



Celebrate the Magic of the Holidays



Happy Holidays from the Village Views

Traffic safety tops Council's holiday wish list

By Susan House

The Public Safety Committee wants to get residents - including children and their parents - involved in a traffic safety campaign. Councilman Mark Porst stated that residents should know just how serious Council is about making sure that our residents, especially children playing near or in the road, are safe.

Council will sponsor a contest open to all Terrace Park children of elementary school age. The contestants will design a logo and a slogan addressing speed limits and proper stopping procedure. All entrants will be awarded small prizes. The designers of the winning logo and slogan will each receive a \$50 savings bond.

Councilwoman Julie Rugh (on recommendation from committee) suggested hiring an auxiliary police officer dedicated to traffic safety. Having a dedicated traffic safety officer would intensify the monitoring of safety for our children at play.

Council members were adamant about the fact that they, not the police department, are responsible

for strict traffic laws and regulations — so don't take it out on your friendly police officer. This proclamation put a smile on Chief Robert Bacon's face as he has "heard plenty of it."

Council approved the appropriation of funds for the campaign and auxiliary police officer. As part of the approved traffic safety resolution, the Village also authorized an expenditure not to exceed \$1,000 to purchase traffic signs.

Revisal of tired old zoning code

Jim Flynn, 709 Myrtle, continued his campaign to change the zoning code to an ordinance that protects residents' property. Flynn handed out a comprehensive summary sheet addressing the update of the Master Plan for communities comparable to Terrace Park. Most of the communities germane to the study have revised their Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance between the years 1999 - 2002, with Loveland's revised ordinance dating back to 1995 and Columbia Township to 1996. *The greatest discrepancy oc-*

Council continued on page 5



Photos: Chandi Findley

(left) Carols and candlelight fill the air at the annual tree lighting. (above) Molly Sharp snuggles against Mom, Regina, to keep warm during the festivities on the village green.

New Year's Eve Fireworks

Drackett Field
December 31
7 p.m.

Donations gratefully accepted
Call Tim Reeder
for more info. 576-6167

Giving the "Gift of Sight" to 13,000 needy in Laos

By Regina Sharp

Recently, I had the experience of a lifetime traveling halfway around the world to deliver eyeglasses to the needy people of Laos. LensCrafters Foundation (LCF) in partnership with the Singapore Lions Club sponsored this *Give the Gift of Sight* optical mission. We traveled to Laos with a group of 24 LensCrafters associates and affiliated doctors from across the United States and Canada. Over a two-week period we were able to provide eye exams, visual health checks and eyeglasses to 13,000 people — many who had never even had glasses before. Additionally, we were able to provide cataract surgery to over 200 patients in local facilities.

People traveled to the clinics from in and around the surrounding villages to have the opportunity to receive an eye exam and, if needed, a pair of used eyeglasses. We used eyeglasses collected by the Lions Club and LensCrafters. The glasses are cleaned, classified and brought to the country to be distributed. We arrived in Laos with 30,000 pairs of eyeglasses to help fill the people's needs.

The joy on the faces of these emotionally conservative people was unmistakable as they put on their glasses and broke into a small smile and thanked us with "khorb jai" (thank you) and grasped our hands. One particular 12-year-old girl with a -9.00 prescription (very strong) had had to drop out of school because she could not see. We were



Regina Sharp (back) and other LensCrafters employees depend on translators (front) from local high schools to help talk with patients in Laos.

able to fit her with a pair of glasses in almost her exact prescription so she could return to school — a life changed immeasurably forever.

Laos is a tiny landlocked country surrounded by China, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and Viet Nam. It has 5.2 million people. As we traveled the 12 hours between clinics by bus, we were able to see firsthand the beauty of the unspoiled countryside and majestic mountains that make up Laos. One-room thatched huts with dirt floors perched on the edges of the roads and steep mountainsides make up the many villages along the way. There is no electricity or plumbing. All bathing is done in the single water source for a village — typically a pipe connected to a nearby mountain stream.

The people live off the land surrounding their village. We saw many children not older than four or five tending to the younger children while parents were away working in the rice fields. Despite their simple surroundings, they are happy and very friendly. They have no knowledge of what they do not have.

The day after I arrived home, as I was standing in the aisle at Krogers filling my cart, I realized how much I take for granted compared to these people who have so little. Even with comparatively so little they have such a beautiful and diverse culture and live a very happy life.

LCF in partnership with the International Lions Club conducts 10 missions annually to needy countries. Additionally, LCF sponsors the delivery of free optical services



As many as 2,000 people wait in line to be seen by eye care professionals during a recent visit to Laos.



Testing their reading glasses on the first available thing — the writing on the bag their glasses came in — these two men from Laos are able to read for the first time in years.

and new eyeglasses in North America through its traveling Vision Van. If you have old eyeglasses you would like to donate for the optical

missions you can drop them off at any LensCrafters store or my home at 209 Stanton or call me at 248-9195 for pick up.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

This is written to express concern about and encourage change in the building permit process. Simply put, it is doubtful that anyone who has read the zoning regulations and gone through the permit/zoning appeal process would characterize it as efficient. A number of relatively simple changes would make immediate and significant improvements. A variety of situations follow directly or indirectly from our current system. In the last issue of the *Village Views* we had the example at 707 Myrtle. Another example of a different variety started last month. I bring this to your attention in an effort to encourage system change.

On November 18 I noticed unusually high forms for a poured concrete wall being installed on a residential lot in the park. While on other errands that afternoon I stopped at the village office and asked to see the building permit drawings. The clerk advised me that "there is no permit for that project — do you want to talk with the building inspector?" I called and was advised that no application or complete drawings as required had been made or permit issued and that he was just leaving to issue a Stop Work Order. At shortly after 4:30 p.m. the inspector served the order.

At this point, this project to add a freestanding garage (documentation regarding type of structure is on public file) already had rough grading, footers dug and poured and foundation wall forms set in place. The apparent scope also included up to about three feet of fill to raise and level a portion of the site which will modify water runoff. On November 20 or 21 (we were out of town) work restarted and the forms were filled. When I called the building inspector to ask why, he said that he was instructed to withdraw the order as the garage project had been verbally redefined by the owner a "parking pad" which requires no permit.

On November 29 a building permit application for a garage was filed with the village. Even assuming that all paperwork is in order, no permit for continued work can be issued until the project gets the required public notice and hearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and their approval.

To date in 2002 there have been over 70 building permits issued with over 15 of these requiring approval by the ZBA. Another 11 ZBA applications are waiting the next public hearing which will be December 30. By virtue of their applications it appears that these residents are working with the system — cumbersome, frustrating and delaying as it can be. Stefan Olson, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Committee, has indicated that he plans to propose to Council a review and reform effort which should include input to Council from a group of citizens. This is the way to address needed change and changes are needed now. Continuing with an inefficient system is not only frustrating, but can set precedents and raise legal considerations.

Jim Rauth
301 Wanoka Drive

To the Editor:

The article by Bren Fries in the October issue of the *Village Views*, which extolled the virtues of the St. Thomas Church expansion, understates the impact of this mammoth addition on the community. A 40,000+ square foot building (equivalent to about 15 average size houses) can hardly be "tucked out of view." In fact, at four stories plus a high peaked roof, it dominates the area and totally destroys the esthetics (along with scores of old-growth trees) of what was once a quiet woodland habitat. In addition, planned paving work along Terrace Place and Miami Avenue to improve parking will cover several thousand additional square feet of ground. This will almost certainly result in added storm water runoff, despite the collection provisions included in the project.

The amount of disruption caused by construction was also vastly understated. The noise from heavy trucks and from huge propane burners (that often ran through the night), the fumes, the dust, the mud and the general disruption have made the lives of the nearby neighbors nearly unbearable over the course of the past year. Mr. Fries pointed out that the lack of "a place where large numbers of people can meet together as a collective...is about to change." That is frighteningly true. A facility of this size will tax the ability of the Village streets to handle the traffic flow, exacerbate an already serious parking problem and result in a potential safety hazard for children and other pedestrians.

Finally, and most distressing of all, is that construction of this huge and incredibly expensive building was called "a facility to match their spirituality." It's sad that any congregation or its leader could be so misled as to think that a lavish building with every conceivable amenity has anything whatsoever to do with spirituality.

John J. Souhrada
110 Terrace Place

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. See below.

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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 and date on disk. The deadline is the second Monday of every month at 9 p.m.

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.

Jan. deadline :

The January deadline for *Village Views* is **Jan. 13**, the second Monday of the month. All camera-ready ads and articles must be submitted by 9 p.m. **All advertisements** go to Gerri Kennedy at 152 Wrenwood. All articles go to Chandi Findley 427 Terrace Place.

Village Views welcomes readers to submit their ideas for articles: promotions, awards, school activities, engagements, weddings, births... things you think people would like to know and read about.

Village Views

Subscriptions are a thoughtful and inexpensive holiday gift for a friend or relative who has left the village. A yearly subscription is only \$18.50 per year. A gift card will be sent to the recipient upon request. To subscribe call **Gerri Kennedy @ 831-2388**.

In Memory of Werner Schmitt

Terrace Park lost one of its most remarkable and long-time residents this year. Walter Schmitt, 72, beloved husband of 50 years to Gerlinde Adrian-Schmitt, also a Terrace Park resident, passed away Saturday, September 14. Werner, former owner of Rotepohl Jewelers in the Dillonvale Shopping Center, is best remembered among his friends and family as a "fighter" and an artisan who loved working with his hands.

Werner's education of precision work in manufacturing began in his hometown of Pirmasens, Germany. Born in 1929, Werner's family was involved in the manufacturing of shoes. Captured as a French prisoner of war at the tender age of 14, Werner spent 12 months in a prison camp. He became a master watchmaker in Europe before coming to America in 1951.

Werner studied electrical engineering at the University of Cincinnati, and worked at Cincinnati Milacron. Werner's and Gerlinde's families had known each other for many years in Germany, and the two became reacquainted and married in Cincinnati.

Werner was known throughout the United States for his craftsmanship as a master watchmaker and for his skill in repairing and working with rare and antique timepieces. These unique skills afforded him the opportunity to work on timepieces for the Smithsonian, as well as NASA in the 1960s.

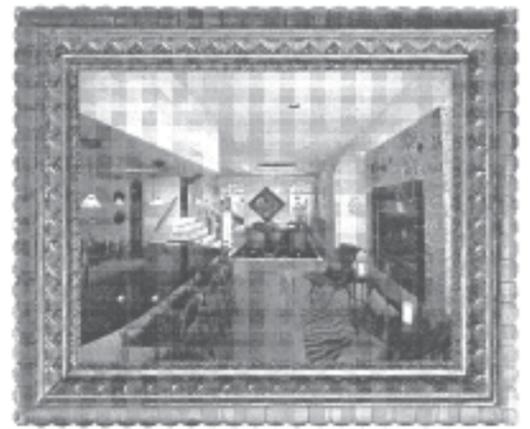
In 1981, Werner was shot in the leg during a robbery while working at the jewelry store. Due to complications with infection from the wound, Werner sold the store in 1984, suffering chronic pain, multiple surgeries, and the loss of his left leg.

But Gerlinde describes Werner as a "fighter," refusing to let his handicap set him back. Instead, he became a voice for Victims of Crime. Also, keeping with his passions for working with his hands without letting his handicap hinder him, Gerlinde says she has pictures of a green-thumbed Werner lying down to work in his garden.

Werner is survived by his wife Gerlinde Adrian-Schmitt, sister Gudrun Kircher of Cincinnati, sons Marc Schmitt and Gerald Schmitt of Terrace Park, and Frederick Schmitt of Lexington, Ky., and granddaughter Hanna.

A memorial service was held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Terrace Park on November 17.

Memorials can be sent to: Cancer Research Foundation, c/o University of Cincinnati Cancer Program, PO Box 670544, Cincinnati, OH 45267-0544; Alzheimer's Disease Research Fund, Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, University of Kentucky Medical Center, 800 South Limestone St., Lexington, KY, 40536-0230; or St. Thomas Episcopal Church Healing Ministry, 100 Miami Avenue, Terrace Park, OH 45174.



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Welcome the new year with a bang

Family and traditions transcend the years. Tim Reeder and his family began a heavenly family tradition in Terrace Park and would like to share it again with all of our families. The community is invited to celebrate "family style" with a fireworks show to ring in the New Year on December 31 at 7 p.m. at Drackett Field.



Jeff Carle. The committee asks that, if possible, please walk to Drackett Field and arrive between 6:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Special traffic direction will be set up to ease congestion before and after the show. Please direct any traffic or parking concerns to the Terrace Park Police Department.

Tim hopes to make this an annual event. This year's show will be sponsored by Reeder Photography and Rozzi Famous Fireworks — but donations are necessary to keep this tradition alive. To make a small contribution or to become a corporate sponsor, please call Tim at 576-6167.

The main reason for the New Year's celebration is for families to celebrate the beginning of the New Year together. Please join the Reeder family and ring in the New Year with a bang.

A small committee has been formed with the help of Lt. Gerald Hayhow, John White and Fire Chief

Village Calendar 2002

December

- 20 Winter Vacation Begins at end of day
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 Fireworks Display 7 p.m. Drackett Field

January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 School Reopens
- 7 TPE PTO Meeting 9:30 a.m.
- 7 TP Garden Club Meeting Noon Community Building. Featuring Carol Cole of the TP Historical Society speaking on the History of Terrace Park.
- 7 Kindervelt #76 Meeting 7 p.m. at the home of Lisi George, 207 Rugby. Call **Elaine Fening @ 831-8371** with questions
- 8 MHS PTO Meeting 8:45 a.m.
- 13 AARP Meeting 1:30 p.m. Community Building. Program: Dorothy from Cincerely Scraps will present a history of scrap-booking and other information. Call **Virginia Marquett at 831-2650** for details.
- 13 TP Mayor's Court 7 p.m. Community Building
- 13 MHS Fine Arts Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 14 TP Village Council 7:30 p.m. Community Building
- 16 MJHS PTO Meeting 8:45 a.m.
- 20 Martin Luther King Day — No School
- 21 Mariemont Board of Education Meeting 7:15 p.m. MHS
- 23 Mariemont Foundation Meeting 7:30 p.m. MJHS Library
- 27 Mariemont Booster Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 28 TPE Recognition Night, Grades 4-6, 7 p.m.

Please call **Roseann Hayes @ 248-2619** with calendar information

Cub Scouts put money where ideals are

By Candace Fries

Pack 97 Popcorn Kernel

Congratulations on a job well done! Cub Scout Pack 97 has concluded its second popcorn fundraiser and did extremely well! We should all be proud.

This year we had a special focus for our fundraiser. Our proceeds will benefit the Kim Hanes/Lung Transplant Program. We called upon our scouts to meet the ideals of scouting...Citizenship and Service...to help one of our own. We aimed high with a goal of \$200 in sales per scout, and 100 percent participation. It wasn't too high for our scouts — they really stepped up to meet the challenge.

Here are some popcorn points of interest:

- 62 out of 68 scouts participated! (49 last year)
- We sold a total of \$12,510.25 worth of popcorn (\$8,798 last year)
- Our pack made \$4,003.58 (for the Kim Hanes/Lung Transplant Program)
- Nathan Wagner was our record seller with \$1,037. Great Job Nate!
- 36 scouts made it into the playstation drawing. The drawing is yet to be held.



Who's that knocking at my door? Brian Routt was one of 62 Cub Scouts who went door to door selling popcorn to raise money for a neighbor in need. Mom Janie lent a helping (and cold) hand.

I would like to thank all my den helpers, for coordinating, collecting and distributing materials, money, and popcorn...Tim Stautberg, Vanessa Peterman, Leigh Saulnier, Sue Troller, Cindy Gorman, Dennis Kokoruda, Judith Lehman, and Alan Warner. You were a big help! And, a special "Thanks" to my laborers...Joe and Nate Wagner; Steve, Andy, and Ben Gorman; and Bren, Nick and Cal Fries, for brav-

ing the cold, and doing the back-breaking work of loading and unloading a U-Haul full of popcorn! My final "thank you" goes to our community of Terrace Park. Thanks to all of you for supporting this worthy cause and supporting the efforts of our scouts, as well as Scouting as a whole! You all made it happen!

Note to scouts: prizes will be distributed after I receive them.

Charles S.

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Neighbor to Neighbor



The 16th annual tree lighting at the Village Green-2002

By Candace Fries

Thanks to all of you, friends and neighbors, for making this tradition a success once again! Special thanks to all our many volunteers, and supporters... "The Terrace Park Sometimes Marching Band" (led by Al Nelson), "The Terrace Park Carolers" (led by Wendy Peterkin), Saint Thomas Episcopal Church's Choir of Men and Boys (led by Michael Hrivnak), our Junior Girl Scouts for selling hot cocoa and cookies, Jim Peterkin for organizing the sound system, Father Don Waring of St. Thomas for the prayer, Luke Frey for driving the fire truck and ensuring Santa's safe arrival, our cold but ever-cheery elves...Amy Sattergren, Allison Maggard and Gabrielle Smith, and last but not least...Santa himself!

A special thank you to our tried and true/year-in and year-out supporters...Steve and Debbie Fletcher, for our horse-drawn wagon rides and Ogle and Ed Annett for the film for Santa's Photos.

A community effort, through and through!

CCDS debuts their Ovation, Jr. performance



CCDS Middle School students perform in their first musical revue. (l-r) Sara Tanzer (Terrace Park), Brooke Heinichen (Indian Hill), Annie Huelefeld (Mt. Washington) and Rachel Nussbaum (Blue Ash).

Cincinnati Country Day School recently formed a new Middle School performing troupe called "Ovation, Jr." The group is comprised of singers, dancers and musicians. The students rehearse on Sundays and after school with hired choreographer and musical directors. The students' first musi-

cal revue, "Celebrate Music" was performed on November 22 — 24 in the John Whitman Keeler Theatre as part of the 76th CCDS Founder's Day Celebration. In addition to these dates, the students are scheduled to perform for local nursing homes and inner-city schools.

Mariemont Kiwanis 'Nuts for Knowledge' annual sale

For the last six years the Mariemont Kiwanis Club has used its Annual Nut Sale to advance the education of Mariemont High School students through the Kiwanis College Scholarship Program. Kiwanis members are selling nuts again this year to raise money for scholarships for outstanding seniors with financial need.

The campaign will continue through the New Year holiday. Attractively packaged in a re-usable plastic serving tray, the nut assortments make excellent party accessories or gifts for the holidays. Each container costs \$5 and includes approximately 10 ounces of either almonds, cashews, pecans, Deluxe Mix or Honey Cocktail Mix.

Nuts are available at the local banks in the Mariemont School District: 5/3 and Provident Banks in Fairfax, Star Bank and PNC Bank in Mariemont, and PNC Bank in Terrace Park. Marielders as well as participating businesses will also

have Kiwanis nuts for sale. Nuts can be purchased from any Mariemont Kiwanis member or you can look for our convenient mail-in-order form that includes free delivery. Or, call your order in to Dave Love at 271-2151 and leave a message.

Last June Mariemont Kiwanis Club awarded four qualifying students a total of \$10,000 in scholarship money.

Happy Holidays from the Mariemont Kiwanis Club!



(l-r) Jeff Lynch (Sycamore Township) and Miles Lindahl (Terrace Park)

Boy next door in *The Boys Next Door*

Ovation, a newly formed performance ensemble at Cincinnati Country Day School, presented a full length theatrical production to a packed house in the John Whitman Keeler Theater in November. *The Boys Next Door* by Tom Griffin featured performances by local residents.

The Boys Next Door involves the lives of four mentally challenged adults and their social worker. Often funny and at times poignant, the play takes the func-

tions of daily life and watches them unfold. Jack, the social worker must decide whether he is able to withstand "their" high jinks or leave and avoid burnout. Cleverly, the playwright gives a glimpse of what might have been if the handicaps hadn't occurred. Beautifully written the play takes us on a journey of awareness striking the realization that life shouldn't be taken for granted.

Congratulations to all the players for a job well done!



If You Need a Baby-sitter call Sarah Swart. I am 15 years old and I took a baby-sitting course. I have experience with little children and babies. I love to have fun and play with children of any age. I can be reached @248-2055

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Terrace Park Historical Society

Tracking our past and present for the future

By Carol Cole

I hope you noticed the picture in my November *Village Views* article. It was not identified and I wonder what house you thought it was. It certainly looked very much like "Gravelotte" but in fact it was the Errett/Fenton house across the street, now taken down and replaced with the school playground. This month's picture is reputed to be in the same area as last month's. Can you add more information?

The Terrace Park Historical Society has completed its first and very successful year. Archives no longer needed by the Village have been moved out of the cellar of the Community House and are gradually being sorted and organized. Our program of collecting oral histories and genealogical information about Terrace Park people and families is well under way. We have obtained two audio recorders, transcriber, copier, printer, scanner and computer with Past Perfect software for keeping all the kinds of information and records needed for running museums and historical societies. Stan Miller's scrapbooks are being copied onto acid free paper and the articles filed for use. None of this could have been accomplished without the volunteers who have spent many hours on these and other projects.

We have had five general meetings:

November 5, 2001 - an inaugural meeting including displays from some of the early years of Terrace Park history and Helen Barnett telling us some of her memories from the 1920s.

February 10 and April 7, 2002 - David McNeil talking about the "Swing" and "Kroger" traction lines that once went through Terrace Park.

June 2, 2002 - Bob Genheimer talking about the archaeological sites in the Little Miami River valley.

September 8, 2002 - Virginia Marquett and R. J. Vilardo talking about how their families came to Terrace Park.

November 3, 2002 - Stewart and Tom Proctor talking about growing up here in the 1930s.

Our next general meeting will be on February 2. Our speaker will be Richard Scamyon who has written a book with John Steinle entitled *Stockades in the Wilderness*. The Frontier Defenses and Settlements of Southwestern Ohio 1788-1795. He will speak to us about those stockades and especially about Covalt and Roundbottom Stations, right here in what is now Terrace Park.

We have had a wonderful response to our membership program and it's time to acknowledge everyone who joined for our first year.

Roy and Jane Allan, Mary Annett, Helen Barnett, Ken and Polly Bassett, Martin and Adrienne Bente, Bruce and Eliza Brown, Jack and Rosemarie Brown, Stan and Shirley Brown, Helen Campbell, Doug and Anne Cherry, Elizabeth Clancey, Ruth Clayton, Carol B. Cole, Lee and Carol C. Cole, Sam and Mary Cone, Edie Critchell, Mary Davis, Dick and Vera DeCamp, Joe and Noel Dehner, Margaret Dereniuk, John and Jane Diehl, Patricia DiMichele, Drackett and Harth Construction, Bill and Mame Drackett, Jane Earls, Kay Everhart, Patricia Fehl, Susan Abernathy Frank, Michael and Lori Frey, Ann Gatch, Jim and Ann Gilchrist, Alan and Bette Griffith, Jane Hageman, Bob and Do Haines, Bob and Louise Halley, H. Barton Hebble Jr., Bob and Pat Henley, Norvita Hildbold, Bill and Betsy Holloway, John R. Holloway, John W. Holloway, Robert W. Holloway, Riley and Anne Humler-Bauer, Don and Ellen Beth Irie, Kevin and Nina



The windmill in this picture is believed to have stood in the area where school children now play. The historical society is looking for more information about these structures. If you have any information, please contact Carol Cole.

Jahne, Leslie Jones, Mary Joslyn, Marilyn Julnes, Jean Kinmonth, Tom and Kathy Koustmer, Rita Leming, Carl and Ann Lindell, Ross and Bella Lindell, Bill and Jean Lohrum, Franklin and Coleen Lowe, Bob and Sandy Lowry, Sally Lyons, Gregg and Linda MacMillan, John and Pat MacMillan, John Maggard, Virginia Marquett, Elizabeth Martin, Peggy Maupin, Alan and Jan McAllister, Carol McIlwain, Harriet McKee, Jean Meyer, Vince and Kathi Milam, Lynne and Dick Mileham, Al and Lynn Nelson, Normile and Associates, Ted and Julie Northrop, Bill and Gwen Nunn, Peg Patten, Peggy Pettit, Mike and Kay Pope, Esther Power, Stewart and Bunny Proctor, Carl and Jeanette Pruss, James and Ruth Rauth, Robert Reuter, John and Linda Rockaway, Susan Rolih, John and

Ruth Rugh, Jim and Betts Ryan, Jim and Jill Sauter, Bill and Betsy Schwinn, Barbara Self, Nick and Rosell Shundich, Jack and Barbara Smith, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Roger and Frances Stafford, Dan and Kathryn Startzman Jr., Pete and Edna Stites, Marie Stoecklin, Ted and Marilou Swensson, Mary Tarkington, David and Maggie Tobergte, Mrs. Robert VanFrank, R. J. and Mary Sue Vilardo, Alan Warner, Dan and Jan Watkins, Doris Welz, Chris and Tamara White, Richard and Bert Wigton, Clare Williams, Elinor Winchester

Please send your dues for the 2003-year to Bill Holloway, 309 Terrace Place, Terrace Park, OH 45174. We welcome new members as well! Individuals \$15. Couples/Families \$25. Corporate/Business \$50.

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Council continued from page 1
curs with Terrace Park's last revision to the ordinance in 1963.

Councilman Stefan Olson, on behalf of the Planning and Zoning committee, said that meetings are taking place where committees and officials discuss input from residents regarding their frustration with building approvals and their feelings that our Zoning Ordinance is outdated, disjointed and confusing. Hamilton County officials have agreed to review the Terrace Park Zoning Ordinance and make pertinent recommendations.

Appeals-a-plenty

William Fiedler, Terrace Park's Building Official, reported that a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on December 30, 2002. The meeting will include nine separate requests for zoning appeal. A discussion was held pertaining to a suggestion that the Zoning Board of Appeals meet once a month. It was suggested that signs be placed to notify residents of the date and time of meetings of the Zoning Board. Proper notification should be made to adjacent owners of a property requesting a permit or zoning change.

Francine Glassmeyer advised Council that a monthly meeting may create logistical problems. A 15-day notification of the zoning hearing is required, as is a newspaper announcement. It is also impossible to proceed with a zoning appeal meeting until staff has all information for each project. Fielder reminded Council that currently eight information packets, per appeal, are required prior to a Zoning Appeals meeting. The December meeting, therefore, requires that Fiedler produce 72 packets.

He also stated that many homeowners have already proceeded with projects that are not within the proper guidelines and requirements of the building and zoning code. Our Building Official spends a great deal of time trying to straighten out the non-compliant projects that have been built by homeowners.

Souhrada says, "No more!"

John Souhrada, of 110 Terrace Place, addressed Council regarding a six-space parking lot addition he said will be presented to Planning and Zoning by representatives of St. Thomas Church. Souhrada presented a drawing to Council showing the proposed parking spaces at the back of the school. He stated that the location of the proposed road to the parking area would be a significant safety issue for adjacent property owners. Not only will they be affected by the traffic going to and from the church, it will be difficult to exit an adjacent property owner's driveway.

He also felt that the topography of the road was unsafe, and because a well used "cut through to the bike trail was nearby, bicycle riders would also be subject to unsafe situations."

Although the plan revision has yet to be submitted by St. Thomas Church to Council, Souhrada wanted Council to be aware of the plan and deny its approval.

Fire dept.'s backup scaled back

Mayor Startzman reiterated a letter sent to the Village from the fire chief of the Fairfax-Madison Place fire department. The letter serves as a 30-day notice that the Fairfax-Madison Place fire department will not be able to continue to provide Terrace Park with fire fighting services during the day. The Fairfax-Madison Place Fire Department has been under contract with Terrace Park for assistance services. The Mayor reminded us that the Fairfax-Madison Place Fire Department would still respond to a mutual aid call for assistance (including structural fires, an alarm at the school or an alarm at St. Thomas Church).

Fire Chief Jeff Carle told Council "state-of-the-art" thermal imaging equipment has been selected. Not only will it aid fire fighters in the

rescue of victims, it will allow officials to determine the source of the fire, during the fire, so that proper measures can be taken.

Miami Township backs up EMS

Councilwoman Rugh reported on the contract renewal, for two years, with the Miami Township Volunteer Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS). This year, 37 runs by Miami Township were for the benefit of Terrace Park. The terms of the contract call for a fee paid by Terrace Park of \$490 per run made by Miami Township. Chief Bacon mentioned that sometimes this money is re-cooped through donations by people who have used the service fire department or EMS.

Architects hired for study

Councilman Steve Holmes reported on his search for an architectural company to be selected for the feasibility study for the renovation or new construction of the Community Building. Holmes has interviewed architectural firms to find the "right fit" for Terrace Park. He recommended the architectural firm of Cole and Russell. They come to us with 23 years of community design experience. The firm may hire a structural engineer for consultation. Terrace Park expects them to include, in their services, at least two public meetings that residents may attend. Council approved the hiring of Cole and Russell.

'Tis the season

Chief Bacon told Council that historically there are more DUI arrests during the holiday season.

Bacon commended the Village public work's employees. Leaf collection is now over, and went well this year. The recent snow hit with not so perfect timing for the crews. At 3 a.m., they literally had to change over from a leaf collection set-up to snow removal equipment. Several hours of overtime were needed.

New police cadet installed

Chief Bacon introduced Larry Brown as the newest member of the Auxiliary Police Department. Council voted to sponsor Brown through the Police Academy and ultimately hire him as an auxiliary officer.

Dedication compensated

Councilman Porst proposed a three percent salary increase for Terrace Park maintenance workers. A resolution was presented and approved, to raise the pay of the police chief, the lieutenant, two sergeants, and patrolmen. Included in the resolution was a pay raise for police officers that work overtime. According to Chief Bacon, police officers must agree to work 19 hours of complimentary overtime per month. Anything over that amount can be submitted for overtime pay. Bacon said officers worked 2,205 overtime hours this year. This includes the 19 required hours and most of them are never paid for the overtime put in.

Council took time to thank Chief Bacon for the work that he and his fine officers have done this year. Our police force is a major factor in maintaining the safety and quiet we enjoy.

Hoops — continued

Councilman Jim Peterkin informed Council that new basketball poles are in place but the baskets are not installed. He will check into the status of the installation because vacation time is near and children and adults will want to play basketball.

Councilman Peterkin has had several meetings with young people in the Village for the purpose of determining the feasibility of a "Skate Park." Peterkin said the Village may not ultimately build a skate park, but the meetings are a good start.

Oh, what holiday joy!

Francine Glassmeyer, the Terrace Park Clerk, announced that, although it is a holiday, on January 1, 2003, at noon Village Council and all appropriate administrative officials will meet to prepare the Temporary Appropriations Notice.

I will never eat Skyline Chili

By Ann DuCharme

I have never eaten Sky Line chili and I never will. Gold Star chili will never pass my lips. I am not anti — chili. In fact, I am a chili advocate and have made countless batches of chili, experimenting with ingredients like Guinness, ground buffalo, even a smidge of cocoa. As a somewhat new resident in Terrace Park I am determined not to eat chili — a quintessentially Cincinnati food - because I don't want to leave.

For seven years I lived in Houston, Texas and every February when "Rodeo Day" rolled around at school I bemoaned the fact that unlike every other Texas resident, I did not have cowboy boots (or cow-girl boots for that matter). They were easy to purchase cheap - like at Wal-Mart where they stocked cherry red "leather" ones with turquoise inserts and cream stitching. They could be purchased not so cheap at Stelzigs where every style, length and exotic leather was stocked. I think J.R. Ewing shops at Stelzigs.

On my seventh Christmas in Texas I opened up a large, heavy gift box. Inside were honey colored boots with fancy stitching that meandered from shin to calf. There were silver stars on the upper edges and leather pull-tabs for yanking on. The leather was beautiful and unusual. I discovered the boots were made from a large, rodent-like marsupial who (with his over populated buddies) hops around Australia destroying family farms. Or, at least, that's what I tell myself. They are gorgeous and feel wonderful. It's impossible to merely walk in them. One needs swagger. As I two-stepped through my wrapping paper-strewn living room that Christmas Day I had a suspicion that the following Christmas I might be wearing these boots in another locale, possibly another country.

That summer we moved to London, England. One would have thought that my boots were quite the novelty in Great Britain but they

weren't. Everything's a novelty in London. While I struggled to absorb the "foreign" language and drive without terror on the wrong side of the road, I was thrilled with the amazing variety of European and non-European foods available in this venerable old city. French Patisserie, Irish Pubs and Indian Cafes all conspired to add 10-plus pounds to my frame, sending me, like Fergie, to Weight Watchers. I was fascinated.

The one culinary challenge that I had yet to discover was the concept of Modern Indigenous British Cuisine. Gone are the days of disgusting stews made of mystery organs and gray disintegrating vegetables (or "veg" as they are known). But, my local excursions increased and two items kept popping up on menus whether we were at a Kensington Pizza Hut, Bloomsbury Museum Cafe or Knightsbridge Garden Party. They are mini corn and prawns.

Prawns are puny, pink punctuation marks of slightly fishy substance. Here in America (where everything is bigger and better) we call them "shrimp." They come out for special occasions and are usually accompanied by cocktail sauce. During one of my first (albeit far from last) visits to a pub I was mystified when packets of prawn crisps flew over the bar as pints settled on beer mats. Translated, prawn crisps are shrimp potato chips. Oh, the horror! And that was before I knew you could get marmite and curry flavored crisps! In my culinary bible this was blasphemy and the blasphemy continued at the grocery store, Marks and Spencer. I feel confident that the good people at Kroger would never dream of putting shrimpy crumbs on bread greased with butter and sell it as a "sandwich."

And mini corn! Yes, I had seen these at Chinese restaurants everywhere and they are sort of fun in a stir-fry, even if they look like something from Stuart Little's picnic. Alone, they are just starchy bits of yellow texture. I would never put

them on pizza.

We had been in London one and a half years when I succumbed. I reasoned prawns and mini corn were probably low in fat and I used the classic childhood justification "everyone's doing it." Had I known that it would precipitate another relocation I would never have done it. I would have sprinted to the nearest overpriced import shop and loaded up on Oreos, Velveeta Lite and Vlasic Dill Pickles - all treasured delicacies in the American ex-pat community. Had I known that my little mistake would trigger the largest corporate bankruptcy in history (where my husband was employed) throwing the lives of my family and friends into turmoil and uncertainty I would have stayed home that day. But, I bought them, I ate them and they were a non-event. The next thing I knew I was packing to move back to somewhere in the States.

Months later we find ourselves happily in "The Park." As a newcomer I received many delicious cookies, rolls and breads. I received welcoming gifts of garden produce, handmade ceramics, scented candles, mulling spices and cider. My children have been invited to sleepovers and we to parties. I learned all about the ubiquitous "Yootieff" and all that it had to offer. I learned that Terrace Parkers say, "Not a problem" quicker than an Aussie says, "No worries, mate." My husband says my theory - that the moment we start to absorb the local culture is the moment we have to leave - is silly and superstitious. I believe history repeats itself. Therefore, this Christmas, please don't give me a gift certificate to Skyline Chili. I want to stay in Terrace Park.



Photo: McKenzie Bell

She's an American Girl

By Gillian Littlehale

Two Terrace Park girls were featured models in the American Girl Doll Fashion Show on November 4 at the Madison in Covington. Rachel Littlehale (left) wore the deep green velvet Christmas dress of "Molly McIntire," a girl growing up during WWII, and Abby Mathis modeled the traditional warm winter clothes of "Kirsten Larson," a Swedish girl who moved to Minnesota with her family in the 1850s. The lives of these and other Ameri-

can Girls are featured in the popular story and doll series. Rachel and Abby are pictured here with companion dolls of their characters. The fashion show was sponsored by the Junior League of Cincinnati to raise funds for the League's signature project MindPeace, which promotes mental wellness for area children. Visit the JLC at www.jlcincinnati.org or call 871-09339 for more information on "women building better communities."

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Teen drinking — what to look for — what to do

By Noel Julnes-Dehner

Terrace Park Police Chief Bacon offered the following observations and suggestions for parents concerned about the influence of alcohol in the lives of the children.

What is the typical scene with teenagers, alcohol and drugs in Terrace Park?

The first is "on the river, which is an obvious concern because of the water," Bacon said. Kids can fall on the rocks, and into the water. "There is also the danger of flash flooding. Just because it isn't raining here, doesn't mean it's not raining upriver. One family that was fishing got stranded here during a flash flood."

Secondly, in the homes. "Parents are either sleeping while their teenagers are having parties, or they are awake upstairs, watching television," Bacon said. "Parents don't want to intrude on their kids and take the guff, but they have to interfere. Hate you now, but love you later."

"Believe me, I know from experience, kids want to be interfered with."

Other popular places include the Log Cabin, the woods near New Street, and the Terrace Park Elementary School grounds.

Police intervention

The police department relies mainly on tips from concerned neighbors or parents to help them find out about situations where underage drinking is taking place.

"Usually a neighbor complains about the loudness, the open cans of beer," Bacon said. "Sometimes if people know about the party, they will call us and tell us it is going to happen. Then we can go to the home ahead of time and warn that they could be cited."

Upon arriving at the party, the officers will first go to the kids getting into cars. Then they will go to the house and, because of suspicious actions by the kids, the officers can enter the residence.

Anyone with alcohol or near alcohol goes through the portable breath tester "which is so sensitive that it registers even a few sips," Bacon said. "Anyone under 18 cannot have any more than .02 on the test, for driving purposes."

If there is evidence of alcohol consumption, a citation is issued on the spot. There will be a court date in juvenile court. Terrace Park's policy of mandatory referral means that all cases go to court, though

the police chief does have some discretion.

"Mandatory referral came through Congressman Rob Portman's Coalition for Neighborhoods," Bacon added.

What Happens Next?

If alcohol is involved, the teenager is charged with what is called a "misdemeanor of the first degree, which carries up to six months in a juvenile jail and a maximum of \$1,000 fine." (Heroin and crack cocaine possession are felonies.) The police call the parents to come get their children. Or if the offender is between 18-21, they are released to a ride home. Teenagers must appear in court with at least one parent.

"It is an offense — even for a minor — to serve alcohol to minors, and a betrayal of your neighbors' trust," Bacon said. "We make an assertive effort to locate sellers of alcohol and drugs."

Usually for first offenses there is an unofficial hearing before a magistrate in juvenile court in downtown Cincinnati.

"If your teenager is clean for one year, then you can have the record expunged, though you probably will need an attorney to get you through the process and payment," Bacon said. "If your kid is not clean for a year, then you are back in front of a judge, in an official hearing, and there will be a court record open to educators and police."

The Consequences

Parents usually punish by grounding and by assigning community hours. "When parents come to me for help, I assist them with coming up with volunteer opportunities for their kids in the community, such as washing police cars, and also by guiding them through programs."

Some additional consequences include: the infraction appears on college and job applications; a criminal record; increased probability of sexual activity; emotional damage; and physical damage.

Teenagers who drink have sunk into comas, had their stomachs pumped, gotten into cars as passengers or drivers and then been injured or killed.

Chief Bacon's Tips

Do your best to know what your kids are doing. Stopping the problem before the law is involved is the best solution for everyone involved.

"I'm here to enforce the law, but I'm also here for anyone before the law has to be invoked," Bacon said. "If parents bring to my attention their children's problems before they are caught, there are more options, such as counseling for the family and the child."

Bacon also made the following suggestions to help ensure that there is no alcohol at parties at your home and to help your child make a wise decision when you are not there:

Walk through parties, introduce yourself, and mingle. You don't have to stay long, just long enough for everyone to know you'll be back.

Alcohol doesn't enter through the front door. Check the back door, windows and under bushes.

Talk to your kids about alcohol and drugs. Don't just say, "Don't do it" or, "Your brain will fry like an egg." That's not real. Tell them the real problems and consequences.

When your kids call to check in, insist that they call you from a home phone so that your caller ID can tell you where they really are.

"Anyone who knows me knows that I'm about kids — making their lives better," Bacon said.

Think toys? Think trains? Think Ted's!

By Bren Fries



With another season of Christmas shopping in full swing, many of us travel far and wide around Cincinnati to find those ideal gifts. Well, you may need look no further than Terrace Park and Ted's Toys and Trains. Celebrating over five years in our Village, Ted and Julianne Gardner of Given Lane represent one of our very few retailers in town. The fact that they are a bona fide "Mom and Pop" operation make them even more unique. Ted, a Cincinnati native, has been a part of the toy business for many years, while Julianne laughingly considers herself an "unpaid employee with a great benefit package!"

The business of retail can be very challenging to say the least, and Ted's situation has been no exception. "We feel the economic good and bad times like any other business," Ted said, "but our surrounding communities (Terrace Park, Mariemont, Milford and Indian Hill) have been very supportive." Julianne added, "Thank goodness Terrace Park takes such pride in celebrating its children. We love to be a part of that as a both personally and as a business...it fills a need in our town."

While it may be easy to forget about the locomotive aspect of Ted's, train sales make up about half of their annual revenue. "Without the mail-order operation, we wouldn't survive," Ted noted.

What's more, the holiday season makes up over 30 percent of the store's total income.

The Gardners constantly look for that "next big toy," continuously revamping their inventory and attending national toy expositions around the country. They are quick to note that "this isn't the place for Sponge-Bob or Barbie," rather, they feature items that have redeeming lasting qualities for both kids and the "inner child" in adults. "We like to think of our toys as being more than just the mainstream."

In a day and age when huge, multinational corporations seem to occupy every retail environment, we should consider ourselves fortunate to have Ted's Toys and Trains on our "Main Street." Through past and future events like last year's game night at the Community Building, Ted and Julianne continue to look for ways that blend business with village. "We want to stay in Terrace Park for a long time to come," Julianne said. "The ability to build community through business is magical."

So, as you wrap up your holiday shopping "campaign" this year, think of your local businesses. Often, that perfect gift may be right around the corner. It just goes to show that, in this case, where you shop does make a difference.



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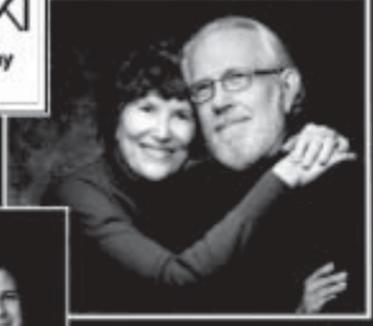
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Terrace Park Sports

Welcome to Lacrosseville, Ohio

By Lon Stirsman

I was born in 1997, with just six 4th and 5th grade boys from the village. I have grown into a goliath that had 75 boys this past year from all three of the elementary schools in our district. While I didn't win a game in my first two seasons, I have been the city champion two of the last three years. For the first time in 2003, I will be available to girls in our school district in the 3rd — 6th grades.

What am I?

I am Terrace Park Youth Lacrosse...and since I can't be stopped, you can only hope to contain me. I am the reason that you see boys in the streets carrying aluminum

and titanium sticks. I am the reason that those kids use those sticks to throw balls against the school and into the net at Stanton Field when there is snow on the ground. I am the reason that many of our children who once might have wanted to play short-stop, now prefer to play middle. I am the reason that the parents of little boys who will go to high school at Moeller and Princeton and Lakota know about our little spot on the map called Terrace Park.

And I am the reason that in 1999, Camilla Warrick first referred to our village as Lacrosseville.

Steve Peterson is probably the person most responsible for this phenomenon. Don't tell him that to

his face, though, as he will humbly and completely deny it. He will tell you that it was Rick Dunning who actually birthed this baby, and he is right about that. He will tell you that Jamie Egasti and Don Hawk and Phil Stephens and Matt Perry and Alan Warner and Marty Schmidt are also responsible, and he's right about that, too. But when you really get down to it, if your question is, "What in the world would lead 26 of last year's class of 29 sixth grade boys to play a sport called lacrosse?" well...the best answer to your question is probably Steve Peterson and what he has brought to this program.

Steve is head coach of the Terrace Park youth lacrosse program, as well as the Southern Ohio representative for US Lacrosse, the nationwide governing body of the sport. Both of his boys, Reed and

Drake, are talented players of the game, and his wife Judy is an equally enthusiastic supporter, as evidenced by her "LAXMUM" license plate. If you have some time on your hands, you might want to ask Steve a question or two about our lacrosse program and the positive aspects of the game.

If you ask about potential injuries, he will tell you that statistics show that lacrosse ranks a distant ninth in percentage of injuries sustained, well behind sports such as football, basketball and soccer. If you then ask about broken bones, he will tell you about the worst injury any of his players have ever experienced, and will describe in great detail how a boy took a hit to his arm, got a hyper-extended elbow, and missed three games a few years back. (He will also tell you that this same boy now plays for St.

Xavier, and that he was the main reason their squad defeated Mariemont this past season.) If you ask him what he teaches, he will talk about teaching respect for the game, your teammates, and your opponents. If you ask him what he is most proud of, you will see that is a difficult question for him to answer because he is proud of so many things about this program. But he will eventually talk about our boys crossing what some might see as territorial boundaries, and forming friendships with their peers in Fairfax and Mariemont. And he will talk about how important he thinks that is. Just don't ask him about some of the things you've seen the moms do on the sidelines, like yelling "poke him, poke him!" unless you want to share a laugh.

Lacrosse is a spring sport with home games played on weekends at Drackett Field. Check one out this spring and fall in love, like I did.



Photo: AnnDuCharme

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow...Sally Portman takes a slide during her "snow day" of freedom from school.

MJHS wrestlers bring home trophy

By Lon Stirsman

For the first time in history, the Mariemont Junior High boys wrestling team brought home a trophy, finishing in 3rd place at the Reading Invitational on December 7. Twelve teams were involved in the meet at Reading High School and traditional Division 1 powers West Liberty and Princeton took 1st and 2nd place, respectively. The fledgling Mariemont squad was the surprise team of the tournament, besting other established wrestling programs such as Loveland, Reading, Lockland, Deer Park, and Batavia, among others.

Noteworthy wrestlers included JT Rackley of Fairfax, who was the tournament champion in the 98-pound weight class, and Evan Kokoruda of Terrace Park, who took 2nd place in the 116-pound class. The most excited wrestlers in the entire tournament, however, had to

be the dynamic duo of Ross Hawk and Drake Peterson from Terrace Park. Both boys are new to wrestling (well, competitive wrestling anyway) and they found themselves advancing to the championship

match in their very first meet. Drake took home 2nd place in the 104-pound weight class and Ross, giving up 9 pounds to his more experienced opponent, finished 2nd in the 110-pound class.



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