

# Village Views

Volume 13, Issue 12

Terrace Park, Ohio

December, 1981

## Crime Prevention For The Holidays

The holiday season is traditionally a time of giving. But, notes Police Chief Ron Pottorf, it is also a time of taking, of "being on the take."

Burglars, robbers and pickpockets find their jobs made easier during the holiday season when homes, automobiles, purses and packages are left unattended, when the minds of people are on good cheer instead of good sense, and when streets and shops are crowded with people vulnerable to the frequently-unseen attacker.

The Division of Crime Prevention within the Ohio Department of Economic and Community Development, as well as local law enforcement agencies everywhere, advise residents to take special precautions during the holiday season to prevent any criminal attack which could turn a most joyful season into a living nightmare.

The following safety tips, provided by the Terrace Park Police Department, can help to ensure that Ohioans everywhere enjoy a safe holiday season.

### Holiday Shopping Tips

1. Safeguard your money when shopping. Carry no more cash than you absolutely need. Better still, pay by check or credit card, at least for the holiday season when many petty thieves are circulating shopping malls looking for the easy mark. Never display large amounts of cash around the register.

2. Carry your purse securely. Never leave it unattended in shopping carts or on counter tops. Don't get separated from it in a crowded restroom or dressing room.

3. Every pickpocket knows he can't get your money if your mind is on it. Be alert, especially in crowds. Your best defense is the knowledge that it can happen to you.

4. Never leave your car unlocked, even for a minute. Always take your keys. If you must use your vehicle to store Christmas packages, place them out of sight in the trunk, never in the front or back seat. Park in busy, well-lighted areas. When using a parking lot where keys must remain in the car leave only the ignition keys.

5. Have your keys ready when you walk across a parking lot. Be alert for loiterers or other suspicious persons prowling around parked automobiles. Report suspicious activity to the police.

6. Most muggers are discouraged if you have company. Walk with a companion whenever possible. Confine your routes to well-lighted, populated areas.

7. The flim-flam man and con artist are not fiction, and they step up their activities during the holidays. If you're approached by a stranger with a deal that sounds too good to be true, stay away!

8. Report thefts immediately, no matter how insignificant they may seem, or how embarrassed you may be. Police use crime reports to determine how to serve you better.

### Home Security For The Holidays

1. If you are traveling for the holidays, cancel all deliveries. Notify the police and a trusted neighbor of your plans. Use a timer to turn your lights on and off. Don't discuss your holiday plans with strangers.

2. When out for a day of shopping, don't advertise your absence. Keep your garage door closed. Leave a light or two burning. Never leave a note on the door that you are out and will return later.

3. Burglars may be especially busy during the holiday season. This is a good time to install excellent locks and use them. Remember an extra lock for the sliding glass door.

4. Store your valuables. Deposit cash you do not need. Safeguard expensive items. Try to avoid allowing access to expensive goods stored in your home.

5. Start a buddy system with your neighbor in order to watch each other's home. Report suspicious activity in your neighborhood to the police.

6. Outside lighting is a good deterrent to prowlers. Consider porch or yard lights for good year-round security.

7. Every family member should have his or her own key. Don't leave keys in the mailbox, under the doormat, or in other traditional hiding places. Burglars know them all.

## Village Police Officers Given 10% Increase in Pay for '82

Terrace Park police officers were voted 10% pay increases in an emergency ordinance approved at the December council meeting.

The action moved the salary of Police Chief Ron Pottorf to \$25,000 from \$22,000, and the pay of patrolmen from \$16,800 to \$18,480 for a basic 42-hour week.

Chief Pottorf said the village had ranked 36th in the county in police pay, and said the increase would enable Terrace Park to remain competitive and not be under the constant stress of losing to other departments men who

had been trained here.

A survey in October showed patrolmen's salaries in this area ranging all the way from the \$13,050 paid by Newtown to the top of \$22,590 paid by Blue Ash. Only Colerain Township, Hamilton County Park rangers, Lincoln Heights and Newtown had salaries lower than those of Terrace Park.

In other police matters, council appointed Mark Garner as a full-time patrolman and Jim Combs, a retired Cincinnati officer, as an auxiliary policeman at \$1 a year. Pottorf reported two bur-

glaries with relatively small loss — on Wooster Pike and Sycamore Street — which he said he did not look on as the work of professionals.

With much concern voiced at the last council meeting over the condition of village trees, Councilman Les Overway reported plans are being developed for creation of a permanent committee of five or six residents to establish and oversee a program.

The group would work with Steve Sandfort, Cincinnati's urban forester, as consultant.

Overway reported also that he felt progress is being made in negotiations with the state for replacement of the deteriorating Elm Avenue railroad overpass, noted that cable TV hookups are underway, and thanked the Garden Club for its decoration of the Community House for Christmas.

Vice Mayor Jack Van Wye presided at the meeting in the absence of Mayor Charles Rockel.

Lou Drackett appeared before council to request a consideration of a change in the fee policy for use of the Community House. She said she had requested a date for a fund-raising activity for seniors from Mariemont High School but felt the \$75 rental to be exorbitant.

Overway explained that use of the Community House is governed by an ordinance which was designed to protect the use for this community and its functions. There is no fee if a meeting is open to the public and made up of 100% of residents; 75% of residents is a \$50 fee and all other uses are \$75. Drackett, however, maintained that school functions should be included in the concept of community.

Bolton Drackett requested council to table any plans for taking bids for new flooring in the Community House until January when the new council takes over. Council had taken such action at the November meeting, he was told. Since money for this project comes from estate taxes, no action can be taken until the first of the year. The work is estimated to cost \$7,000.

John Getgey, village solicitor, said a jury hearing on the B.B.S. Co. appropriation suit will be held January 7 before Judge Paul George. A brief has been filed on the Pschesang appeal.

There seems to be no consistency in insurance liability coverage in various communities, Councilman Bob Payne reported. He said he

## Home Price Average Ends Years of Climb

Sales of homes in Terrace Park leveled off in 1981 after years in which price averages increased markedly.

Records compiled by Stan Miller as of mid-December show there were 38 sales for an average price of \$93,257, down slightly from the record of \$95,432 set in 1980 but still nearly double the 1974 average of \$50,620 when the same number of sales was recorded.

The figures cover home sales only. Sales of lots and

commercial properties are not included. The compilation does take in sales in the closing days of last year.

Here's the record for recent years by year, number of homes sold, and the price average:

|      |    |          |
|------|----|----------|
| 1974 | 38 | \$50,620 |
| 1975 | 30 | \$53,337 |
| 1976 | 43 | \$57,420 |
| 1977 | 53 | \$69,300 |
| 1978 | 49 | \$74,644 |
| 1979 | 50 | \$86,281 |
| 1980 | 40 | \$95,432 |
| 1981 | 38 | \$93,257 |

## Life Squad Seeks Aid As Day Force Dwindles

Terrace Park's Life Squad is seeking more volunteers to reinforce dwindling daytime crews.

Noting that only seven women now make up the daytime force, Fire Chief Pierce Matthews said that they are being called on to assume an unreasonable burden of service to the community. He told the December meeting of village council that any further loss of personnel may make it necessary for the village to contract with life squads in neighboring communities for daytime service, resulting in slower response time and a loss in community feeling.

He emphasized, though, that new volunteers should be prepared to make a three-year commitment to the squad to justify training time and expense. Volunteers now are required to take a 96-hour training course before being certified as emergency medical technicians and allowed to function as full squad members.

The squad hopes to start a new training course in Jan-

uary. Potential volunteers should contact Chief Matthews or any member of the Life Squad.

## Twelfth Night Tree-Burning Ceremony Set

The annual Twelfth Night tree burning ceremony will be held at the Log Cabin area on Elm Avenue at 7 p.m. on January 6. Discarded Christmas trees will be turned after a short service led by the Rev. George Hill.

With Twelfth Night traditionally marking the end of the Christmas season, the tree burning has been sponsored annually by the volunteer fire department to emphasize the need to remove drying cut Christmas trees from homes because of fire hazard.

Fire Chief Pierce Matthews asks that trees not be delivered to the cabin area before January 6.

(Continued on Page 2)



## Terrace Park Man Gets National Award

Ronald W. Hudson, (middle), president of the Cincinnati Association of Life Underwriters, is pictured in Washington accepting the prestigious Louis I. Dublin Service Award presented to the local organization for its outstanding community service activities in 1980-1981.

H. Wayne Bius, (left), public service committee chairman of the National Association of Life Underwriters, made the presentation at a special luncheon during NALU's recent annual convention. At right is Robert L. Froehlke, president of the American Council of Life Insurance, also in Washington.

NALU and the American Council of Life Insurance co-sponsor the 26-year-old nationwide Public Service Program which promotes leader-

ship in community affairs by life insurance men and women across the country. The Cincinnati association was one of 964 local and state associa-

tions across the country which competed for the Dublin Award — the most coveted community service honor within the life insurance industry.



## Looking More Like Christmas

Getting ready for Christmas, some 60 parents and children joined in making Advent wreaths after services on a recent Sunday at St. Thomas Church. Mary Maxon and daughter Heather are pictured putting one together. (Photo by Sally Kniffin)

## Council

(Continued from P. 1)

and Getgey are studying policies, and he hopes to have a recommendation for Council in January.

Payne said he recently attended a meeting of a newly formed Eastern Citizens Advisory Council which will be studying transportation systems management and long range capital realignments — i.e., highways. Payne felt it most important that Terrace Park have representation at these monthly meetings.

Work has not been completed on the Winding Brook storm sewer, Van Wye reported. He said he is negotiating with the builders of the new office building on Elm on replacing a section of sidewalk. A hazardous condition on Wooster Pike caused by erosion of the roadbed was noted and a warning sign for motorists will be posted. The State Highway Patrol will be notified.

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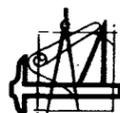
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## Former Resident Wins High Honor For Work As Landscape Architect

By Jeanne Sanker

A lifetime of landscape artistry by Eleanor A. Christie was officially recognized by the Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects at the chapter's annual awards banquet in Columbus recently. Mrs. Christie was presented the Ohio Chapter Medal, the highest honor given. She was the only woman so honored.

For years a resident of

Terrace Park, Mrs. Christie now lives at the Marjorie P. Lee Home in Hyde Park.

Mrs. Christie's interest in beautiful gardens and parks began when she was just a young girl on a trip to Europe with her parents. She was fascinated by the various designs in the many cities they visited and was particularly intrigued by all the small English gardens at homes

which they saw.

When they returned to their own home in Delaware, Ohio, her father consented to her request to design her own garden at the rear of their home. Later, during her college years at the Rhode Island School of Design, she became a serious student of landscape architecture and felt fortunate to have as teachers some of the best landscape architects in the East. At the completion of her college years, however, her father insisted that she return to Ohio despite an offer to work for a highly acclaimed New York firm.

Her unusual talents were quickly sought by Ohio firms and she was soon employed by the prestigious A. D. Taylor Company in Cleveland where she helped Taylor write a book. After she married and moved to Cincinnati, she continued her career uninterrupted until her retirement several years ago. Even during the Depression years, she was called upon for her ideas and designs and was well known from the East Coast to Chicago, never having to advertise.

"Somehow I was always fortunate that work just came to me by 'word of mouth'," she exclaims. Lectures and demonstrations at garden clubs in many cities added additional color and excitement to her many years of work which she loved. One of the highlights of those years was an invitation to exhibit photos of her work at the New York Architects Association display in New York City.

Her most notable projects in Cincinnati include the landscape planning and development of the Cincinnati Public Library; St. Peter in Chains Cathedral; Mariemont Town Center Park; Cincinnati Women's Club; WKRC; North American Van Lines, and the grounds of her current residence at the Marjorie P. Lee Home.

Mrs. Christie says that among her greatest joys today is seeing people use and enjoy the work she has done around the city.



## Cemetery Sale Allowed, Gravestones Salvaged

Village council has waived any rights the community might have had in an abandoned cemetery on Old Indian Hill Road, but the early-day settlers who were buried there won't be forgotten. A single-family residence is to be built on the property, the last remaining tract of the former Wiley estate.

Village Solicitor John Getgey noted at the December council meeting that he and Mayor Chuck Rockel had salvaged five gravestones and said others may be found when construction begins.

Getgey said he and the mayor were seeking some appropriate spot for the stones. The Rev. Robert Gerhard, rector of St. Thomas Church, immediately suggested that

the stones be incorporated in the columbarium which the church is preparing to build. He said no other area would seem to be more appropriate, since the church stands on the site of Covalt Station, the first settlement in this area.

Questions as to village concern in the cemetery arose early this year when the property was offered for sale for building purposes. Records indicate that 13 persons were buried in what seemingly was a family rather than a public cemetery. Those buried there in the early days of the century were members of the Moore family, ancestors of Mrs. Harold Wiley.

## Scouts Plan To Recycle Aluminum

With waste paper prices down sharply, Terrace Park's Boy Scout troop is branching out into recycling aluminum cans.

Scoutmaster Dick Mittendorf said fliers are being distributed to residents asking that aluminum cans be separated from other trash. Collection plans are not yet fully worked out, but Mittendorf said arrangements may be made for a conveniently-located bin where cans can be left, in addition to periodic door-to-door collection.

Mittendorf noted that aluminum cans can easily be flattened to minimize storage problems. A touch of a magnet will determine whether a can is aluminum or thin steel, since a magnet won't stick to aluminum.

## More Villagers Take Training In Life-Saving

Twenty-four persons, 10 of them from Terrace Park, took part in a cardiac-pulmonary resuscitation training course at St. Thomas Church December 5. The figure brings to nearly 200 the number of those who have taken training here in emergency care of persons struck down by heart attack or other sudden collapse. Twenty-one of the new trainees were certified.

Sponsored by the Life Squad and the Red Cross, the day-long session attracted participants not only from Terrace Park and neighboring communities, but one from Harrison and another from New Richmond.

Local Life Squad personnel serving as instructors included Shirley Mittendorf, Judy Schneider, Jane Bowman, Molly Harrison, Polly Bassett and Richard Postler.

## Choral Concert Is Scheduled At St. Thomas

The first Sunday in January has come to mean a festive Christmas concert at St. Thomas Church. Again this year, on Sunday, January 3, at 4 p.m., the 40-voice Cincinnati Choral Society, and the Chamber Orchestra will present a concert of holiday music.

Directed by Richard Hynson, the ensemble will feature Vivaldi's *Gloria*, as well as Christmas favorites by several soloists, and new and old carols. The program will conclude with a Christmas carol Sing for all.

The concert is free to the public, and the reception following in the undercroft will be hosted by Pam Orr. Terrace Park villagers are cordially invited to attend.

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**Pageant To Open Church Celebrations**

Christmas Eve services at St. Thomas Church will begin with a service at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, December 24, during which the Junior Choir will present a pageant. Children are invited to bring their toy animals up to the altar for the Blessing of the Animals.

The Eucharist service at 8 p.m. will include special music by a Teen Christmas Choir, and carols sung by the congregation. The St. Thomas Senior Choir will present a special program of Christmas music at 10:45 p.m. before the 11 p.m. Eucharist, and will sing music from Handel's *Messiah* during the service.

There will be a 10 a.m. Christmas Day Eucharist with music and sermon.

Mrs. Robert H. Matchette, music director, and Mrs. Alex MacWatt, organist, are in charge of these Christmas musical presentations.

**Kids Celebrate Season With Songs, Play**

Youngsters of St. Thomas Church celebrated St. Nicholas Day on December 6 with songs, a play, and presentation of gifts to needy of the Inter-Parish Ministry.

Tom Long wrote the play script, and Pat Matchette the words and music to a *Song of St. Nicholas*.

Players were Alan Chandler, Julie Getz, Liz Moon, Cindy Jeries, George Kline-dinst, Steve and Robert Retherford, Suzie Stollmaier and Debra Warner.

Junior Choir participants were Tracy Benz, Patty Brannen, Jenny Carden, Alan Chandler, Naomi and Heather Fischer, Cindy Jeries, Jeff, Matthew and Mike Keifling, Lee Lowery, Mary Evelyn Maxon, Marian and Megan Oberle, Cindy Pope, Tina Retherford, Chrissa and Julia Schwerin, Jenny Smith and Nicki Thompson.

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