

VILLAGE VIEWS

TERRACE PARK • OHIO

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1

JANUARY, 1989

School Board Asks For 6.75 mill Levy

Mariemont's district school board voted at its January 17 meeting to put a 6.75 mill continuing levy on the May 2 primary ballot.

After electing Terrace Park resident Connie Wilson president at its organizational meeting January 3, the Mariemont Board of Education adopted a \$7,165,523 budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1989. This new budget includes the 5% pay raise granted teachers at the Dec. 20 board meeting and presumes the passage of a 6.75 mill operating levy this spring.

The board is expected to for-

mally place the new levy on the May 2 ballot at its February meeting. Supt. Don Thompson told the board that to allow for 5% growth in the budget through 1992, a 6.46 mill levy is needed. An additional .29 mills will be earmarked for asbestos removal.

Mariemont residents Don Hollenbeck and Hank Kleinfeld have been named to head the levy campaign.

The new salary schedule, effective as of Dec. 31, starts at \$18,400 and goes to \$41,676 for a teacher with 27 years' experience and a master's degree plus 30 hours.



Appointed

Tim Harth, 306 Rugby Ave., has been appointed village building official, succeeding Willis Toon who resigned after serving for three years. Long active in the building trades and with the volunteer fire department, Harth is currently project director for a firm involved in some major downtown rehabilitation work.

Toon's work was praised in a resolution adopted at village council's January meeting.

Gazebo Memorial Proposed

Friends of recently-deceased architect Dick Ward are planning to raise funds to build a gazebo on the village green as a memorial.

Ward had drawn up plans for such a structure at the request of village officials some four years ago. Estimates have been that the building, along with paths and other changes in the village green, would cost \$135,000.

Tim Brown and Alan Smith-Peterson reported the fund-raising proposal to village council at its January meeting. Such a building, they said, would give the green a focal point and provide needed facilities for ceremonies and entertainments.

They asked council to give approval to planning and fund-raising efforts. In discussion later, Councilman Rich Gilchrist noted that council was already on record as in favor of such a privately-financed structure, and that Ward memorial tentative planning could go forward without further action.

Five Win Top Honors

Terrace Park students at Mariemont High School walked off with major honors at the school's recent Fall Sports Banquet.

Warrior Awards, the school's highest sports distinction, went to Matt Seik in cross-country and Molly Abernethy in girls' tennis.

Most valuable player awards were given to Seik in cross-country, Chresten Armstrong in golf, Carol Picton in tennis, and Adam Sewell in football.

Trail Opponents Dominate Meeting

Strong opposition to the proposed bike/hike trail along the old railroad right-of-way through Terrace Park was expressed at the January meeting of village council by a crowd of residents that filled the Community House.

Some 20 speakers voiced objections to the proposal as disruptive to what was called "the unique character" of the village while offering no advantage to the community.

No voice was raised in support of the state proposal. There was, though, a plea from Tim Nordloh that differences over the issue "not make enemies."

Council has scheduled a formal public hearing on the plan at 7 p.m. on February 14, preceding the regular February council meeting.

Acting on the basis of a petition signed by more than 400 residents, village council rejected the proposal six years ago. With questions raised as to how often the issue would come up. Councilman Rich Gilchrist said he understood that the state, at present at least, had no plans to force the development on any community opposed to it. But, he added, "It is their land," and he said he was not sure what recourse the village might have if the state did decide to proceed. Gilchrist presided over the meeting in the absence of Mayor Jack Schmidt, who was in Europe on business.

There was a flurry of interest when Paul Westerfield suggested that the village buy the property for its own use. In a brief discussion later in the council meeting, however, Gilchrist and Councilman Randy Casteel doubted that the state would or could sell, noting that the right-of-way was bought with federal funding, and an easement would allow reversion to railroad use.

That came up as Gilchrist, at Schmidt's request, raised the question of a possible straw vote to determine resident opinion. Council came to no decision, appearing dubious about how the vote could be conducted and by whom.

Petitions for and against the proposal are circulating in the village and are expected to be presented at the February hearing. Meantime, Mayor Schmidt has directed that letters received from residents be kept in a file in the village office, available to any wishing to see it.

Ohio's Department of Natural Resources plans to build the Milford-Loveland section of the trail next year. Citing limited parking space in the vicinity of the Milford terminus (at the old railroad station on the hill across from the Milford bridge-Route 126 intersection), the state urged the Terrace Park link to a parking area in Kroger Hills park west of the village. But speakers at the council meeting called those parking plans wholly inadequate for projected peak 5,000 daily users, and sure to cause undesirable spillover onto village streets.

Councilman Tim Gleeson voiced

concern that Terrace Park will face parking problems from Milford in any event. Many voiced the opinion that having created a demand for parking, it was up to the state to meet it.

The village file on the issue includes reports from other communities reporting no problems from similar trails. Such a report from Loveland, however, was disputed by several speakers, quoting friends in that area.

On other matters:

- Councilman Tim Gleeson reported village plans to run a test program of sidewalk replacement using village employees, to determine cost effectiveness as against commercial work. The plan would involve hiring two extra employees in season, working to specifications followed in last year's \$10,000 program.

He announced also plans developed by Village Administrator Ron Pottorf for new uniform street signs to replace signs which have been damaged or stolen. Pottorf said repair parts for current signs were unavailable except at high cost.

A design to be tested calls for routing a street name in a cedar board hanging from a bracket mounted on a cedar post. Pottorf estimated the cost at about \$20 each, and said such signs could be repaired quickly by village employees.

- Life Squad Chief Connie Wilson reported 13 runs in December for a year's total of 140, up 30 over last year. Although she said five recruits are expected to complete training in April, she said the loss of squad captain Barbara Bowen, who is moving to Seattle, emphasized the need for still more personnel. A new training class is scheduled to start in March, and Councilman Rich Gilchrist echoed her call for more volunteers.

- Fire Chief Pierce Matthews reported one fire department response in December, making a year's total of 17 runs with a fire loss of \$14,600 involving two structures and one automobile.

- Finance chairman John Wenstrup reported the state auditor's office had complimented the village on its accounting, attributing it to "the high calibre" of such employees as Village Clerk Judy Elliott, Pottorf and Charlotte Molitor, village secretary.

- On motion of Councilman Rusty Wilson, council called for bids on a new police cruiser.

- The contract of Village Solicitor Bob Molloy was renewed.

Milford Decision Called Encouraging

Ted Swensson reports himself "encouraged" by recent developments concerning a proposed South Milford industrial park.

His comment followed a declaration by Milford's city council in favor of connecting the development area with US 50. Some Milford officials earlier had proposed linking the tract to Round Bottom Road, a plan roundly opposed by Terrace Park and a coalition of environmental groups.

In fact, Swensson said that he was "optimistic" that continuing

discussions with the developer and Milford and Clermont County officials and business interests would result in adoption of the five-point program urged on Milford from the beginning.

The program calls for no heavy or polluting industry in the development; adequate sewage and runoff facilities to prevent pollution of the Little Miami River or its aquifer; no noise or air pollution; no connection with Round Bottom Road, and creation of a greenbelt along the river and Round Bottom.

Realty Sales Dip In Village In 1988

by Mel Alchholz

Thirty-seven houses were sold in Terrace Park in 1988, compared with 55 in 1987. Total sales value was \$6,431,100, down from \$7,597,500 in 1987.

Here are the residential sales recorded at the Hamilton County Court House:

407 Amherst	\$124,000
1 Denison	235,000
2 Denison	224,000
5 Denison	217,500
6 Denison	220,000
905 Elm	286,400
603 Floral	131,800
606 Floral	161,900
707 Franklin	113,500
716 Lexington	198,000
603 Marietta	164,000
604 Marietta	195,000
304 Miami	170,000
609 Miami	260,100
629 Miami	200,000
728 Miami	158,000
815 Miami	240,000
106 Michigan	133,500
600 Myrtle	161,500
607 Myrtle	141,000
9310 Old Indian Hill	290,000
748 Park	135,000
811 Princeton	236,000
113 Redbird	100,000
115 Robinwood	75,000
812 Stanton	130,000
816 Stanton	150,000
1 Stoney Creek	176,900
3 Stoney Creek	223,000

5 Stoney Creek	217,000
3 Swallowfield	298,000
108 Wagon Road	200,000
129 Winding Brook	143,500
603 Wooster	54,500
811 Wooster	75,000
128 Wrenwood	98,000
132 Wrenwood	94,000

Tree-Burning Rite Suspended

Frowned on by the EPA, the annual village Christmas-tree burning ceremony seemingly is at an end.

Fire Chief Pierce Matthews said the EPA was discouraging such burnings as a source of air pollution. But he added that interest in the burning held on Twelfth Night — January 6 — had dwindled in recent years, with few trees being contributed to the pile.

Village Administrator Ron Pottorf said trees collected by the village maintenance crew are being chipped for use as mulch.

Letters Discuss Bike Trail Issue

Editor's note:

Rigid space limitations made it impossible for Village Views to print in full all letters received on the bike trail proposal. Those presented here have been edited as carefully as possible to retain the argument and flavor of each.

To the Editor:

The State of Ohio has resumed its previously rejected efforts to invade Terrace Park with a public facility (in the form of the previously rejected "bicycle path") designed for the use of strangers to our community. On any cost-to-benefits test, the roadway proposal put forward by the State scores a clear and substantial loss to Terrace Park.

Our Village Council ought to reject the proposition out of hand. It has been rejected by a prior Council and that decision has stood the test of time. It was correct to reject it then, and it remains correct to reject it now.

The present green, quiet, wild-life rich path through Terrace Park would be forever destroyed by this outrage. In its place will be a sixteen-foot-wide roadway carrying a heavy volume of traffic from outside the community at all hours of the day and night at speeds up to 30 miles per hour or more. The Loveland experience is to be repeated. Crowds of strangers will surge back and forth through our Village at all sorts of speeds.

The Village government will have to expand its Safety Department and public services staff and facilities in order to furnish adequate police and life squad facilities and to attempt to control the hot-dog wrapper and beer-bottle litter left by this mob of happy frolickers.

Local home-owners all over the Village will have the privilege of paying for those amenities.

Now, the State asks that we abandon our quiet, secluded, locally responsible and mutually supportive community atmosphere. In its place we are requested, whether the State admits it or not, to provide a facility for recreational use by large numbers of strangers, with attendant noise, litter, and disruption of local use; a series of access points to that facility; a fueling and refreshment point for the users; public parking facilities for hundreds of automobiles on our streets; police and life squad facilities; and litter and garbage collection services.

Paul Westerfield

To the Editor:

Our family moved to Terrace Park from North Avondale 1 1/2 years ago.

We felt Terrace Park afforded us a neighborhood where our children could play, ride their bikes, walk to friends' and relatives' houses — where they would be safe because everyone in Terrace Park is a neighbor.

I'm afraid our feeling of security and privacy may well be shattered if the proposed bike trail through the heart of our community becomes a reality.

While there could possibly be no problems associated with the influx of so many people, the potential is obviously greatly magnified. I can hardly feel that TP would remain the quiet, secure, private community that it now is — where we all basically know each other and our police force is able to identify who has real business here and who doesn't.

Alice Eberhard

To the Editor:

We think the proposed bike path which would bring 4,000 to 5,000 people through the heart of our community each weekend should be rejected.

Heavy traffic on the trail with its ready access to many parts of Terrace Park, including the school and swim club, would present a grave risk to the very nature of this protected gem of a community.

Five thousand people traipsing through our very back yards will inevitably bring noise, litter, curiosity seekers, and the greatly increased likelihood of unfortunate incidents which our community has so far successfully avoided.

Mike & Kay Callaghan

To the Editor:

Last night's council meeting brought out a vocal group in opposition to the proposed bike trail. However, my observation was that the residents who felt they would not be directly affected were conspicuous by their absence or didn't voice an opinion.

We all will be affected if the trail is opened to hundreds and even thousands of "outside" people having access to our village 24 hours a day. If you don't believe this is true, apprise yourselves of what is happening in Loveland.

Our own villagers deface and defile the trail. What do you suppose will happen when we add multitudes of outsiders. Where will the bathrooms be? You guessed it.

We'll all suffer. And so will your real estate values, I promise you. I know. I'm in the business.

Think now, people, because if you let this slide, and this trail becomes a reality, there is no turning back. Wherever you live, you'll be affected, and you'll be sorry.

Peggy Pettit

To the Editor:

I am vehemently opposed to the development of a State Park Bike and Hiking Trail cutting through Terrace Park.

Let's review a few of the many problems a community like ours can anticipate with a state park in the middle of our lives.

- 1) Policing the use (and misuse) of the property 24 hours.
- 2) The cost, responsibility and liability of same.
- 3) Those of us who enjoy Drackett Field with our children or belong to the Terrace Park Pool and Tennis Club will find ourselves with full parking lots and unwanted non-member visitors.
- 4) Those of us bordering the state property will find our own property values fall. This could happen to the entire community.

It would be a permanent alteration that will change the very nature of our community. Once it is here, mistake or not, it will never be removed!

Jack Gambetta

To the Editor:

Charlene and I want to express our concern and strong opposition to the proposed bike path through Terrace Park.

Because we bike a lot, we have used the Loveland trail many times. In our minds, there is no comparison between the two communities.

Milford and Loveland have considerably more to benefit commercially than Terrace Park. We will be giving up our privacy and invite thousands of people into our community.

To resolve this issue, we suggest the Village buy this property from the State. We would be willing to contribute to such a cause.

Charlene and James McClurg

To the Editor:

The maintenance of the safety, security and unique beauty of our village is of utmost concern to all residents. The proposed bicycle path threatens not only these qualities but will permanently alter the peaceful community setting which is the hallmark of Terrace Park.

Local residents of Loveland, which now serves as the base for the bicycle path, have not been silent in their criticism. Reports of 1,000-2,000 "visitors" on weekends, bags of litter, frequent visits to neighboring houses for phone, bathroom or drinks abound. Some have erected privacy fences at no small expense to protect themselves from the barrage.

It is simple to project into the future and visualize a rise in taxes to pay for additional police protection and a drop in our property values because of increasing litter, security problems, vandalism and other crimes projected to occur with such a large increase in our traffic.

Dave and JoAnn Randolph
Janet Phillips

To the Editor:

We have resided in the village for 37 years and have been active participants in many phases of community life. We value the quality of life we enjoy here.

For this reason, we support the extension of the bicycle-hiking trail over the old train bed.

We believe that "undesirables" have found and will continue to find their way into our village regardless of the bicycle path.

Jo Washburn

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THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 1988 MACMILLAN GRAPHICS

Baseball, Softball Signups Slated

Terrace Park Recreation Commission will hold a baseball and softball sign-up in the Terrace Park Elementary gym on Sunday, Jan. 29 at 4:30 p.m. Baseball commissioner Jack Harbison said there will be a guest speaker.

Since the softball league limits teams to 19, players will be assigned in the order in which they sign up. If there are insufficient players for additional teams, only the first 19 people signed up will be allowed to play.

Aids Foundation

Ruth Erhardt, 812 Yale Ave., is newly-elected vice president over Programs and Education for the Southwest Ohio Chapter of Arthritis Foundation.

Family Swimming Nights Planned

The Wednesday Night Family Swim at Stepping Stones Center, 5650 Given Rd. will open on Wednesday, February 1. Hours are 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. and the cost is \$60 per family for 12 weeks. Preregistration is required. Call Stepping Stones Center, 831-4660, for more information.

Two Residents Hailed As 'Outstanding'

Two Terrace Park men have been selected for inclusion in the 1988 edition of "Outstanding Young Men of America," published in Montgomery, AL.

They are Todd Hempel, 110 Wagon Road Ln., and William J. Gislason, 2 Swallowfield.

The OYMA program is designed to honor young men between the ages of 21 and 36 who have distinguished themselves in many fields of endeavor. Those listed were selected after 150,000 nominations were received from political leaders, university and college officials, clergymen, business leaders, civic groups and community organizations.

Players Set Dates For Dinner Comedy

Rehearsals are in full swing for the Terrace Park Players dinner theater production of "The Drunkard II". This light-hearted adaptation of "The Drunkard", by director Dave Pannkuk, promises to provide comic relief to the mid-winter blues.

The premier opening is scheduled for Friday, February 17, at 7 p.m. at the Community House with additional performances at 7 p.m. February 18, 24 and 25 and March

3 and 4. Reservations can be made by contacting Cindy Coleman at 831-5335.

Because of fire laws, seating will be limited to 80 people per performance, so make your reservations early.

If you have any furniture, clothes or artifacts of mid-1800's style which you could let the Players borrow, please call Linda Seta at 248-2945.

Named to Council

Mariemont Supt. Donald R. Thompson has been named to a three-year term on the national advisory council of the American Association of School Administrators (AASA). The AASA works on common issues that affect the learning of students across the nation. He will represent Ohio on the council.

Inducted Into Honor Society

Terrace Park resident David Porter, son of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Porter, was one of nine juniors and seniors inducted into The Summit Country Day School's chapter of the National Honor Society.

Summit's Upper School witnessed the induction ceremony on November 22 in Kyte Theatre and a reception for National Honor Society members, their families, and faculty followed.

New Program Aids Arthritis

Stepping Stones Center and the Cincinnati Arthritis Foundation are co-sponsoring "Warm Water Workout" for anyone who wants to get into shape with a non-aerobic, low impact exercise program. The program of gentle exercises in warm water with trained instructors has been proven to be very beneficial to people who suffer from arthritis.

Each session includes 40 minutes of instruction followed by recreational swimming. It is not necessary to know how to swim to participate.

Afternoon and evening classes are held at Stepping Stones Center, 5650 Given Rd. The cost is \$40 for 15 sessions and preregistration is required. For additional information, call Stepping Stones Center, 831-4660.

To the Editor:

The glow throughout Terrace Park on December 11 warmed our hearts on a very cold night. We wish we could extend our thanks to each of you personally for your part in lighting up our cozy neighborhood.

Many know that the luminaria tradition began as a way to invite the Christ Child into one's home. May those of you who supported this effort by displaying the warmth that evening receive the blessing of knowing that you have also extended your hand to help little ones at Childrens' Hospital.

To Kindervelt members — you deserve a hot cup of cocoa and marshmallows for your efforts in selling and distributing the lights.

Surely Santa will have an extra treat for the Girl Scouts who worked so hard to assemble kits.

We thank all again for the start of a wonderful annual tradition.

Grace Holmes and Tina Hesser
Co-chairmen, Kindervelt Luminaire

Tennitron Set For Youngsters

Youngsters from Terrace Park will take part in the 1989 Tennitron of Kindervelt of Childrens' Hospital at the Camargo Racquet Club on February 18.

The Tennitron is a 14-hour all-night marathon party for children 8-16 who raise money for the hospital by soliciting pledges from sponsors for playing tennis. Prizes earned are based on the pledges solicited.

Those interested in participating should attend sign-up night at the Racquet Club on Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. The Tennitron itself will be held there from 4 p.m. on February 18 to 8 a.m. the next morning.

For more information, call Carol Barnes, 831-1524.

TERRACE PARK GARDEN CLUB ANNOUNCES

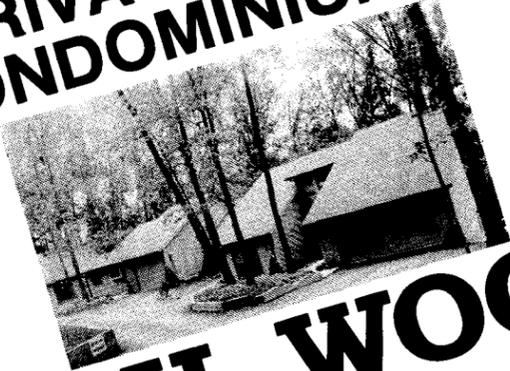
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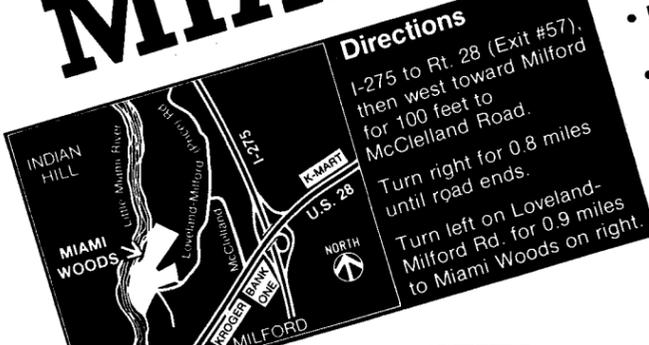


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On Friday evening and Saturday, February 10 and 11, St. Thomas Church will hold a weekend conference entitled "An Encounter with Christ." A team from Episcopal Renewal Ministries led by The Rev. Carl Buffington of Arlington, VA, will be presenting teachings and testimony.

The conference begins at 6 p.m. on Friday with a potluck supper, and resumes on Saturday with a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Lunch and dinner on Saturday are also provided. Both days' sessions will end at about 10 p.m. There is no fee, but an offering will be taken.

The event is open to anyone, regardless of religious affiliation. Babysitting will be provided, and a special program is planned on Saturday for children from kindergarten age through Grade 6. Call St. Thomas, 831-2052, to make reservations.



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Lights On—Off

Electrical troubles caused the Christmas tree on the village green to be dark more than it was lighted over the holidays.

Village Administrator Ron Pottorf said equipment supplying current to the tree was old and in poor condition, resulting in one circuit being overloaded.

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