. Fritz, D.D.S.

Family Dentistry



614 Wooster Pike
Terrace Park, Ohio 45174

Telephone
(513) 831-1331

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. All signed letters will be printed as submitted; however, minor editing for grammatical and typographical errors may be necessary. Content will not be edited. Any questions should be directed to the editor. **Send to Village Views, P.O. Box 212, Terrace Park, OH 45174, e-mail to GILViews@aol.com or fax to 831-4581.**

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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. The deadline is the second Monday of every month at 9 p.m.

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Advertisements for *Village Views* may be placed in a variety of sizes. A business card size (2x4) is only \$24 per month. A classified ad is \$5 to Village residents only. **Payment must accompany ad.** Call Business Manager **Gerri Kennedy @ 831-2388** for additional rates. *Village Views* welcomes your business.

October Deadline :

The Oct. deadline for *Village Views* is **Oct. 9**, the second Monday of the month. All camera-ready ads and articles must be submitted by 9 p.m. on Monday Oct. 9, 2000. **All advertisements** go to Gerri Kennedy at 152 Wrenwood. **All articles** go to Gillian Littlehale at 2 Denison Lane. Thanks.

LEAVING THE VILLAGE?

Subscriptions are available for only \$18.50 per year. To subscribe call **Gerri Kennedy @ 831-2388.**

September 6, 2000

Dear Gillian,

I am writing to express my support for the St. Thomas Building Project. In my opinion, the church needs updating in many areas. For one example, people who work in the kitchen say it is very inefficient, and on and on with other areas.

I think St. Thomas will do everything possible to "improve the overall parking conditions at the Church and in the neighborhood." It is obvious to say, but people who bought homes near the Church must have known that there would be cars parked in front of their homes during Church functions.

Even if a new building weren't built, there is always the possibility that the [Church] membership will grow.

I hope you will consider my view on this.

Best regards,
Mickey Davis
301 Stanton

September 6, 2000

To the Editor:

We would like to express our personal appreciation for all the hard work and dedication to youth soccer demonstrated by Rich and Patty Beyersdorfer. This year was especially challenging for the Beyersdorfers, as they prepared the soccer schedules while the number of players changed constantly.

It is easy to miss the amount of work that goes into preparing the soccer season for our boys and girls, particularly when the Beyersdorfers make it appear so simple, even during trying years like this one. But if one imagines the effect on our teams, as well as those in surrounding communities, of the mere addition or subtraction of only a few players, one begins to appreciate what an undertaking being "Soccer Commissioner" can be.

Again, thank you, Rich and Patty, for a job well done.

The Albrechts
411 Cornell Avenue

September 8, 2000

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

As many of you know, Anne and I have been residents of Terrace Park for twenty years. We have been members of St. Thomas for over five years, and I have been a member of the Church vestry for almost a year now.

We chose Terrace Park because it is a neighborhood full of good neighbors. As the Park, and many of the people, has changed over the years, we have been very happy to see that the neighborliness remains the same.

St. Thomas is, in many ways, a founding member of this community. In fact, St. Thomas is perhaps the oldest good neighbor in the park and I would like to think that we still are good neighbors. Clearly people continue to buy homes close by knowing full well that Church members assemble there every Sunday. In fact, several of these neighbors are members of the Church.

As the Park has changed, St. Thomas has essentially stayed the same. Over the last fifty years, while homes grew larger, while the green space shrank, and while the population of the Park increased, St. Thomas expanded its offerings to help meet the needs of TP and the larger eastern Cincinnati community without expanding its facilities. As a member of the congregation I know how serious the crowding is. I would suggest that all of you visit the Church, if you haven't already, to get a first-hand look at the way things truly are.

St. Thomas needs to grow now to meet the needs of its existing congregation. These are needs other than those of the scheduled services reflected in the simple fact that the sanctuary will remain the same size. In other words, any traffic problems, dangers or inconveniences associated with this expansion are not likely to occur on Sunday morning when the majority of the current problems occur. This is so logical that I find it difficult to comprehend why the Village and the Church's neighbors don't understand.

The truth is that if a traffic and parking problem exists now, as many Church neighbors and some Council members believe, then it is a problem that has been around for fifty years. It will continue to exist whether St. Thomas expands or not.

Since this is so obviously an old problem, why don't we use this expansion to solve it rather than have this old problem eliminate the much-needed expansion that our good neighbor, St. Thomas, truly needs? St. Thomas has been, and is now, open to seeking real solutions and even helping to fund them, both on and off the Church's property. Why would the Village, and the Church's neighbors let this existing traffic problem continue when they have a willing partner, and a good neighbor in St. Thomas, ready to invest in making the problem go away?

Solving problems together is what good neighbors do. Solving this problem together will once more exemplify the neighborliness of Terrace Park. We will end up with better parking, better, safer traffic flow, and improved services for the children, the elderly, the disabled, and the congregation at large from both TP and the surrounding communities. We will continue to enhance the value of the Park to the larger community of eastern Cincinnati. We will continue to live as good neighbors, solving problems and treating each other as we would like to be treated.

This is a potential "win-win situation." Let's not let it escape our grasp!

Mark Woolsey
731 Park

Letters to the Editor continued on page 3

Dear Village of Terrace Park:

I have lost my scooter. It has orange wheels and orange handle grip bar. It is a Razor scooter by Sharper Image. My name is on the underside of the foot board in permanent marker. I saved up my own money for a long time; it was my first big purchase. I'm usually very responsible about my scooter, but this time I left it at the Labor Day parade. I left it near the Village Green. It was decorated with red and green shiny streamers.

The next morning my brother Elliot asked if he could ride it to school. By then I suddenly knew I had forgotten it. Next my dad and Elliot went to go check for it, but it wasn't there. Only my decorated bike helmet was lying on the ground. After school we filed a police report, contacted the school, posted signs and talked with those in charge of the Labor Day events. No luck!

Now today, when I went out on our front porch to put on my soccer shoes, I saw a large purple package. It had my name on it like this "Alison!" I showed my mom and dad the package. I opened the unsigned card and it read: "For a girl who deserves all good things in life. Enjoy!" Next I opened the package, it was a brand new Razor scooter!!! I was totally shocked! I hardly know how to say thanks in a way that you would really know how much this means to me, but let me try anyway—THANKS!!!

I really love growing up in Terrace Park. There are lots of nice people here. It's the neatest place you could ever live. I plan on living here when I grow up. Thanks again to everyone who helped me—including my family, the Police Department, Terrace Park Elementary School, those in charge of the Labor Day parade and carnival, everyone else who helped and a special thanks to my guardian angel.

Sincerely,
Allison Hanes, 4th Grade
805 Park Avenue

September 12, 2000

To Terrace Park residents,

If a developer had plans to build 22 new 2,500 square foot homes in the Village the potential impact on our Village would be widely discussed. In fact, the equivalent construction project is being planned. St. Thomas' planned 55,000 square foot addition will nearly triple the size of the present facility. Those of us in close proximity to the Church will most certainly be affected by the increased traffic, parking, and potential safety issues that come with a project of this magnitude. But other residents as well will feel the impact. Stretching an already busy safety force, and removing a large area of the remaining greenspace from within the Village seem to be issues worthy of discussion.

The mission of the Church appears to be changing from one of a community church to one of a regional scope. In fact, only 20% of Terrace Park residents are currently associated with the Church. The expansion of the pre-school and the nightly meetings of organizations not associated with the community or the Church are sure to bring the associated traffic, parking and safety concerns to our Village.

I do not object to the project in principle, merely the scope of the project. St. Thomas has long been a good neighbor and an asset to our community. An addition of this magnitude is outside of the scale of its surroundings. A less expansive addition and renovation to the current facility should be considered. There is surely some way for St. Thomas to achieve the goals of their ministry and to maintain the good neighbor policy that they have practiced for so long.

Concerned residents should contact their Village Council to encourage a full discussion of the impact this expansion will have on Terrace Park.

Jeff Chapman
111 Terrace Place

September 13, 2000

Dear Terrace Park Residents:

I had my first soccer practice last weekend at Stanton Field. My brother and sister came to watch. There was a lot of dog poop on the field. My brother rolled his wheelchair through it. I'm glad my baby sister didn't crawl through it!

I told my mom people should get a ticket from the police if they don't pick up their dog's poop. She said that instead they should have to come help us clean my brother's wheelchair and the inside of our van.

Please pick up your dog poop in a bag. Tell other people to do this, too.

That's all,
Henry Burbank, age 5
805 Douglas

Village Calendar 2000

SEPTEMBER

30 Terrace Park Newcomers "Harvest Moon Hoe-down", Community Building, 8:00 p.m., \$25 per couple, \$12.50 per single. **For information call Amy Timmers @ 831-1167**

OCTOBER

2 Zoning Board of Appeals, Community Building, 7:30 p.m.

3 Terrace Park Garden Club meeting, "End of the Garden", featuring speaker Peg St. Clair, Community Building, noon

3 Terrace Park Elementary "Bootique", Halloween treats, baked goods, pumpkins and mums for sale behind school, 3:20 - 5:30 p.m.

3 Mariemont Kiwanis meeting every Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the MJHS cafeteria. New members welcome!

3 Terrace Park Elementary PTO meeting, cafeteria, 9:30 a.m.

7 Terrace Park Recreation Commission Basketball sign up, grades 1-12, cafeteria, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

9 Mayor's Court, Community Building, 7:00 p.m.

9 *Village Views* deadline for articles, photos

and camera-ready ads, 9:00 p.m.

10 Terrace Park Council Meeting, Community Building, 7:30 p.m.

10 Terrace Park Elementary PTO evening speaker, Tom Shessler, Director of Technology for the Mariemont School district, 7:00 p.m.

16 Village leaf curbside collection begins and runs through November 25. No brush collection at this time

17 Mariemont Board of Education Meeting, MJHS cafeteria, 7:15 p.m. Public welcome

27 Terrace Park Elementary P.T.O. Pumpkin Festival. Games for all ages, pumpkin carving contest, Pumpkin Patch Café, silent auction, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

28 Cincinnati Dulcimer Society Music Festival featuring Paul Andry. Workshops offered at 10:00 a.m., 12:45 and 3:00 p.m. with pizza lunch. Buffet dinner at 5:00 p.m. by reservation; \$10. Open stage at 7:00 p.m. Evening concert at 8:00 p.m.; \$5 donation. For details **contact Pam @ 860-5539 or Fran @ 891-7037**

31 HALLOWEEN! Village siren sounds at 6:00 p.m. to indicate the start of Trick or Treating. Ends at 8:00 p.m.

Please submit calendar information to **Jenny Whitaker @ 248-9268** at your earliest convenience.

September 14, 2000

Dear Readers,

Those of you who attended the September Village Council meeting heard a letter from me read aloud. I would like to share my observations with the community at large.

With regard to the St. Thomas expansion, I would like to clarify one item that appeared either in *Village Views* or in the letter that was sent to residents from the Church. The issue of runoff from this project has been the topic of conversation of many Village residents. I have spoken to George Kipp and several Council members of my concern in general about the gradual loss of pervious surfaces in Terrace Park, and the resultant problems with runoff.

I believe the Church project engineers have stated that runoff would not be a problem because it would be handled by underground tanks.

I would like to point out that, although tanks may alleviate any problem with runoff on the surface, these underground tanks, just as detention basins, do have an impact on the receiving creeks, streams and rivers that they release into. These detention devices have been developed over the years to prevent flooding, but their impact on streams has just recently been documented.

These devices delay the release of stormwater, thereby extending the length of time the streams are at bankfull stages. This extends the erosive impact of the streams on the banks. To say these tanks will eliminate such impact is not true.

Whether it be St. Thomas' expansion or any other development within the Village, we must realize that reduction of open land or pervious areas will inevitably have an impact on stormwater and on the creeks and rivers that border and run through Village land. I would be happy to expand upon this with any readers.

Sincerely,
Stefan L. Olson
815 Miami

JAMES R. BELL

Attorney At Law

271-6554

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CALL FOR WEEKLY SPECIALS

of St. Thomas would require compliance with an additional "permitted uses ordinance," passed in 1988 for Residence A district (residential). This ordinance includes requirements such as minimum numbers of parking spaces.

Village Solicitor Bob Malloy informed the Commission that in his opinion the Church would not require compliance with the 1988 ordinance, as it states that uses in existence at the time were not subject to the ordinance. Mr. Wachterman stated, based on the Solicitor's comments, St. Thomas would be evaluated on the existing residential zoning requirements, not including the 1988 ordinance. (Note: further debate on interpretation of this ordinance took place at a later Planning and Zoning meeting.)

Chair Dick Wachterman also voiced concern over flood plain issues. Robert Doran, architect for the Church project, stated that based on a survey he had commissioned, he believed St. Thomas construction would not lie in a floodplain. Using a slide show and comprehensive set of drawings, Mr. Doran explained the plans accomplish these main goals of the parish:

1. Provide the parish with a Parish Hall as a social gathering place
2. Construction of a new nursery school and Church school which will be able to provide ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) access. The new construction also allows the Church to make significant upgrades in sanitary/environmental

tal matters, energy efficiency, and fire and safety matters addressed by current building codes.

Resident John Souhrada, 110 Terrace Place, spoke up to say he had consulted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Association) map. He believed the proposed construction may be in a floodway and that additional restrictions may apply to the proposed construction. (Note: According to the Commission, building in a floodplain is not prohibited but is taken into consideration). Mr. Souhrada also voiced concerns over environmental issues such as water saturation problems and destabilization of the hillside if such construction were to proceed, as well as destruction of an area that is a habitat for Great Horned Owls and numerous other species. Mr. Souhrada further stated his concerns over the possibly increased need in parking due to larger and more numerous functions that may be held in the proposed Parish Hall.

In conclusion, it was unanimously decided to have the Building Inspector, Bill Fieldler, determine in conjunction with Mr. Malloy, whether the proposed construction was in conformity with current zoning ordinances. They would also assess which variances might need to be considered, and to determine whether Terrace Park or Hamilton County would be responsible for any development that might occur in a flood plain.

On Tuesday, August 22, the Planning and Zoning Commission

reconvened to further discuss St. Thomas construction plans. Reverend Don Waring of St. Thomas addressed the members, describing how the construction proposal had come to fruition through the studies of a Church task force. Bob Doran, Church architect for the proposed expansion, gave a slide show presentation concerning the expansion. A 3-D model of the proposed structure was exhibited.

Several residents in attendance voiced their concerns, chief among them being aggravation of an existing parking problem and increased traffic congestion and resulting safety issues. Attorney Don Mooney appeared at the meeting on behalf of resident John Souhrada. Mr. Mooney argued that in his opinion the 1988 additional permitted uses ordinance was not being complied with in spirit and intent. He questioned the need for a near tripling of Church space to serve the needs of a community in which only 20% of the residents were members and only 35-40% of the pre-school classes were attended by Village children.

Resident Jeff Chapman stated his frustration with Commission members Mayor Startzman and Ken Burkman, both members of St. Thomas Church, not recusing themselves from any votes taken on the proposed construction. Solicitor Bob Malloy opined they are not legally bound to recuse themselves. Mr. Chapman replied "Perhaps not, but it would be the right thing to do."

Mr. Doran fielded several questions on the part of the Church, commenting that there had been "a fifty year hiatus in capital improvements to the Church." He did not feel there would be significant change in either use or membership, as the worship space in the Church will not be enlarged. The worship space can accommodate 280 people, which is the largest number of people the Church expects to use the new Parish Hall at any one time. Mr. Chapman and several other residents objected to this; their feeling was that the proposed Parish Hall was quite large in scale and, in Mr. Chapman's words, "if you build it, they will come."

The Planning & Zoning Commission noted that there were dimensional variances to the property to be considered. After further discussion, it was decided St. Thomas must next meet with the Zoning Board of Appeals to have these variances addressed.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met Thursday, August 24, to address the three requested variances to the proposed construction of St. Thomas.

Variance 1. Building requires a vari-

ance for front yard setback; the proposed building will encroach into the front yard setback on Miami Avenue. **Variance 2.** Building requires a variance for number of stories. A small portion of the new building may be counted as a fourth story. **Variance 3.** According to Chair Barb Howland, the current St. Thomas Church is not in conformity dimensionally with codes and therefore the entire facility will be looked at.

There are seven standard questions applied to variance issues:

1. Will the property in question yield a reasonable return or can there be any beneficial use of the property without the variance?
2. Is the variance substantial?
3. Would the essential character of the neighborhood be substantially altered or would adjoining properties suffer a substantial detriment as a result of the variance?
4. Would the variance adversely affect the delivery of governmental services? (E.g. water, garbage).
5. Did the property owner purchase the property with knowledge of the zoning restrictions?
6. Can the property owner's predicament feasibly be obviated through some method other than a variance?
7. Would the spirit and intent behind the zoning code be observed and substantial justice

done by granting the variance?

Residents in attendance addressed the Board with either their concerns or support. At the forefront again on the list of problems seen by residents due to the proposed construction was the lack of parking for such a large facility. Mr. Doran stated that the Church was prepared to work with the Village on this problem. They would 'clean up' current parking areas (84 spaces are currently used at peak time, 30 of which are in the gravel area on Terrace Place and 54 which are in the public right of way. Rights of way extend along Village streets and are owned by the Village. Anyone can park there, providing they don't cause a safety hazard. The Church would be willing and able to add 16 new places on the public right of way down Miami Ave. This requires approval by Village Council. The Church is also looking into the possibility of shuttling people back and forth from the Village Center lot on Wooster Pike. Mr. Wachterman expressed his belief that few people would be inclined to use the services of a shuttle.

Based on slides showing 'streetscapes' of what new parking areas might look like, Council member Julie Rugh felt compelled to say "I do not feel the Village is looking for formal, established parking that would detract from the hometown

St. Thomas continued on page 7



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Saturday Children's Program 5:00 p.m.; **Sunday School** 9:15 a.m.
(nursery care available)

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at 5:00 p.m.*

Whether it walks, swims or flies—
Bring your favorite feathered, furred
or scaly friend to the
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ORGAN'S GREATEST HITS

250th anniversary of Johann Sebastian Bach

Sunday, October 15, 5:00 p.m.
with organist Bradford Dale
at the keyboard!

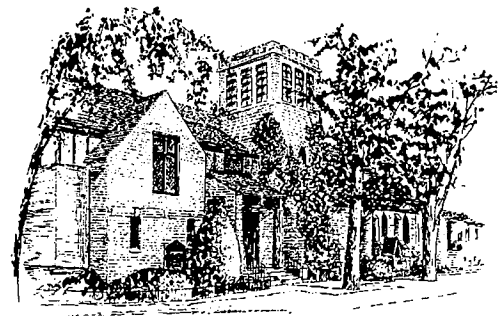
Including Bach's Toccata Fugue in D-minor
and other Bach works
based on familiar hymn tunes.

HEALING PRAYER

What: Individual prayer for the healing of
mind, body or spirit—healing of
relationships—healing for yourself,
or for another.

When: At the Saturday, 5:00 p.m.
service of Holy Communion

(Individual prayer is offered as an option)



Dear Village of Terrace Park:

I have lost my scooter. It has orange wheels and orange handle grip bar. It is a Razor scooter by Sharper Image. My name is on the underside of the foot board in permanent marker. I saved up my own money for a long time; it was my first big purchase. I'm usually very responsible about my scooter, but this time I left it at the Labor Day parade. I left it near the Village Green. It was decorated with red and green shiny streamers.

The next morning my brother Elliot asked if he could ride it to school. By then I suddenly knew I had forgotten it. Next my dad and Elliot went to go check for it, but it wasn't there. Only my decorated bike helmet was lying on the ground. After school we filed a police report, contacted the school, posted signs and talked with those in charge of the Labor Day events. No luck!

Now today, when I went out on our front porch to put on my soccer shoes, I saw a large purple package. It had my name on it like this "Alison!" I showed my mom and dad the package. I opened the unsigned card and it read: "For a girl who deserves all good things in life. Enjoy!" Next I opened the package, it was a brand new Razor scooter!!! I was totally shocked! I hardly know how to say thanks in a way that you would really know how much this means to me, but let me try anyway—THANKS!!!

I really love growing up in Terrace Park. There are lots of nice people here. It's the neatest place you could ever live. I plan on living here when I grow up. Thanks again to everyone who helped me—including my family, the Police Department, Terrace Park Elementary School, those in charge of the Labor Day parade and carnival, everyone else who helped and a special thanks to my guardian angel.

Sincerely,
Allison Hanes, 4th Grade
805 Park Avenue

September 12, 2000

To Terrace Park residents,

If a developer had plans to build 22 new 2,500 square foot homes in the Village the potential impact on our Village would be widely discussed. In fact, the equivalent construction project is being planned. St. Thomas' planned 55,000 square foot addition will nearly triple the size of the present facility. Those of us in close proximity to the Church will most certainly be affected by the increased traffic, parking, and potential safety issues that come with a project of this magnitude. But other residents as well will feel the impact. Stretching an already busy safety force, and removing a large area of the remaining greenspace from within the Village seem to be issues worthy of discussion.

The mission of the Church appears to be changing from one of a community church to one of a regional scope. In fact, only 20% of Terrace Park residents are currently associated with the Church. The expansion of the pre-school and the nightly meetings of organizations not associated with the community or the Church are sure to bring the associated traffic, parking and safety concerns to our Village.

I do not object to the project in principle, merely the scope of the project. St. Thomas has long been a good neighbor and an asset to our community. An addition of this magnitude is outside of the scale of its surroundings. A less expansive addition and renovation to the current facility should be considered. There is surely some way for St. Thomas to achieve the goals of their ministry and to maintain the good neighbor policy that they have practiced for so long.

Concerned residents should contact their Village Council to encourage a full discussion of the impact this expansion will have on Terrace Park.

Jeff Chapman
111 Terrace Place

September 13, 2000

Dear Terrace Park Residents:

I had my first soccer practice last weekend at Stanton Field. My brother and sister came to watch. There was a lot of dog poop on the field. My brother rolled his wheelchair through it. I'm glad my baby sister didn't crawl through it!

I told my mom people should get a ticket from the police if they don't pick up their dog's poop. She said that instead they should have to come help us clean my brother's wheelchair and the inside of our van.

Please pick up your dog poop in a bag. Tell other people to do this, too.

That's all,
Henry Burbank, age 5
805 Douglas

Village Calendar 2000

SEPTEMBER

30 Terrace Park Newcomers "Harvest Moon Hoe-down", Community Building, 8:00 p.m., \$25 per couple, \$12.50 per single. **For information call Amy Timmers @ 831-1167**

OCTOBER

2 Zoning Board of Appeals, Community Building, 7:30 p.m.

3 Terrace Park Garden Club meeting, "End of the Garden", featuring speaker Peg St. Clair, Community Building, noon

3 Terrace Park Elementary "Bootique", Halloween treats, baked goods, pumpkins and mums for sale behind school, 3:20 - 5:30 p.m.

3 Mariemont Kiwanis meeting every Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the MJHS cafeteria. New members welcome!

3 Terrace Park Elementary PTO meeting, cafeteria, 9:30 a.m.

7 Terrace Park Recreation Commission Basketball sign up, grades 1-12, cafeteria, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

9 Mayor's Court, Community Building, 7:00 p.m.

9 *Village Views* deadline for articles, photos

and camera-ready ads, 9:00 p.m.

10 Terrace Park Council Meeting, Community Building, 7:30 p.m.

10 Terrace Park Elementary PTO evening speaker, Tom Shessler, Director of Technology for the Mariemont School district, 7:00 p.m.

16 Village leaf curbside collection begins and runs through November 25. No brush collection at this time

17 Mariemont Board of Education Meeting, MJHS cafeteria, 7:15 p.m. Public welcome

27 Terrace Park Elementary P.T.O. Pumpkin Festival. Games for all ages, pumpkin carving contest, Pumpkin Patch Café, silent auction, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

28 Cincinnati Dulcimer Society Music Festival featuring Paul Andry. Workshops offered at 10:00 a.m., 12:45 and 3:00 p.m. with pizza lunch. Buffet dinner at 5:00 p.m. by reservation; \$10. Open stage at 7:00 p.m. Evening concert at 8:00 p.m.; \$5 donation. For details **contact Pam @ 860-5539 or Fran @ 891-7037**

31 HALLOWEEN! Village siren sounds at 6:00 p.m. to indicate the start of Trick or Treating. Ends at 8:00 p.m.

Please submit calendar information to **Jenny Whitaker @ 248-9268** at your earliest convenience.

September 14, 2000

Dear Readers,

Those of you who attended the September Village Council meeting heard a letter from me read aloud. I would like to share my observations with the community at large.

With regard to the St. Thomas expansion, I would like to clarify one item that appeared either in *Village Views* or in the letter that was sent to residents from the Church. The issue of runoff from this project has been the topic of conversation of many Village residents. I have spoken to George Kipp and several Council members of my concern in general about the gradual loss of pervious surfaces in Terrace Park, and the resultant problems with runoff.

I believe the Church project engineers have stated that runoff would not be a problem because it would be handled by underground tanks.

I would like to point out that, although tanks may alleviate any problem with runoff on the surface, these underground tanks, just as detention basins, do have an impact on the receiving creeks, streams and rivers that they release into. These detention devices have been developed over the years to prevent flooding, but their impact on streams has just recently been documented.

These devices delay the release of stormwater, thereby extending the length of time the streams are at bankfull stages. This extends the erosive impact of the streams on the banks. To say these tanks will eliminate such impact is not true.

Whether it be St. Thomas' expansion or any other development within the Village, we must realize that reduction of open land or pervious areas will inevitably have an impact on stormwater and on the creeks and rivers that border and run through Village land. I would be happy to expand upon this with any readers.

Sincerely,
Stefan L. Olson
815 Miami

JAMES R. BELL

Attorney At Law

271-6554

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CALL FOR WEEKLY SPECIALS

of St. Thomas would require compliance with an additional "permitted uses ordinance," passed in 1988 for Residence A district (residential). This ordinance includes requirements such as minimum numbers of parking spaces.

Village Solicitor Bob Malloy informed the Commission that in his opinion the Church would not require compliance with the 1988 ordinance, as it states that uses in existence at the time were not subject to the ordinance. Mr. Wachterman stated, based on the Solicitor's comments, St. Thomas would be evaluated on the existing residential zoning requirements, not including the 1988 ordinance. (Note: further debate on interpretation of this ordinance took place at a later Planning and Zoning meeting.)

Chair Dick Wachterman also voiced concern over flood plain issues. Robert Doran, architect for the Church project, stated that based on a survey he had commissioned, he believed St. Thomas construction would not lie in a floodplain. Using a slide show and comprehensive set of drawings, Mr. Doran explained the plans accomplish these main goals of the parish:

1. Provide the parish with a Parish Hall as a social gathering place
2. Construction of a new nursery school and Church school which will be able to provide ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) access. The new construction also allows the Church to make significant upgrades in sanitary/environmental

tal matters, energy efficiency, and fire and safety matters addressed by current building codes.

Resident John Souhrada, 110 Terrace Place, spoke up to say he had consulted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Association) map. He believed the proposed construction may be in a floodway and that additional restrictions may apply to the proposed construction. (Note: According to the Commission, building in a floodplain is not prohibited but is taken into consideration). Mr. Souhrada also voiced concerns over environmental issues such as water saturation problems and destabilization of the hillside if such construction were to proceed, as well as destruction of an area that is a habitat for Great Horned Owls and numerous other species. Mr. Souhrada further stated his concerns over the possibly increased need in parking due to larger and more numerous functions that may be held in the proposed Parish Hall.

In conclusion, it was unanimously decided to have the Building Inspector, Bill Fieldler, determine in conjunction with Mr. Malloy, whether the proposed construction was in conformity with current zoning ordinances. They would also assess which variances might need to be considered, and to determine whether Terrace Park or Hamilton County would be responsible for any development that might occur in a flood plain.

On Tuesday, August 22, the Planning and Zoning Commission

reconvened to further discuss St. Thomas construction plans. Reverend Don Waring of St. Thomas addressed the members, describing how the construction proposal had come to fruition through the studies of a Church task force. Bob Doran, Church architect for the proposed expansion, gave a slide show presentation concerning the expansion. A 3-D model of the proposed structure was exhibited.

Several residents in attendance voiced their concerns, chief among them being aggravation of an existing parking problem and increased traffic congestion and resulting safety issues. Attorney Don Mooney appeared at the meeting on behalf of resident John Souhrada. Mr. Mooney argued that in his opinion the 1988 additional permitted uses ordinance was not being complied with in spirit and intent. He questioned the need for a near tripling of Church space to serve the needs of a community in which only 20% of the residents were members and only 35-40% of the pre-school classes were attended by Village children.

Resident Jeff Chapman stated his frustration with Commission members Mayor Startzman and Ken Burkman, both members of St. Thomas Church, not recusing themselves from any votes taken on the proposed construction. Solicitor Bob Malloy opined they are not legally bound to recuse themselves. Mr. Chapman replied "Perhaps not, but it would be the right thing to do."

Mr. Doran fielded several questions on the part of the Church, commenting that there had been "a fifty year hiatus in capital improvements to the Church." He did not feel there would be significant change in either use or membership, as the worship space in the Church will not be enlarged. The worship space can accommodate 280 people, which is the largest number of people the Church expects to use the new Parish Hall at any one time. Mr. Chapman and several other residents objected to this; their feeling was that the proposed Parish Hall was quite large in scale and, in Mr. Chapman's words, "if you build it, they will come."

The Planning & Zoning Commission noted that there were dimensional variances to the property to be considered. After further discussion, it was decided St. Thomas must next meet with the Zoning Board of Appeals to have these variances addressed.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met Thursday, August 24, to address the three requested variances to the proposed construction of St. Thomas.

Variance 1. Building requires a vari-

ance for front yard setback; the proposed building will encroach into the front yard setback on Miami Avenue.

Variance 2. Building requires a variance for number of stories. A small portion of the new building may be counted as a fourth story.

Variance 3. According to Chair Barb Howland, the current St. Thomas Church is not in conformity dimensionally with codes and therefore the entire facility will be looked at.

There are seven standard questions applied to variance issues:

1. Will the property in question yield a reasonable return or can there be any beneficial use of the property without the variance?
2. Is the variance substantial?
3. Would the essential character of the neighborhood be substantially altered or would adjoining properties suffer a substantial detriment as a result of the variance?
4. Would the variance adversely affect the delivery of governmental services? (E.g. water, garbage).
5. Did the property owner purchase the property with knowledge of the zoning restrictions?
6. Can the property owner's predicament feasibly be obviated through some method other than a variance?
7. Would the spirit and intent behind the zoning code be observed and substantial justice

done by granting the variance? Residents in attendance addressed the Board with either their concerns or support. At the forefront again on the list of problems seen by residents due to the proposed construction was the lack of parking for such a large facility. Mr. Doran stated that the Church was prepared to work with the Village on this problem. They would 'clean up' current parking areas (84 spaces are currently used at peak time, 30 of which are in the gravel area on Terrace Place and 54 which are in the public right of way. Rights of way extend along Village streets and are owned by the Village. Anyone can park there, providing they don't cause a safety hazard. The Church would be willing and able to add 16 new places on the public right of way down Miami Ave. This requires approval by Village Council. The Church is also looking into the possibility of shuttling people back and forth from the Village Center lot on Wooster Pike. Mr. Wachterman expressed his belief that few people would be inclined to use the services of a shuttle.

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St. Thomas continued on page 7




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or for another.

When: At the Saturday, 5:00 p.m.
service of Holy Communion

(Individual prayer is offered as an option)

Susan Troller combines law and volunteer careers

By Noel Julnes Dehner

Congratulations. You are this year's president of the Junior League. What does the Cincinnati Junior League do?

Our mission is to develop the leadership potential of women by helping them be trained to be effective volunteers in the community.

The Junior League began in 1901 when NYC debutante, Mary Harriman, was tired of only going to parties and wanted to address issues in the world. She and Eleanor Roosevelt began the League and were very involved with the Settlement House movement.

The League used to be comprised mainly of people "in society." Now any woman between 21-40 can join, and more than 80% of our women work outside the home.

I joined in Pennsylvania. The partners' wives in the law practice asked me to join. I was interested in volunteering and a niche, but didn't know much about the League. That was fifteen years ago.

In Cincinnati the League has started the Cincinnati Fire Museum, the docent program at the Cincinnati Art Museum, Fernside, ProKids, Babies' Milk Fund, Woman to Woman.

About eight years ago the League adopted a program focus of "Strengthening Childhood Environments."

Currently we are involved in FLIGHT—Families Learning Is our Great Hope for Tomorrow. At Porter Hayes Washburn Elementary we provide enrichment experiences for students in this inner city school. We offer mentoring and rewards for attendance and achievement.

Also, in about ten Cincinnati Public Schools we collaborate with Barnes and Noble on Parents as Partners. Junior League volunteers go to Kindergarten or first grade classes and talk about books, give out books and packets of information, and send home an invitation to the parents for a session about tips about reading to children. At that session the parents also receive books, magnetic letters, activity books to make reading more

interactive between parents and children. The delighted response from parents has exceeded our expectations.

Our oldest project is the Choral Group, which goes into nursing homes and entertains residents with songs and dances.

We also make our headquarters available to rent at a nominal rate for other non-profit groups.

What are your goals as president?

I want to make Junior League membership more representative of the community. We've done internal studies and focus groups to identify and overcome obstacles that could keep women from joining.

We are also going to solidify funding sources. We have always relied on fundraisers but also on members. By exploring other methods we'll make sure that our membership is open to more women.

Finally, we are going to re-examine how we do our community outreach projects. We are not taking on any new projects this year so that the following year we can put together a high impact, community wide project, one that has greater reach to a greater need.

What has been a great League experience for you?

Years ago I was involved in a FLIGHT project at McKinley School in the East End. I was co-chairing a parents group because they didn't have an active PTA. The parents didn't know how to deal with school bureaucracy. It was challenging and frustrating. But the parents who did come were hungry to make a difference in and support their children. One mother worked hard and her son qualified to go to Walnut Hills, which was a very big deal.

Our children don't live in a vacuum. Not everyone they meet will have gone to a school like Terrace Park. We can't ensure their future by only focusing on our own children's needs. I feel very strongly that I have an obligation to help people outside my neighborhood.



On the trail to Dix Mountain pinnacle, left to right, Scott Williams (in water), Alex Swart, Robbie Lewis, Zac Smith, Sam Cowan, Larry Williams (directly behind Nick Ward), Ellis Ward, Randall Williams and Bruce Long.

Summer 2000 High Adventure Trip

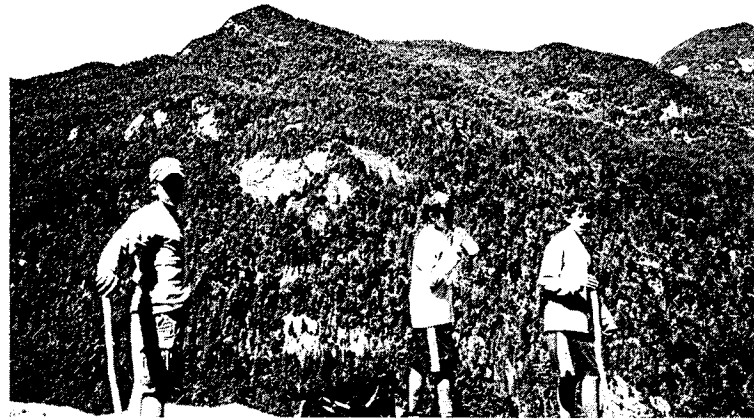
By Steve Smith

During mid-July this summer, Terrace Park Boy Scout Troop #286 journeyed to upstate New York for our annual High Adventure Trip. Each summer, we schedule an extended outing that not only provides opportunities for troop members to test their scouting skills but also experience the challenge of a unique outdoor experience in another region of the country. Past High Adventure trips include whitewater rafting, Canadian Boundary Waters canoeing and portaging, along with hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail.

This season's venture was a five-day backpacking trip to the Adirondack Mountains, specifically to the Dix Mountain Wilderness Area, within the High Peaks region of the preserve. The Adirondack Park, consisting of 2.5 million acres, is one of the oldest protected wilderness areas in the country. It is the largest park in the nation outside of Alaska.

Our Adirondack hosts were Terrace Park residents Rich and Sally Gilchrist, who graciously allowed a rather rowdy group of Scouts to use their family retreat as an overnight base camp, prior to hitting the trail. As guests of the Gilchrists, we participated in the full variety of lakeside activities such as boating, swimming, fishing and "Loon sighting".

Our route led through some of the most rugged terrain in the eastern United States has to offer. Path finding and trail blazing became a new art, in light of the overabundant amount of rainfall and storm damage throughout the northeast. Challenges



Above: On Indian Head Peak, left to right, are Zac Smith, Robbie Lewis and Sam Cowan. Below: At the Log Cabin, prior to leaving, are, left to right in the front row, Nick Ward, Sam Cowan, Robbie Lewis, Ellis Ward, Zac Smith and Randall Williams. In the back row, left to right, are Bruce Long, Larry Williams, Scott Williams, Alex Swart and Steve Smith.

during the trip included backpacking in extreme mountain terrain, crossing rain swollen waterways, direction finding and map reading under adverse conditions presented by extensive trail storm damage and related tree blow downs, and locating cooking/drinking water sources throughout the journey. Payoffs came in the form of goal setting and accomplishments, along with sweeping vistas, unlimited photo opportunities and camaraderie.

For those interested in experiencing the personal and group challenges the scouting program has to offer, Troop #286 meets each Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Log Cabin throughout the normal school year. Scout membership is open to all young men ages eleven through eighteen. Outings are scheduled on

a regular basis with a minimum of one per month. Trips include canoeing, hiking, camping and mountain biking, while community service projects are provided on a regular basis. Those interested in the Scout program may contact Bruce Long, Larry Williams or Steve Smith. On the other hand, feel free to stop by the Log Cabin during our regular Sunday evening meeting hours (7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.) to sample the activities your local Scout troop has to offer.



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Neighbor to Neighbor

Thank You Parents!

Two Terrace Park Elementary parents were recognized at the June Mariemont City School Board of Education meeting for their fine volunteer work. Congratulations to Leanna Paz and Susan Austin.

TP talent to perform in opera

Congratulations to Terrace Park resident and Mariemont High School student Alison Park. Alison has a principal role in the Cincinnati Opera's production of Hans Krassa's *Brundibar*.



Event Chairwomen and their goblins are, left to right: Mindy and Nate Wagner, Piper, Jill and Griffin Donnelly, Holly McCormack, Liz and Mitchell Kaeser. (Not pictured are Amy Dillman and Sandy Wittman-Shell)

St Rita Haunted House benefits school

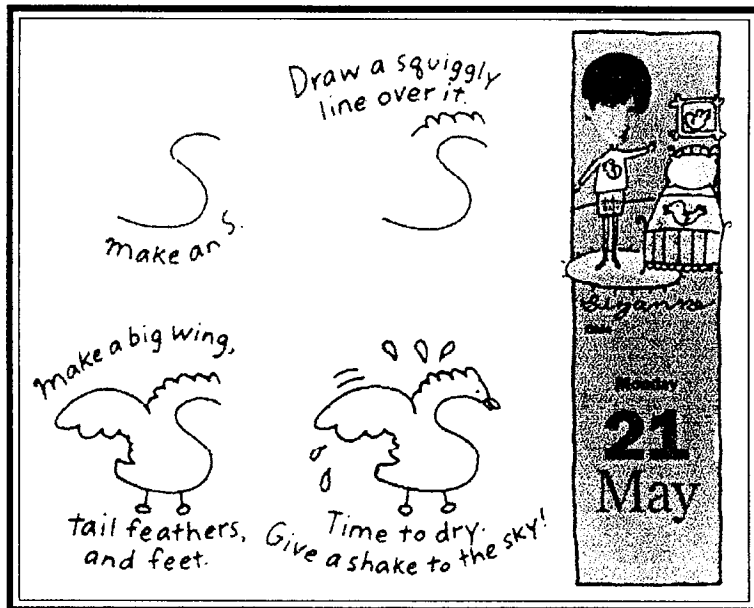
The 25th annual event in Evendale opens October 8 and runs every Thursday-Sunday in October. It will also be open on Monday, October 30, and Halloween night. Hours are 7:00 -10:00 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays, 7:00-11:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Tickets are \$5 per person. For children 10 and under there will be two "Nights Without Fright," when for \$1 per child (parents free), the house may be toured when the lights are on, monster masks are off, and candy is passed out in every room. Costumes for the children are encouraged. Group rates are available, call 771-7600.

Terrace Park signature treat returns

The annual Terrace Park "Bootique" will be held on October 3 from 3:20-5:30 p.m. behind the Elementary School. Homemade goodies and drinks can be purchased along with novelty items dear to the hearts of little tricksters everywhere. For the second year

the "Bootique" will offer gently used costumes for sale, just in time for Trick or Treating. As always there will be an enormous assortment of gourds, pumpkins, potted mums and cornstalks (bring your wagon!) Please come and enjoy the afternoon.

Doodling her way to fame



Suzy Evans, daughter of Amy and Bill Evans, has earned special recognition doing something especially creative with her spare time. Her original "doodle" has been chosen among thousands of entries to be one of the illustrations in the 2001 *Doodle A Day* calendar published by American Girl, known to millions for its popular books and dolls. Suzy's work can be found on the May 21, 2001 page. The calendar will be available nationally through bookstores, the American Girl catalog and their website www.americangirl.com.

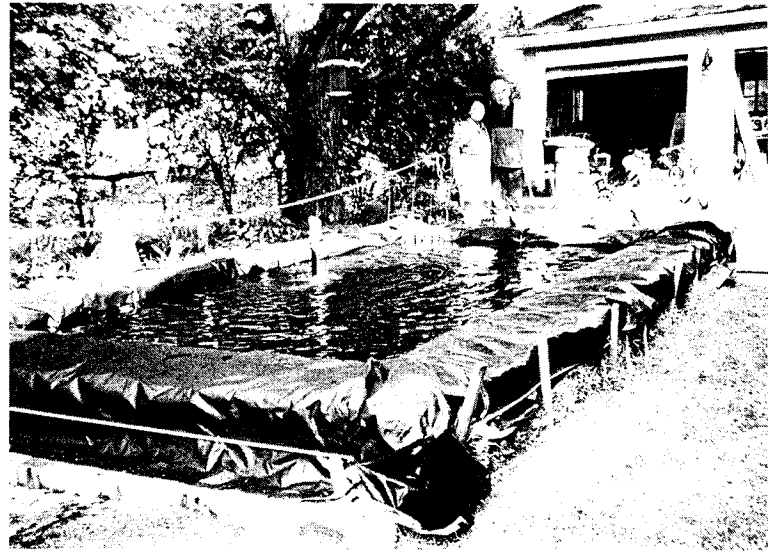
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What a fish tale!



Elliot's mother and grandfather survey the latest in home and garden décor—his personal fishing pond. Where was this project during the "Pond Walk"?

In July, Elliot Hanes, son of Kim and Larry Hanes of Park Avenue, turned ten, and the birthday celebration was a memorable one. Elliot asked for a fishing theme for his party. Mom made a cake, and Dad created a 20' x 8', 1200-gallon fishing pond on their driveway. The water was dechlorinated, a dash of mud for murkiness was added, and then the pond was aerated to house about fifty catfish ranging in size from one to 10 pounds.

The party guests were armed with cane poles, worms and big red and white bobbers. None of the boys needed any clever fish stories at the end of the day, as everyone caught a whopper and has the pictures to prove it. A couple of days later all the fish were released into a favorable natural environment—they deserved it!

As for the fishing experience, men and boys walked away from the party with a frozen smile (it's a guy thing).

Beetle Mania raffle tickets still available

Although the "Early Bug Special" has already been held, with Breck Weigel winning two tickets to the 2001 Progressive Dinner, there are still chances to win a 2001 VW Bug (cash option available). By purchasing a raffle ticket, not only are you getting a chance to win



a first prize Bug of your own, but also a chance for a 2nd prize of \$1000 or a 3rd prize of \$300. Supporting Terrace Park Elementary in

the process makes everyone a winner! Call Sharon Bollman @ 248-9888 for information.

New Phone Numbers For Mariemont Schools

Please note the Mariemont City School District has a new phone system and new phone numbers:

- Board of Education @ 272-7500
- Mariemont High School @ 272-7600
- Mariemont Junior High @ 272-7300
- Fairfax Elementary @ 272-7800
- Mariemont Elementary @ 272-7400
- Terrace Park Elementary @ 272-7700
- Extended Time @ 272-7416
- Transportation @ 527-3421

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TERRACE PARK VILLAGE CRIME and POLICE ACTIVITY

Police Reports	July/Aug	Aug/Sept	YTD
Help Runs	16	18	133
Mutual Aid Runs	16	16	117
Alarm Drops	4	6	47
Property Found Unsecured	8	6	44
Animal Complaints	3	3	31
Domestic Disputes or Violence	0	1	10
Accident Reports	3	5	21
Traffic Arrests or Citations	57	72	627
Other Traffic (warnings, etc.)	27	53	237
Other Arrests (including outstanding warrants)	16	8	96
Investigations (not otherwise covered)	6	14	86

Noted

A stolen van was found abandoned in the recreational vehicle storage area.

St. Thomas continued from page 4

feel and 'country look' the Park now offers. This is not Montgomery." Terrace Park resident Mike Goetz asserted that the "new Church fits in with the changing look of the community."

Richard Tranter, attorney for the Church, made the case that the variance requests were nominal in nature and should be considered for passage. The Commission ended by saying they would like to see St. Thomas work with the Village on traffic

congestion, safety and parking issues and referred them to the Building and Grounds Committee. The Board would reconvene on October 2 and at that time hope to resolve the issue of variances as well as have an established dialogue for addressing traffic congestion, safety and parking issues in the vicinity of the Church.

The Building and Grounds Committee met Monday, September 11 at 4:30 p.m. to assess the traffic congestion, safety and parking issues brought forth by Village residents at previous zoning meet-

ings. Church spokespersons reiterated their willingness to work with the Village on this issue by using crossing guards, and establishing cleaner and clearer parking areas. Discussion included the possible use of signage to help eliminate unsafe or undesirable parking areas and again the offer of a shuttle from the Village Center. John Souhrada was in attendance and protested the implausibility of St. Thomas denying that there would be an increase in parking needs due to the Church enlargement. Chair Al Duplace and other Committee members appeared amenable to the suggestions set forth by St. Thomas. They noted the Church was voluntarily addressing these issues, since no resident is required to either improve parking conditions in the Village right of ways or maintain them. The Committee resolved to detail a list of safety recommendations and parking conditions they would like to see put in effect and would report back to Council the following evening (Tuesday, September 12) any progress that had been made on this issue.

Other issues considered by Council include the following:

- A decision regarding street calming devices on Park and Western Avenues was postponed again. Three residents of those streets, Michael Keys (723 Park), Jerry Maish (735 Park) and Earl Moorehead (411 Western) expressed opposition to the proposed street hump plans, as they would eliminate on-street parking in front of their homes. Terry Howe (716 Park), who has spearheaded the efforts to establish street calming devices on Park and Western, acknowledging the impracticalities of speed humps, proposed that Council consider establishing Park and Western as "no through streets." Resident Cynthia Johnston (739 Park) supported the idea of acquiring a "smart machine", the device which digitally announces an approaching driver's rate of speed, and can be moved from street to street. Safety Committee Chairwoman, Julie Rugh said that her Committee would meet to reconsider street calming on Park/Western before October's Council meeting.
- Planned improvements for the Village green have almost been completed. However, acquiring the replacement Norway spruce has fallen through. The Village will continue to search for a replacement.
- Council agreed to pay for 59 replacement trees and shrubs to be planted in October and November.
- Council is currently soliciting bids for waste collection. The current four-year contract with Rumpke expires October 31.
- A new maintenance department employee, Tim McLemore was hired to replace Terry "Butch" Sowder.


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Labor Day works!

By Camilla Warrick

John and Beth Srofe have done it again.

For the second time these eight-year residents have spearheaded an effort that generated more than \$10,700 for the Terrace Park Recreation Commission. "It was a definite success," John Srofe said. "I saw more people at the Green than ever before. And the parade was great, especially with all the pets in it this year."

He was referring to festivities that took place over Labor Day weekend, including Saturday morning's Labor Day Garage Sale, which alone netted \$5,600; the picnic & concert at the Gazebo Saturday night; and the parade, games, rides and bingo on Monday, responsible for another \$5,000. The Sunday morning 5K run/walk, a popular event with children and adults, didn't occur because the Srofes were unable to find anyone to manage it.

Is there an object lesson in that?

Quite possibly. John, the event chairman, said the best thing about the weekend was the participation of volunteers. But it was also the most difficult aspect. There just weren't enough of them.

Although the Srofes aren't complaining, both he and Beth were forced to put in about 80 hours in the week preceding the event and over the weekend. That was largely the result of people not following through on their commitments.

"What made a difference is the way certain people just took up a

task and did it. Beth, for instance. I take the credit, but she's the one who really did all the things."

He cited others who pleased him by completing a variety of tasks. These volunteers included:

—Steve Peterson, who agreed to run a lacrosse booth, and was responsible for everything, from concept to management to prizes.

—Mike Frey, who took charge of set-up and knock-down on the Green. John said he couldn't believe "the army of workers" Mike managed to amass.

—Rusty Wilson, who has been involved with the Labor Day Festival since 1972, provided John with all the financial information he needed, as well as cash at each booth.

—Lon and Sylvia Stirman, whom John "battered" into taking over the parade, then did the entire project without a complaint.

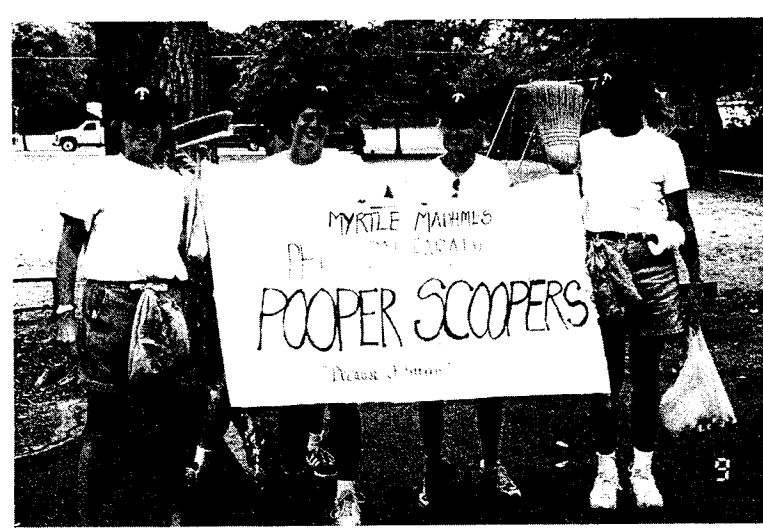
Labor Day weekend's events are the only fundraisers the Rec Commission tackles each year. The remainder of the Commission's budget — nearly 50 percent — is supplied by the fees paid by parents of children who play soccer, basketball, baseball, softball or lacrosse.

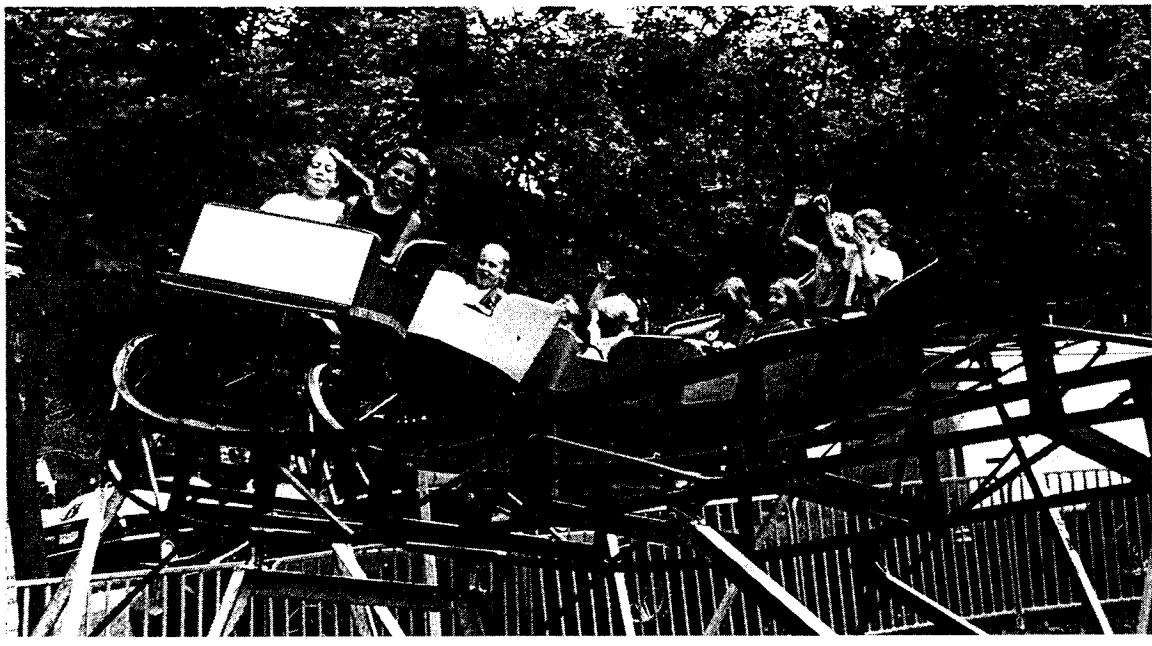
John said the Rec Commission needs to impress upon families that every aspect of the organization's programs demands volunteer labor. Coaching isn't the only thing parents can do to assist in the effort. Nor are the Labor Day events, although additional volunteers and donations are needed there.

The Commission needs help in sorting uniforms and equipment and lining fields. "I'll bet there are 100 old bats in the equipment room under the school," said John. "Somebody could round those up and take them to Play It Again Sports (a sporting goods store that will sell used equipment). That would provide some income to the Commission."

The current Recreation Commission president is Larry Williams. He can be reached @ 576-1568.

Photos: Gregg Bolsinger and Joddy Perry





Members unearth special meanings in the Garden Club

By Noel Julnes Dehner

"You could run into someone in the Post Office, who isn't your age, and not know that person had the most wonderful talent," exclaimed Lucy Maish, as she explained her membership in the Terrace Park Garden Club. "I enjoy the mix of ages."

At first, Marilynne Chapman joined because she wanted to keep up with the gardens planted by her house's former owner. Now, she says, "I also like the community service, such as our garden area at the corner of Wooster and Elm, and the Arbor Day tree program at the school."

Upcoming meetings include the following topics:
September 5, Plant Auction

October 3, Peg St. Clair, *Cincinnati Enquirer* Garden columnist, "Inspirational Stories of How the Garden Can Heal and Teach us"
November 14, Holiday Workshop with Karen Ballinger
December 5, Holiday Luncheon at TPCC

This is also the year for the ever popular, "Holiday Tour of Homes," which will be held on December 3, 2000.

Interested in meeting neighbors, serving our community, learning about gardening? Everyone is welcome. **Call Jane Allan, President @ 831-3943 or Marilynne Chapman @ 248-4705.**

Top left: 2nd annual Saturday night "Concert on the Green."

Top right: Plenty of picnickers enjoyed the show.

Left: A new ride and big smiles.

Below: l-r, Courtney Parrish, Maddie Barnhill, Hannah Sexmith and Reilly Comisar.

Photos: Terry Sexmith

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Council continued from page 1

of the space will not affect the congregation or the usage of the Church. I find that to be a ridiculous statement. If you have 55,000 sq. ft. of space, it will be used."

Mr. Humler agreed St. Thomas needs more space. "But 55,000 sq. ft. seems excessive. I think a compromise makes more sense."

Dennis Purcell (815 Yale Ave.) defended the need for increased nursery school space, emphasizing that the Church benefits many residents of Terrace Park other than members of the Church. Other representatives of the Church reiterated their interest in working with Council to improve parking and safety near the Church.

Twice during the exchange of opinions regarding the St. Thomas expansion and related parking issues, Mayor Dan Startzman felt required to remind attendees that the Council meeting did not constitute an open forum for debate. He clarified that Council has no authority over zoning variances and will only be involved in dealing with parking issues that entail rights of way changes or improvements.

Members of the Buildings and Grounds and the Safety Committees will continue to work on these issues in conjunction with St. Thomas.

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Terrace Park Sports

Hall of Fame Game

By Julia Mace Smart

Three former Mariemont High School athletes were inducted into the Doc Kusel Hall of Fame varsity football game on September 1.

Libby Richardson Henderson, class of 1981, was awarded one varsity letter in volleyball, basketball, soccer and cross-country. She received three varsity letters for track and field. Henderson ran with the boy's cross-country team because a girl's team had not been organized at that time. She ran the half-mile in track and was undefeated in the league and sectionals for three consecutive years. She was named to the all-league team, the all-city team and the all-district team three years in a row. Henderson was all state her junior year and was Mariemont's first girls' medal winner at the state meet. She was unable to compete during her senior year because of an injury. While at Mariemont, Henderson was a member of student council and the school band. She attended Eastern Kentucky University and now resides in Western Springs, Illinois. After working in the real estate field for 13 years, Henderson is now a stay-at-home mom.

Jason Hackney, class of 1995, earned three varsity letters in football, basketball and baseball. He was honored with all-league and all-city team selection in both football and baseball during his junior and senior years. He was all-league in basketball his senior year. In football, he was first team offense and second team defense in the all-state team. Hackney played for the Warrior football team that won the CHL championship and played in the state play-offs. The Warrior baseball

team made it to the Final Four his junior year and finished second in state his senior year. During his years at Mariemont, Hackney served as class president. A 1999 graduate of the University of Dayton, he played football for the university for four years. While Hackney was on the team, it had the longest winning streak in the nation. The team's four-year record was 35-6. Hackney, a resident of Cincinnati, is now a Mercedes-Benz representative.

Also from the class of 1995 is Chris Dahlmeier. He received four varsity letters in baseball and basketball and one in football. In basketball, Dahlmeier was named all-league three times, all-city twice, first team southwest Ohio, Division 4 basketball player of the year and all-state. He was the Warrior basketball team's most valuable player three times and holds the school record for scoring. His team was sectional and district champions. In baseball, Dahlmeier was named all-league and all-city two times and was all-state once. The Warriors made it to the Final Four his junior year and finished second in state his senior year. In football, he was named to the all-league team, all-city, all-southwest Ohio and all-state. His team was CHL champions and played in the state play-offs. While at Mariemont, Dahlmeier was on the honor roll for four years and was a member of the cum laude society. He went on to earn all-league and all-American honors in baseball at John Carroll University, where he received an honors degree in finance in economics. He resides in Terrace Park and is a sales executive.

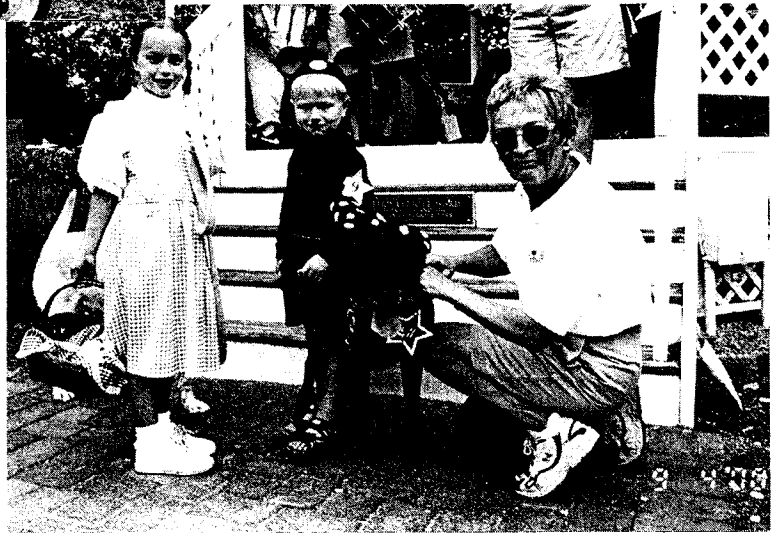


Photos: Gregg Bolsinger

Labor Day Pet Parade Winners!

By Gillian Littlehale

It was a tough decision, with a rowdy crowd of Labradors and excited children, collie pups and caged frogs, but the selection was made to honor the following entrants in the first 21st Century Pet Parade. The pet and owner who looked most alike were preschooler Thomas Christoff and his lop-eared rabbit, Snowflake, top right. Meahan and Will Majchszak and their dogs, Britty and Chloe, wore the best pet/owner costumes, right. The most unusual, and perhaps most useful, pets were the Fisher family's egg laying hens, top left. The win-



ners received stunning stars made by Kindra Bolsinger, who also designed the posters and fliers for the event. Gift certificates to Pet Mart were distributed to the pet owners as well.

Village Views staffers were thrilled with the turnout. We look

forward to next year's parade, with more categories and many more contestants. A special "thank you" is owed to the ever young and lovely Myrtle Avenue Madams in their roles as Official Parade Pooper Scoopers. Please come back and join us next year!

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