

Village Views

Volume 14, Issue 9

Terrace Park, Ohio

September, 1982

Editorial

Nobody is going to jump for joy at the imminent prospect of an assessment or an additional tax levy to put in order one of Terrace Park's neglected but major assets — its street trees.

But short of a miracle, there seems to be no other way to go to sustain property values, insure public safety, and protect us from a raid on the public pocketbook.

There is no doubt that the trees contribute much to the environment that has set Terrace Park apart and resulted in the sharp increase in property values in recent years. There is no doubt that it was the trees that took the brunt of the 1969 tornado and saved us from any personal injury or major property damage. Dead and dying trees are a menace to anyone using the streets. A death or major injury caused by a falling tree or limb could saddle the village with a sky-high judgment which all village property owners would have to pay. That has happened elsewhere.

Professional studies in recent months have established what needs to be done. The question now concerns raising the money to do it, and there are problems, particularly concerning the method of raising money — assessment vs. tax levy.

An assessment can be imposed by a vote of council, renewed annually and varied according to need. A tax levy would have to be voted by the people for a specific number of years. The advantage of an assessment is that the money is for a specific purpose and can't be used for anything else. Tax money goes into the general fund, and even with the best of intentions some or all of it somehow gets spent on something else. Witness the state lottery, which everybody thought they were approving to raise money for education.

Then there's the question of fairness.

Taxes relating to land depend on the area of each property. An assessment is based on "front footage" — how much land faces on a public thoroughfare. Usually we think of front footage as that on the street a house faces and from which it gets its street number. Mayor Charles Rocket, for example, lives at 800 Rugby Avenue. That's what anyone would consider the front of his lot.

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Council Ponders Tree Assessment

By Shirley Rohlfing

Three ordinances, encompassing a plan for village

trees, were introduced for a first reading by Richard Gilchrist at the September meeting of the Terrace Park Council.



Highlighting Labor Day's Parade

The "Class of 2000" — a float carrying young mothers and their scholastically-garbed babies, highlighted the Labor Day parade, along with the ever-popular Terrace Park Pops band, led again by Peg Pettit. (Photos by Sally Kniffin)

Seven Join Life Squad Training

Seven village residents began training on September 15 to become members of the Life Squad.

Fire Chief Pierce Matthews said that the squad will be back at full strength once they complete the required 96-hour training to be certified as Emergency Medical Technicians.

The squad has been out of service, for lack of crew members, for one — and sometimes two days a week for several months. Milford Life Squad has provided back up service on the off days.

The new volunteers are Ogle Annett, William R. Graf Jr., Jean Maddux, Trish McDonald, Buffie Rixey, Marlene Scholl and Richard Ward.

Seven new members joined the squad in July after completing training. They are Sally Gilchrist, Robert Jenkins, Mary Malotke, Richard

Mittendorf, Sally Pschesang, Nonie Ward and Connie Wilson.

The squad has been fea-

ured in a cable TV film on Channel 6 at 7:30 p.m. on Sundays and 9:30 p.m. on Mondays.

Scouts Upped In Rank

Four scouts were advanced in rank, 20 merit badges awarded, and two new members welcomed as Terrace Park's Boy Scout Troop No. 286 held a Court of Honor on September 13.

Todd Rafter was advanced to First Class scout, and Jeff Kincaid, Pat Kincaid and Alex Stafford to Tenderfoot rank.

Merit badges went to: Brett Haines, fishing, athletics, sports and life-saving; Derek Glazer, basketry, wood carving and leather-working; Jay Taylor, rowing and life-saving; Jeff Taylor, swimming, cooking and Indian Lore; Kurt Kaiser, wood-

carving; Jamie Wallace, Indian lore; Todd Rafter, athletics, sports, swimming and basketry; Jeff Trestor, basketry, rowing.

Skill awards went to: Jeff Kincaid, citizenship, swimming, cooking and hiking; Pat Kincaid, citizenship, cooking and hiking; Alex Stafford, citizenship, first aid, hiking; Jeff Taylor, swimming, and Chris Beech, citizenship, hiking and swimming.

Chris Beech and Jason Beck are newcomers to the troop, which will hold its next campout October 15-17.

A public hearing on the plans will be held at the Community House at 7 p.m. on October 18. Modeled after similar plans in Cincinnati, Maumee, and Toledo, the ordinances set up a tree district, propose a long range plan of tree maintenance, and would finance the maintenance by assessing each homeowner thirty cents a front foot on his property. The assessment would come in 1983 and be for one year. Future assessments would have to be voted on each year.

The first readings passed by a simple majority, with Bolton Drackett voting no and Bob Payne abstaining. Payne felt further time was needed to study the general fund, government tax allocations would be bigger. Both Payne and Drackett expressed concern over fairness of assessments and lack of tax credits.

Gilchrist reviewed the history of the tree study for Council. First step was the formation of a Citizens Tree Committee consisting of Marie Gerwin, Lynn Carden, Peggy Pettit, Hank Phillips, Pat Henley, Ellis Rawnsley, and Ches Augspurger — a group of citizens who represent a good cross section of the Village, he stated. Next came the study by Urban Forester, Steve Sandfordt, which listed 1,530 trees in fair, poor, or dead condition.

Council's Tree and Sidewalks committee chaired by Gilchrist and including Overway and Konold, together with the citizen's group, considered several methods of funding before recommending assessments. It was felt that the existing budget cannot handle it; a tax levy would by necessity go into the general fund, with assessment having proved workable in other areas and providing better control.

Gilchrist stressed the need for action soon, citing hazards in leaving dead and dying trees standing.

"Citizens have a big stake in this problem" he said, adding that Terrace Park's tree lined streets contribute to the character of the Park and value of property.

Les Overway, Chairman of Buildings and Grounds, announced that the county has allocated funds to do the Elm Street overpass. After advertising for bids, and setting contracts, he sees work beginning by December 1 with completion in May, 1983. Overway proposed the ordinance which spells out the agreement between Terrace Park and the county. With an amendment by Konold which

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Traffic Study Draws Councilmanic Ire

Charges that needs and wishes of communities involved have been ignored surfaced again at September's village council meeting with a report that a state Eastern Corridor traffic study is to be completed in November. The study was initiated after the state dropped long-standing plans for relocation of US 50.

Councilmen Bob Payne and Bolton Dracket reported their dissatisfaction. Payne said presentation of the study would coincide with closing of the Newtown bridge, which will cause major changes in area traffic flow.

Payne earlier had released copies of a statement he made at an August 23 meeting of the Eastern Corridor study group which charged that "this study has failed as a credible method of sorting through problems, concerns and priorities."

Specifically, Payne charged:

1. The geographic bounda-

Council

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clearly stated the county's assurance of \$150,000 for the project, the ordinance passed three readings, by emergency vote.

Bob Haines, Scout Commissioner of Troop 286, appeared before Council with plans for enlarging the Log Cabin in the back to make it suitable for scout meetings. The plans were referred to Building and Grounds for study.

Jack Gambetta of 1 Kent Circle asked that use of an easement walkway on his property be limited to daytime hours and motorized vehicles be banned on the walkway. Chief Pottorf will have signs posted.

Konold reported the Safety Committee is thinking of forming an auxiliary to the Fire Department and Life Squads which would take over work on the Pancake Supper and issuance of the telephone book. He announced that village employees will be given fire training, as suggested editorially in the August Village Views.

Council also:

- passed a second reading accepting real estate from the Greenbelt Fund.

- heard that forty repairs have been done to Village sidewalks and the walk restored on Elm Street by the new office building.

- learned from Chief Pottorf of two break-ins and two entries into unlocked residences, with Pottorf urging further vigilance.

ries of the study are arbitrary and far too narrow to permit serious consideration of the effects of major realignments and traffic flow developments.

2. Community concerns have not been brought up on the table in a timely fashion or with adequate weight. They have been subordinated to physical and statistical data throughout this study.

3. We have been repeatedly led into consideration of solutions to problems which had not been fully defined,

completely accepted or which were based on "preliminary data."

4. The statistical projection process used has failed to show that there are problems worthy of major new facilities. Our society and economy are undergoing radical changes which are not reflected in the mathematics of this study. Instead we are using data which has been created by the same statistical process which gave us thousands of empty school buildings.

Artists Present Choices

The first of two concerts to be presented at St. Thomas Church this season will be held on Sunday, October 24 at 4 p.m. This free-to-the-public "Artist's Choice" concert features several fine musicians from the church and community.

Among the artists presenting their choices are St. Thomas organist Elaine MacWatt, well-known tenor Tom Bannigus, sopranos Kitty Debnar Arwine and Cynthia Hynson; a trumpet trio with Dwight Wages and friends, accompanied by pianists Karen Boylan and Pat Matchette, and Pat will join Jean Henderson for four hand piano selections.

This fourth annual "Artist's Choice" concert will be followed by a wine and cheese reception in the Undercroft.

The second affair will be the annual Christmas concert given by the 55-voice Cincinnati Choral Society, Richard Hynson conducting. This program will be held on

Sunday, January 2 at 4 p.m., followed by a reception, open to the public.

However, the exhibition of art work of village residents which was to have been a companion feature, has been cancelled.

Aid Sought In Drug Campaign

Police Chief Ron Pottorf is urging public support of a "Pinch the Pusher" campaign instituted by the Ohio Department of Development.

Under the program, citizens can call a toll-free number, 1-800-282-DRUG (3784) to give any information concerning drug traffic. The information will be relayed to local authorities. Calls will remain anonymous.

Posters detailing program information are available from Pottorf.

Concert Sales Opens October 10

The first of four concerts sponsored by the Clermont Arts Council will be held October 10 at 2 p.m. at Milford Methodist Church. Performers will be members of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and other leading area artists.

Other programs will be held November 21, January 30 and April 10.

Series tickets are \$10 for senior citizens, \$15 single, \$25 family, and \$4.50 for single concerts.

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But Yale Avenue is one border of the lot and an alley is another. As state law seems to read, he'd have to pay a "front foot" assessment on Rugby, Yale and the alley. Council is trying to find a way around a provision that does not seem to make much sense.

Obviously, all this calls for the most serious consideration of every Terrace Park property-owner, and heightens the importance of the public hearing at 7 p.m. on October 18 on which council is depending for guidance on what Terrace Park wants to do.

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Villagers Active in District PTAs

Terrace Parkers were ready to take an active part in PTA work as Mariemont district schools opened for a new year.

Gayle Taylor and Sally Gilchrist are corresponding and recording secretaries respectively of the high school PTA. Committee chairmen include JoAnne Kennedy, budget; Barbara Smith, ways and means; Pat Getgey, health and safety; Marianne Gay, hospitality; Judy Brown, fine arts; Hazel Retherford, legislation; Cathy Gleason, Board of Education representative, and Carol Cole, AFS representative.

Working with the Middle School PTA are Sharon Haines, first vice-president; Betty Lou Taylor, treasurer, Robin Arm-

strong, Valley Area representative, with Judy Hutton as her alternate, and these committee leaders: Dru Stockwell, publicity; Sue Abernathy, legislation; and Mary Maxon and Marty Mileham, hospitality, with Nancy Kranz a board member at large.

Terrace Park PTA officers are:

Nonie Ward, president; Connie Wilson, vice-president; Patricia Brandt, recording secretary; Chris Beran, corresponding secretary; Frances Stafford, treasurer, and JoAnne Kennedy and Robin Armstrong, VAC representatives.

Committee heads are:

Robin Armstrong, legislation; Patti Roberts, cafeteria mothers; Susan Zapletal, gymnastics, French; Diane Wages, drama; Judy Bowers, health and safety; Ogle Annett; Melissa Huber, junior fine arts; Nancy Kranz, kindergarten registration; Laurel Ross and Pam Ballard, membership; Mary Maxon, Middle School representative; Mary Malotke, newsletter editor; Marty Mileham, publicity; Judy Hutton, Recreation Committee representative; Debbie Carle, room mothers; Rita Picton, teachers' aides; Chris Beran, teacher representative; Pam Ballard, telephone; Trish Bryan, on-time Olympics, and Suzanne Lakamp, ways and means.

Pace Picks Up For Annual Bazaar

"Christmas Is a Birthday," the 1982 St. Thomas Bazaar, is gathering momentum as it approaches its November 4 date. Creches in many forms will highlight this year's theme. Lunch, babysitting, and a bake table are standard bazaar features. Proceeds go to support projects of the Women of St. Thomas.

The tempo of Tuesday bazaar workshops has stepped up correspondingly; more women are working on more projects. The Bazaar chairmen, Hazel Retherford and Jo Fahnestock, extend a warm invitation to all interested women — not just church members — to take part in this community-wide project.

Decorations and Boutique workshops meet in the church undercroft from 10 to 2 each Tuesday; workshops for Town & Country, where antiques meet their masters, are meeting at Kay Pope's house, 3 Circus Place.

Free babysitting for all workers is at the church, and a luncheon at nominal cost will be served on alternate Tuesdays: September 28; October 12 and 26.

Residents chairing bazaar committees include: sewing, Ruth Hickenlooper; decorations, Libby Clancey; Promise Tree, Debbie Carle and Patti Roberts; candy, Sally Augspurger; wooden orna-

ments, Mary Malotke; luncheon, Lou Drackett; babysitting, Helen Barnett; quilt, Marilyn Weyer; children's gifts, Gayle Taylor; children's games and snacks, Mary Maxon (and the Girl Scouts); raffle tickets, Barb Self; bingo, Ellen Miller; Boutique, Bonita Scott and Sue Abernathy; and plants, Cindy Hudson.

Treasurer is Jane Pendl. Handling the dinner are Jud Gale and the Brotherhood of St. Andrew. Reservations for dinner are necessary. Tickets will go on sale soon.

Questions about the bazaar may be addressed to Hazel Retherford at 831-2872 or Jo Fahnestock at 831-7331.

Quality Rules Flower Show

Award of a host of blue ribbons attested to the quality of the Terrace Park Garden Club flower show at the Community House on September 14. Judges gave 48 such ribbons in various classes of the horticulture division, and 23 in the artistic section in which miniature arrangements were dominant.

Evelyn Mottern won the sweepstakes for the most blues in the horticulture division, with Jane Peterson taking Best of Show award. Effie Miller won both Sweepstakes and Best of Show in the horticulture class.

Girl Scouts from the village troop made a project of Junior Division entries, with a special award of merit going to Jenny

Carden.

Blue ribbons were awarded to Margo Langano, Marion Oberle, Nicki Thompson, Katie Frie, Nicki Hird and Jenny Carden, and to a joint entry by Tena Retherford and Heather Wages.

Carol Hird was show chairman.

Parade Winners Named

Good weather again graced Terrace Park's annual Labor Day celebration, started off by the ever-popular parade. This year's event was videotaped by Warner Amex Cable, and telecast on the community access channel the following Wednesday. Sue Abernathy was the local color commentator.

Winners in the child and pet parade, organized by Vic Cooper, were:

Tricycle decoration — Leslie Pope, first; Melissa Wachterman and Amy Carle, tied for second; Lauren Gundlach, third.

Bike decoration — Maren and Carrie Schmidt, first; Michelle Cook, second; Matt Bryan, third.

Costumes — Hillary Zapletal, first; Jenny Carden and Katie Frie, tied for second.

Floats — Martin and Michael Maerker, first; Bristle Wallace and Barry Gleason, Candice McClellan and Jennifer Bowers, tied for second.

Pets — Heather Wages, first; Lisa McIntosh, second; Jacob Scholl, third.

Grand prizes — Most humorous, Heather Wages; most original, Carrie and Maren Schmidt.

Autograph Party Honors Author

St. Thomas Church invites all Terrace Park residents to an Autograph Party to celebrate publication of Emily Gardiner Neal's newest book, "The Healing Ministry: A Personal Journal."

The party will be held in the church parlor on October 9 from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m.

The book, her ninth, is based on her experiences since coming here from Pittsburgh to live at the Convent of the Transfiguration in Glendale and work at St. Thomas Church and healing missions elsewhere.

Mrs. Neal has been at St. Thomas Church for almost six years, conducting healing services at 7:45 p.m. each Monday.

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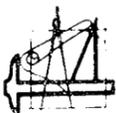
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Candidates At AARP

There was more agreement than disagreement as six candidates for election to the Ohio House of Representatives appeared September 13 at a meeting of the Terrace Park chapter, American Association of Retired Persons.

The candidates were Mary Jo Maxwell, Democrat, seeking election from the 26th District which includes Terrace Park; Dale VanWeyven, (R), Herman Brooks (D) and Everett DeJager, Libertarian Party, from the 27th District, and Catherine Wuerdeman (D) and Sue Fisher (R), contending in the new 66th District in Clermont County. Only VanWeyven is a present member of the legislature.

Most of the candidates favored income taxes instead of property taxes for school financing; a "hard look" at state budgets in solving Ohio's financial problems; elimination of the intangibles tax support, with some reservations, for nuclear power development, and opposition to statewide election of members of the Ohio Utilities Commission, to be voted on in November.

AARP members will meet for a catered luncheon at the next meeting at noon on October 12, hearing a talk by Nick Clooney thereafter.

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