

EXTRA!

School Board proposes combining elementary schools

By Chandi Findley

In the shadow of last year's failed levy, the Mariemont Board of Education (MBE) proposed to relocate Fairfax Elementary School students to cut operating costs. If the proposal is accepted by the MBE, 165 students currently enrolled in the elementary would be assimilated into the Mariemont Elementary School as soon as the 2003-2004 school year.

"When the vote is two to one (against the levy), people are sending you a distinct message," said the president of the MBE, Rick Koehler. "The underlying theme is that you guys need to do business a little differently."

Although the school board was able to cut operating expenses since the failure of the last levy, there is still a need for more savings. "We've made cuts of \$1.4 million, but about half of those are one-time cuts," Koehler said. "We need a total of \$1.1 million in on-going savings," but have cut about \$680,000 in on-going expenses.

By following the proposal, the district hopes to realize a \$354,666 annual savings and an additional one time savings of \$75,000. According to an addendum to the MU study, the school district will save money by reducing staff size (2.5 teachers, one secretary, one aide and two custodians), and reducing costs associated with: copier leasing, the library, the principal's office, the cafeteria, office supplies, capital replacement, supplementary salaries, utilities and technology. The one-time saving is associated with technology.

Even with the savings realized by relocating the students and cuts already made, the district will still need to pass a four or five mills levy in the near future (currently the district receives \$279,000 for every mill approved). In order to prevent the relocation of the Fairfax students, the district would need to pass at least a nine mills levy. Considering the state of the economy and the results of the last proposed levy, it is unlikely that the higher levy would pass.

Initial reactions emotional

The proposal was announced at a public meeting on January 21. Many Fairfax residents voiced their displeasure at such a move. Some Mariemont residents also voiced dissent asking why Terrace Park Elementary seemed unaffected by this measure.

"This is something we've been considering for six months," Koehler said. "I think once people have all the information available it becomes easier to make a logical decision. There are 165 students at Fairfax currently. If we add those into Mariemont we come up with 584 students and that's below the capacity of the school."

Student experience ranks high

Students and their academic experience are the highest priority for the MBE. "The academicians that we have worked with believe that this is the best thing for the kids academically," Koehler said. "The kids will have a better social experience than they have today," Koehler added. For example, "instead of the string band having four kids in it, it will have 18."

"At the end of the day this is really going to be a really good thing, we'll be leaner and stronger...it's just going to be a little painful, a little uncomfortable getting there," Koehler said.

Proposal backed by MU study

On request from Mariemont City School District Superintendent, Dr. Gerald Harris, Miami University's Department of Educational Leadership studied and recommended how the "Mariemont City School District can reduce its yearly operating budget while maintaining the outstanding quality of the educational program for the students it serves."

According to the Miami University (MU) study, surveyed residents were "satisfied with the Board of Education, and with the professional and classified staff." Residents expressed dissatisfaction "related to the cost of operation which has resulted in operational millage requests five times in the last nine years (four were approved, one was defeated).

Based on information provided by Dr. Harris, the MBE treasurer, and first-hand observation, the authors of the MU study suggested to "Discontinue the use of the Fairfax Elementary School building as an operating elementary school and move the Fairfax students to Mariemont Elementary School. Move the Board of Education offices to the Fairfax Elementary School building from the Mariemont Junior High School building which will result in providing (two classrooms) some much needed space for the junior high school students, faculty and administration."

TP to gain two classes

They also suggested moving "two special education classes from Mariemont Elementary to Terrace Park Elementary School. This will free two classrooms for accommodating Fairfax Elementary School students."

"We have the room to add two special education classes," Koehler said. "We also have a commitment to the community at large to make buildings ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible. It's about half the cost to make Terrace Park Elementary ADA accessible than Mariemont — so that's another cost savings."

New role created

Although there would be fewer academic buildings in the district and the main directive of the proposal was to cut costs, the MU study suggested retaining "the administrator of Fairfax Elementary School in some leadership capacity."

The authors of the study justified creating a new role by referencing other school districts. "We are aware from another recent study in a similar size school system regarding central office administrator staffing, that the Mariemont City School District is understaffed with only the superintendent and treasurer. We therefore believe that a district administrator freed by consolidating district schools should be assigned to the central office."

Other cost-saving ideas presented

The MBE Business Advisory Committee reported on two other cost-saving measures under consideration — "pay-to-play" and changes in employee benefits. These measures will be investigated further before being presented to the board for a vote.

Editor's note: There will be a meeting of the BOE on Feb. 4 and Feb. 18. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The Village Views is proud to bring you this EXTRA! edition in a timely manner. Without the help of our volunteer staff, Rick Koehler, Gregg MacMillian, and several other community members, this would not have been possible. We hope to bring you more information in the next issue of the Village Views.

Join in the discussion — please send us your comments!

Village Council approves funding for new ambulance

By Bren Fries

At the January 14 meeting of Terrace Park's Village Council, members voted unanimously to go forward with the purchase of a new ambulance for our volunteer Life Squad. Councilwoman Julie Rugh, along with Emergency Medical Services Chief Connie Wilson and squad member John Maggard, coordinated efforts and answered questions before the resolution was passed. The new vehicle will have a sticker price of just over \$120,000. Of that amount, \$50,000 will come from the coffers of Terrace Park. The remainder is a make-up of state and local funds. Several on Council asked for assurances that this vehicle is a new, fully functioning state-of-the-art ambulance....unlike its predecessor.

In other news, Fire Department Chief Jeff Carle told members present that last year the department answered 55 requests for assistance in Terrace Park. That's about 10 more than the annual average, mainly due to faulty fire alarm systems in modernized homes. Chief Robert Bacon added that during electrical storms, the systems tend to malfunction at a much higher rate.

Speaking of Chief Bacon, he reported that, all in all, the holiday season went well. There was one

B&E (breaking and entering) in the Village, but after review it turned out to be youthful "shenanigans" in a garage. He went on to add that the entire Terrace Park Police force completed their hand-to-hand combat training. Lastly, he noted that Lt. Hayhow was reelected as President of the Hamilton County Police Officers Association. Congratulations!

Our Building Inspector, Bill Fiedler, spoke about the improvements taking place in the building and zoning department. In short, greater attention will be paid to the application process and turn around times will be significantly reduced. (Please see my article regarding the December 30 zoning meeting for more details.)

On the Building and Grounds front, Councilman Jim Peterkin introduced several resolutions to pay for old or dead tree removal as well as pruning requirements. He mentioned that the floor of our Community Building had been prepared for painting. A discussion ensued by various council members as to whether or not a heavy antique oak table as well as the piano donated by the Terrace Park Players should or should not be removed because they rest on wheels and could possibly mar the newly painted floor. The discussion was tabled until a later date.

Councilman Mark Porst introduced numerous resolutions to pay for various municipal insurance premiums. He was glad to see that his Finance Committee meeting was attended by several residents. He said that the "TPlist," an e-mail communication tool for our community, was an excellent way to notify folks. (see article on page 7) One of the purposes of the meeting was to gather information on various ways to raise funds for a number of civic improvements.

Councilman Terry Howe, Rules and Law, passed out information to other members regarding positive

comments from citizens on the potential creation of a Village Administrator and the cost savings it could provide.

Councilman Steve Holmes reported to his fellow council members that he has met with both the Garden Club and Historical Society to seek ideas about the future of the Community Building. (According to a message sent via the TPlist, a meeting is scheduled for January 30 at 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public. The committee will ask the hired architects for a detailed account of the exact work they want to perform on the Community Building, a

schedule of that work, and an initial on-site assessment.)

Resident Julianne Gardner approached Council for the second time requesting answers to her questions about pedestrian issues on and around Wooster Pike. Namely, who is responsible for the upkeep of sidewalks and cleanup of debris around the bike path (formerly railroad) overpass. She asked what our Village is going to do about ensuring that a safe crosswalk, updated and fully functional, exists at the Elm and Wooster intersection. She restated this area is, unlike

Council continued on page 6

Zoning Board meeting sees renewed interest

By Bren Fries

This past December 30, more than 43 residents of Terrace Park braved the elements and attended the village zoning meeting in the somewhat warmer (just barely!) confines of our Community Building. The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) heard eight separate requests for variances to the zoning code. While numerous citizens were in attendance to speak on behalf of their own residences and the projects in question, the majority of participants were simply interested folks who wanted to learn more about the latest "hot topic" in Terrace Park.

Most of our Council members were present. Builders were there. The Historical Society was well accounted for. I'm sure it took the Zoning Board by surprise to see nearly every seat filled. To be honest, I doubted there would be the time or inclination by those in charge to allow residents to speak their minds and ask questions. It seems we seldom get the chance to do so in a public forum like this. Well, upon leaving the meeting, I am glad to say that I was wrong.

Led by Russ Wilson, Chairman of the ZBA, ground rules were laid on the table. Questions were acceptable and even encouraged (wow!). Information about each variance was sought out and residents had ample opportunity to speak regarding each. Most of the variances were approved, although one request for a proposed garage was rejected. Surely, not every resident left feeling like the system was working for them, but I do feel they left knowing more about the system and how it works.

Several days later, I took the opportunity to speak with Wilson to get a better understanding of the specific function of our ZBA. He led off by explaining what the Board doesn't do: they have no power to

enforce zoning code - that is the responsibility of the Building Inspector, and they make no decisions based on water run-off or retention issues. Their charge is to hear specific requests for variances to existing code and to entertain challenges to decisions by the Village Building Inspector. (Note: the January 29 ZBA meeting will involve the first challenge of such kind in more than five years.)

The variance process is one step in a three-part process to obtain a building permit. The other two steps require the approval of the Building Inspector to insure the project at hand is in general compliance with existing laws and regulations, and the approval of the Village Engineer, who spends much of his time addressing potential water drainage issues.

Wilson noted, "In general, it seems that quite a few folks around Terrace Park are misinformed when it comes to our zoning-related issues. Take the St. Thomas expansion project. On the whole, the entire undertaking fell completely within existing Village requirements for construction, yet so many believed otherwise." He added that, while some aspects of our zoning code deserve periodic review, he believes the overall effectiveness lies within proper application and enforcement of the system in place.

Ultimately, the building and zoning process has, over time, become nearly irrelevant because it simply doesn't work. Residents, frustrated with extensive delays in applications and variances complain about an ineffective and inefficient process. In the construction community, it is widely considered that Terrace Park's permitting and appeals exercise is a broken machine. More than one builder confided to this writer that "we call repeatedly for permits then finally go

ahead and begin construction...and take plenty of pictures."

Chairman of Council's Planning and Zoning Committee Stefan Olson's solution to this age-old problem is "developing and maintaining a mechanism in Terrace Park which ensures that our zoning and building regulations work for this Community." It is one thing to say it, but another to act. To that end, Olson and Village Building Inspector Bill Fiedler worked together and announced the following enhancements:

- All phone calls to the Building Inspector, Bill Fiedler, will be returned in no later than 48 hours.
- Responses to permit requests will be made within three business days.
- All permit applications will be logged in to the Village Office to ensure those not properly completed are returned promptly.
- Filing requirements will be made clear to builders and architects doing business in the Village. A sample form explaining the "Terrace Park standard" will be sent to individual offices.
- Cases of proven noncompliance within the framework of our building rules and regulations will be pursued to the extent of the law.

In the end, Wilson and Olson agree on the main issue that will continue to be a challenge to Terrace Park - how to best deal with the storm water drainage and water percolation as larger homes result in less available drainage area. They stressed that this idea is not independent of zoning issues in our community. In fact, they need to compliment one another to provide for an effective, useful framework that protects our Village as we look toward the future. The events of December 30 and subsequent building and zoning improvements represent a step in that direction.



Braving the coldest day this winter to help their feathered, furried and scaly friends, Reilly Comisar (l) and Clair Henneberry accepted money and goods for the Save the Animals Foundation (STAF).

Students spearhead support for no-kill shelter

By Ann DuCharme

I am adopting a dog. I might have said "we," as a family, are adopting a dog. I have extracted various promises from the family to feed, groom, walk and "pick up after" the dog, but truth be known, I am adopting a dog.

I came to know the Save The Animal Foundation (STAF) through Clair Henneberry and Reilly Comisar, 5th graders who collected donations for STAF recently on a sunny but freezing weekend, by the village green. Gripping colorful signs with their mittens, they jumped up and down explaining their cause to residents driving by. Although they collected an impressive \$70 after only one hour, they also mentioned

people could donate blankets, paper towels, even cans of Fancy Feast, to help the animals at STAF. Keith Henneberry (4th grade) was also on hand to support his sister, having helped with fliers earlier.

"STAF is important because it's a no-kill shelter and really helps animals. People should know about STAF if they want a pet or just want to donate," Clair said. I was able to reach Reilly by phone (on the way to her basketball game) and she wants people to know that STAF is important "because they have so many animals, cats and dogs, even a bunny, and all the volunteers really need help. STAF gives animals a chance to live and treats them if they are sick."

STAF continued on page 3

Korean Vets

This Memorial Day the community of Terrace Park is planning to honor all Terrace Park men and women who served in the military during the Korean War crisis. If you served in the military during the Korean conflict or know of a present or former Terrace Park residents who did, please contact **Ray Normile at 831-2804** or raynormile@hotmail.com.

Book Club, Anyone?

If you're interested in joining a book club, Newcomers is starting two new groups.

Ladies contact
Kadi Anderson at 248-1170

Gentlemen contact
David Minifie at 248-1776

Please call by February 10 for more information.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

When the most recent school levy made its way onto the ballot last March I must admit I was not positive which way I was going to vote. In spite of the fact that I had a son in the first grade and two more sons soon to be students at Terrace Park Elementary, I had some questions that I felt needed to be answered. However, Election Day rapidly approached and I did not bother to ask, as I should have. So on that day I was to vote I made the decision to vote in favor of the levy. After all, it was for the teachers primarily, and I wanted them to get the money I felt they deserve. But I must admit, I still had some trepidation while I poised the stylus above the ballot. After all, the economy was going south and my tax bill was feeling increasingly burdensome. So I could understand those voters whose stylus moved an inch over to the "NO" slot. However, after attending the October 2, 2002 lecture "An Overview of Ohio School Finance" at the high school, I realized that my hesitation that day might have been born of ignorance. So let me explain what I believe I have learned. The main message I want to impart is that in spite of the fact that it may feel like an inordinate amount of money is spent on our schools, we are getting what I now believe is a great value. Among the 22 school districts in Hamilton County, we rank 20th in salary rankings for Bachelor's Degree minimum; 16th for Master's Degree — Step 12, and 16th for the maximum salary paid. I do not need to point out that we certainly are not rated that low academically. In fact, one of the statistics that struck me was the fact that many of the schools with higher teacher salaries do not even come close to the performance level the children in our schools have achieved. Finally, there are six school districts that spend more per pupil than the \$8,985 that our district spends. They are 1. Lockland - \$11,626 2. Indian Hill - \$10,708 3. Princeton - \$10,399 4. Sycamore - \$10,256 5. Reading \$9,546 6. Cincinnati City - \$9,183. With all due respect, I do not believe many of us would have moved into some of these communities based on the performance of their schools.

I fully realize that we pay a good deal in taxes. However, in this case, the bon mot "You get what you pay for," does apply. In fact, I now believe we are getting more than what we pay for. The problem is it is not the parents of the schoolchildren that need to be convinced; it is the 60 percent of the people in the district who do not have children in the schools. So let's look at the value of the Mariemont District schools to those of you who do not have children who attend. We all have a number of reasons why we love living in Terrace Park. For many they include the tree-lined streets, the town green, the parades, the fact that we have our own swim club and nature preserve and, probably the most important reason, the unbelievable sense of community. However, that sense of community was something that most of us discovered after we moved here. So what drew a high percentage of us here and continues to draw many new residents? Why, the school district of course. Let's face it, when a family has children or plans on having them the first thing they ask when choosing a community in which to live is, "How are the schools?" The answer here is that they are very, very good. A good school district drives up the value of the homes in that district. So threatening the efficacy of our schools threatens the value of our homes. And that affects all of us. On an emotional note, I defy anyone to drive past our elementary school and see the children on their bicycles wending their way to class to not break out in a smile and feel warmth in your heart. The elementary school is the center of our community, its edifice a symbol of Terrace Park. We may be in a very real danger of losing that symbol. Many school districts in the state, as a cost cutting measure, have consolidated their elementary schools into one large, district-wide elementary. I would argue that for many school districts that makes sense. I do not believe it makes sense for Mariemont schools because there is something to take into account besides the financial aspect. Each of the three major communities within our district, i.e., Fairfax, Mariemont, and Terrace Park, has a neighborhood school. We do not have the only elementary that means so much to the community that surrounds it. The families of both Fairfax Elementary and Mariemont Elementary are fiercely proud of their schools. They too consider their school the center of their community and nobody wishes to see consolidation. However, consolidation is a very real possibility with the current financial status of the district. I need to make it clear that this was not brought up at the meeting. I noted it because I know it is something the district has looked at and would be remiss in not looking at.

Finally, does the school district have problems and issues that need to be addressed? The answer is of course they do. I am still upset that it took literally years for the boys' room at Terrace Park Elementary to get sinks that actually dispensed hot water. Certainly the physical plant of our school could use improvement. Many of these issues were addressed, finally, this summer. I also want to see what the administrative costs are in the district and how they stack up with other districts in Hamilton County. As to teacher compensation one needs to investigate what their total package involves. For example, do other districts pay more or less of the teachers' health insurance? Are there other compensations for the teachers that inflate the true cost per teacher? Finally, I feel there may have been some complacency on the part of the district officials in that they have passed every levy for the past 15 years. Now what about our part, as concerned citizens? Well, it is imperative that you make your voice be heard. If you feel the district is not doing everything that they can or should, then let them know. Come to the school board meetings, write letters or e-mail them your thoughts. Without specific complaints the district does not know what issues to address.

This was to be a piece of very non-biased reporting concerning the meeting that took place. However, I found it impossible to keep the father and reporter separated here. So my apologies to any who are offended by such an obvious op-ed piece when all you may have wanted to know was what took place at the meeting. I want to let you know that this is not an official opinion of the *Village Views*, it is mine and mine alone. There may very well be arguments to the contrary and those need to be heard also. I am going to try to answer for myself the questions that cropped up in my mind while writing this. I hope that all of you will do some investigating yourselves. So do your part, get informed, and vote in March.

Jeffrey Koreman
212 Cambridge

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.

Where to send:

Village Views P.O. Box 212
Terrace Park, OH 45174
Articles are accepted in any form. If possible the staff prefers to receive contributions on disk. Save articles on disk as Microsoft WORD files. Please put your name and date on disk. The deadline is the second Monday of every month at 9 p.m.

Real Estate Sales for 2002

221 Cambridge Ave.	\$325,000
7 Denison Lane	\$475,000
805 Douglas Ave.	\$750,000
815 Douglas Ave.	\$277,500
823 Douglas Ave.	\$424,000
731 Elm Ave.	\$870,000
900 Elm Ave.	\$385,900
915 Elm Ave.	\$385,000
965 Elm Court	\$684,600
1420 Elm Lane	\$385,000
1 Elm Ledge Court	\$416,000
707 Floral Ave.	\$340,000
820 Floral Ave.	\$259,500
700 Franklin Ave. (7/02)	\$497,500
700 Franklin Ave. (10/02)	\$490,000
726 Franklin Ave.	\$250,000
1 Given Lane	\$570,000
313 Harvard Ave.	\$289,000
323 Harvard Ave.	\$950,000
725 Indian Hill Rd.	\$235,000
809 Indian Hill Rd.	\$231,800
620 Lexington Ave.	\$725,000
708 Lexington Ave.	\$365,000
208 Miami Ave.	\$268,500
411 Miami Ave.	\$475,000
705 Miami Ave.	\$325,000
706 Miami Ave.	\$174,900
902 Miami Ave.	\$275,000
600 Myrtle Ave.	\$275,000
619 Myrtle Ave.	\$640,000
706 Myrtle Ave.	\$908,000
707 Myrtle Ave. (1/02)	\$260,000
707 Myrtle Ave. (12/02)	\$836,000
716 Myrtle Ave.	\$375,000
725 Myrtle Ave.	\$612,000
9310 Old Indian Hill Rd.	\$725,000
211 Oxford Ave.	\$868,500
307 Oxford Ave.	\$540,400
711 Park Ave.	\$540,000
729 Park Ave.	\$245,000
810 Princeton Dr.	\$370,000
912 Princeton Dr.	\$357,000
921 Princeton Dr.	\$850,000
107 Redbird Ln.	\$490,000
109 Redbird Ln.	\$383,000
329 Rugby Ave.	\$330,000
600 Stanton Ave.	\$730,000
809 Stanton Ave.	\$455,000
820 Stanton Ave.	\$486,500
909 Stanton Ave.	\$325,000
5 Stoney Creek Ln.	\$316,500
615 Valley View Ln.	\$400,000
609 Wooster Pk.	\$127,400
613 Wooster Pk.	\$105,000
718 Wooster Pk.	\$180,000
102 Wrenwood Ln.	\$170,000
111 Wrenwood Ln.	\$184,000
618 Yale Ave.	\$585,000

Home sales totaled \$25,768,500 (58 transactions) in 2002. The average price of a home was \$444,284; the median price was \$385,000. (In 2001 there were 47 transactions totaling \$16,259,500 in sales. The average home price was \$345,947; the median price \$290,000.)

David LeBourveau, DVM

Proudly announces the opening of

CAMARGO ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Small Animal Dentistry,
Medicine, Surgery, Health
counseling for Nutrition and
geriatric care, After hours care
and consultation for current
clients, house calls available.

Camargo Animal Hospital
9430 Loveland Madeira Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Phone: 513-793-9430
Fax: 513-793-1679

Convenient to Terrace Park, Blue Ash,
Montgomery, Indian Hill, Kenwood
and Loveland.

Quality Health Care for Pets

Does your home need "something" ?

Updating? Freshening? Color? Punch? Style?
New Draperies or Furnishings?

I'd love to help -- Our motto is "Making the
world more beautiful . . . one room at a time."



INTERIORS
BY DECORATING DEN

Call for a
complimentary
consultation

Joyce Z. Grothaus 513-575-3686

ELLIOTT ELECTRIC SERVICE		
RESIDENTIAL & LIGHT COMMERCIAL		
DENNIS ELLIOTT	PHONE:	
624 Miami Avenue	831-1700	
Terrace Park, Ohio 45174		

STAF continued from front page

Clair and Reilly learned about STAF from Mr. Fleckenstein, a teacher at Terrace Park Elementary. "Mr. F" said that although he finds his career teaching "humans" extremely rewarding he was missing some "dog time" in his life when he first began to volunteer two years ago. Mr. F is one of 222 volunteers who work shifts at the shelter. Mr. F's dog time includes playing but also cleaning living areas, grooming, feeding and of course, "picking up." Some volunteers are trained to give medication. Sometimes Mr. F just likes to carry the small dogs around, giving them the contact and socialization that they really need. "We have so much to learn from animals," says Mr. F "and there are so many different ways to help. It's about making an impact, no matter how big or small." Mr. F is there a couple times a week but his commitment increases when staff needs are greater.

When I asked Elizabeth Skufca, STAF Board Member and public relations chairperson, how someone could help, especially someone who may not be prepared to add a pet to their family, she encouraged people to come to the "Have a Heart" visiting day which is similar to an open house. This event takes place Sunday February 16, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the shelter. The open house will be a chance

to see the animals, the facility and visit information booths. Another big event for the shelter is their fifth annual "All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner" which takes place Sunday, March 16, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., 11330 Williamson Road at the Bingo Hall in Blue Ash. This event will be lots of fun with raffles, games and of course lots of information.

Elizabeth, who conducted my initial interview at the shelter, wanted to stress they are "a very unique organization" in that "they are run completely by volunteers and donations. The people are there because of their love for animals." I know from my visit that the work involved is considerable, with all volunteers working at maximum capacity — there are about 60 dogs now and upwards of 400 cats. And since the aim of the shelter is to truly match a pet to a family, with long-term commitment the priority, the process is careful and thorough, as well as successful. Last year STAF placed 90 dogs and 151 cats to loving homes. Unfortunately STAF cannot accept any animals at this time because the facility is full. They have suggestions for placement on their information line at 561-7823.

Sylvia Johanning, the shelter manager at STAF, wants people to know that the dogs go to school. "Even our puppies, ten days after their puppy shots, attend preschool, followed by kindergarten."

She means training classes, of course, and we could see this readily by the dogs we met on our first visit. They were sweet and attentive. Sylvia also could not underestimate the importance of spaying and neutering. If people would spay and neuter "it would solve a lot of problems, such as overpopulation, abuse and neglect."

Our next trip to STAF will be during their Sunday hours, 2 p.m.-5 p.m. where we will meet more dogs, get to know them and they us, as we search for our/my new dog. Even the lobby at STAF is a wonderful part of the experience, similar to a pediatrician's office with sunny animal murals, baskets of books and magazines, even videos on training. STAF is an important resource in our community, a credit to the spirit of volunteerism and a tribute to the humans that run it.

Editor's note: Clair, Reilly and Keith raised \$228.39 and received many donations of dog food, cat food, paper towels and other useful items. They would like to thank everyone in the Village who came out to help the animals.

Village Calendar 2002

January

- 27 Booster Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 28 TPE Recognition Night 7 p.m. Grades 4-6
- 29 TP Village Zoning Board of Appeals Commission Hearing 7:30 p.m. Community Building

February

- 2 TP Historical Society Meeting 4 p.m. Community Building. Topic: "Stockades in the Cincinnati Area (Covalt and Round Bottom Stations)." Call **Carol Cole at 831-6771** for details.
- 4 TP PTO Meeting 9:30 a.m. School Cafeteria
- 4 TP Garden Club Luncheon Noon Community Building. Topic: "Table Settings"
- 4 Public Viewing of TP Garden Club Table Settings 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Community Building
- 5 Kindervelt #76 Meeting 7 p.m. at the home of Holly Kraftt, 220 Harvard. Call **Elaine Fening @ 831-8371** for details.

- 10 AARP Luncheon Noon Community Building. Program: Penny Wichman on "The Background and Care of African Violets." For reservations call **Betty Smith @ 831-5434**.
- 10 TP Mayor's Court 7 p.m. Community Building
- 10 MHS Fine Arts Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 11 TP Village Council 7:30 p.m. Community Building
- 12 MHS PTO Meeting 8:45 a.m.
- 17 President's Day — NO SCHOOL
- 18 Mariemont Board of Education Meeting 7:15 p.m.
- 20 MJHS PTO Meeting 8:45 a.m.
- 24 Mariemont Booster Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Mariemont Foundation Meeting 7:30 p.m. MJHS Library

Property revaluations bring slight tax increase

By Susan House

As Terrace Park residents celebrate the new year of 2003, we received our new property tax bills along with our new property valuation notices. Great property values bring joy, until we face the reality that we are taxed on the increasing valuation of our property. Dusty Rhodes, Hamilton County Auditor, warned, in a late year 2002 memo, that "new Hamilton County values would be sharply higher in some areas due to the booming real estate market over the past few years."

The Auditor informed us that properties had to be revalued by December 4, 2002, for approval by the State Tax Commissioner. Because of this deadline, the revaluations had to be completed without the results of the November elections, the actual increased Hamilton County levies, or legislative changes.

Although Terrace Park faced no new levies on the November ballot, my data base information indicates

that most Terrace Park homeowners are receiving a 10 percent to 13 percent property tax valuation increase but only a 3 percent to 4 percent increase in their tax bill. Properties which have changed ownership since the last county valuation date, are adjusted according to the transfer price paid, the new "market value" and taxed accordingly.

Pursuant to a written statement by Rhodes, the state requires county-wide revaluations every three years. The new values are available on the auditor's web site, at HAMILTONCOUNTYAUDITOR.org. The current web site tells us that if a property owner believes their new valuation to be inaccurate, a protest may be pursued via the "Board of Revision." I have frequently used the Auditor's web site over the past few years and find it up-to-date, comprehensive, and very useful.

All things considered, living in Terrace Park is still my choice over any other tri-state neighborhood.

FLACH DOUGLAS & CO., LPA
Attorneys at Law
Quality Legal Services
Serving Terrace Park since 1961

FLACH DOUGLAS
 114 Main Street, Milford, Ohio 45150 **831-6697**
 Fax 831-3119

MILFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 541 Main Street, Milford Ohio 45150
513-831-5500
 Ministers: Richard L. Thomas, Joseph M. Payne
 Robert D. Lovell and R. Scott Miller
 Sunday Worship: 9:25 & 11:00 a.m. UMYF 6-8 p.m.
Serving Milford, Miami Township and Terrace Park

David L. Fritz, D.D.S.
Family Dentistry



614 Wooster Pike Telephone
 Terrace Park, Ohio 45174 (513) 831-1331

NEIGHBORHOOD KNOW-HOW
 Insight • Service • Results



OGLE ANNETT
 Senior Sales Vice President
 VM 483-4001
 HOME 248-1453

COLDWELL BANKER
West Shell
TOP PERFORMERS

OPTOMETRIST



Dr. Mark A. Kuhlman

6834 Wooster Pike
 in the Mariemont Strand behind Starbucks Coffee

- Comprehensive Eye Exams
- Latest Styles of European Designer Eyewear
- Glaucoma, Cataract, LASIK Evaluation
- All Types of Contact Lenses
- Evening & Weekend Hours

561-7704
 Hours by Appointment

SUNRISE
 COMMUNITY CHURCH
 East Cincinnati's Family Church

Meeting Sundays at the Indian Hill Primary School 6207 Drake Road **10:00 Worship Service & Children's Program**

A Christ-centered, contemporary church where families matter
 Pastor: Dr. Dale Thorne 272-6230

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
 A Ministry of SunRise on Mill Street
 A program for people recovering from alcohol/chemical dependency, codependency (and other hurts, habits, and hang-ups)
 203 Mill St., Old Milford on Fridays at 7:00 PM beginning February 8th.

VALLEY FLOOR
BATH & KITCHEN SPECIALISTS

Over 50 Years Family Service to the Community
821-6777

401 W. Wyoming Ave. Chris A. Rugh, Owner
 Cincinnati, OH 45215 Res. 248-1091

Neighbor to Neighbor

Porter receives grant for community service

A civic leader once described volunteer work as "the dues we pay for our community." No one pays her "dues" with more distinction than Sue Porter.

The breadth and depth of Sue's commitment to her various communities — where she lives, where she works, and where she worships — is astounding. For most of her adult life, she has devoted time and energy toward the betterment of her "communities."

In recognition of her commitment to helping others, Sue is receiving the William R. Burleigh Award for Distinguished Community Service. She joins an elite group of volunteers from the ranks of Scripps employees throughout the country. As a winner, Sue will receive a commemorative trophy and her name will be added to the Burleigh Award plaque. The award entitles her to designate a charitable organization to receive \$5,000 grant from Scripps Howard Foundation.

Sue will be presented with the trophy and a \$5,000 check to her designated charity — Inter Parish Ministry, an ecumenical non-profit organization that helps meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the working poor in eastern Hamilton and Clermont counties.

E.W. Scripps Co. news release as printed in the Inter Parish Ministry newsletter



Prepare Affair participants include Cole and Dillon Wilson, Mick and Riley Humler, Stefan and John Olson, Randall Williams, Hank Powell, Tucker Mindrum, Elliot Hanes and Taylor Frohmiller.

Scouts lend a hand in Madisonville

By Anne Bauer

Recently several members of Terrace Park's Boy Scout Troop 286 raked leaves and cleaned yards as part of Prepare Affair, a volunteer program to help elderly folks stay in their homes comfortably. Lead by

Stefan Olson, the group of Scouts put in several hours of work (...why is my son raking leaves in Madisonville when he won't rake leaves in my yard?) in what has become an annual service project for the young men.

Wilderness survival, scout style

By Anne Bauer

Remember the snow the first week of December? Rather than admiring the weather from their cozy homes, several intrepid young men and leaders of Boy Scout Troop 286 braved the snow and frigid temperature to work on the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge which basically teaches how to survive in extreme conditions without the benefit of typical camping equipment. The most difficult part of the course is building a debris hut out of sticks and leaves scrounged from the forest floor and then spending the night in your creation. Camping in our Nature Preserve proved to be an ideal choice for the exercise because of the extensive amount of downed trees and debris to be found there and of course, all huts were torn down, leaving things as they were when the Troup arrived. Scouts caught a small break when the weather warmed into the twenties that Saturday night, a big improvement from earlier in the week but certainly not a cakewalk by any standards.

Scouts and leaders participating included Steve and Zac Smith, Rich, Brandon and Alex Gulick, Mick and Riley Humler, Hunter Barnhill, Alex Swart, Randall Williams, Phil and Chris Egasti and Sam Cowan. With a bit of reading and paperwork, those eligible will likely be awarded the Wilderness Survival Merit Badge which may well come in handy when Troop 286 heads back to the Quetico Wilderness in Canada for an extensive canoe trip this coming June.



Mick Humler peers out from his debris hut built to fulfill part of the Boy Scout Wilderness Survival Merit Badge.

Charles S.
Keffer
CONSTRUCTION INC.

- Residential Remodeling
- Custom Home Construction

7 Denison Lane
Terrace Park, OH 45174
831-4499

You can have **PRIVACY & CONDOMINIUM LIVING** at **MIAMI WOODS** along the scenic Little Miami River.

- Experience wooded privacy amid rolling terrain and the Little Miami River.
- Enjoy 3,382 ft. of scenic river frontage and 25 acres of wilderness preserve
- Visit our beautiful models

Open Saturday & Sunday 2-6 P.M. or by appointment. Call 831-5511

Directions:
I-275 to RT. 28 (Exit #57), then west toward Milford for 100 feet to McClelland Road. Turn right for 0.8 miles until road ends. Turn left on Loveland-Milford Rd. for 0.9 miles to Miami Woods on right.

Drackett-Harth Construction, Inc.
831-1111
Custom Homes
Residential Remodeling

Lakeside NorthCoast Realty
Residential and Commercial Rentals
Lakeside Vacation Rentals
831-1111
www.lakeside-realty.com

What's Happening at St. Thomas?

St. Thomas Church, Terrace Place and Miami Avenue in Terrace Park

Phone: 831-2052 Email: stthomas@one.net Web: stthomasepiscopal.org

Worship: **Saturday** 5:00* pm; **Sunday** 8:00, 9:15*, 11:15* am;

Sunday School 9:15 am; **Wednesday Bible Study** 11:00 am

*Child Care Provided for these events



ALPHA START-UP

6:00 pm, Wednesday,
January 29

Alpha is a practical introduction to Christian faith, meeting on Wednesday nights. Classes begin with a dinner and introductory program at 6:00 pm on **Wednesday, January 29**. Please call the Church Office if interested, (831-2052).

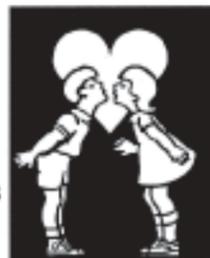


AGLAMESIS CHOCOLATES ON SALE!

Saint Valentine's Day Fundraiser

The St. Thomas' *Choir of Men & Boys* is selling pre-paid orders, door to door, of Aglamesis Chocolates for your Valentine! You may also order them through Amy Sandmann (232-4227). Profits will help fund the choir's trip to sing at the Washington Cathedral!

Half-pound or one-pound assorted chocolates in heart-shaped boxes may be picked up on **Sunday, February 9, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm** in the Church Parlor.



Terrace Park Historical Society

Tracking our past and present for the future

By Carol Cole

A SPOT IN CINCINNATI



Terrace Park Community Buiding — Caroline Williams, 1979

The next general meeting of the Terrace Park Historical Society will be held at the Community House on Sunday, February 2 at 4 p.m. Richard Scamyhorn has written a book with John Steinle entitled *Stockades in the Wilderness, the Frontier Defenses and Settlements of Southwestern Ohio 1788-1795*. Mr. Scamyhorn will speak to us on the same topic with emphasis on Covalt and Round Bottom Stations, both right here in what is now known as Terrace Park and both founded in 1789. I hope many of you who have not renewed your membership for the 2003 will do so at that time and that many others will then join the Society for the first time.

We are on the web! The Terrace Park Historical Society has its very own web site at www.tphistoricalsociety.org. It has links to the Building Survey and to the Terrace Park site, where you will find it easy to join TPlist (see article on this topic elsewhere in this issue

of *Village Views*). I hope you will find our site easy to use and informative. We welcome any comments and suggestions you may want to give us. We continue to get mail from interested Terrace Park people who no longer live in our area but are still interested. They have found us on the Internet, which has been a very good means of communication for us.

I believe the Historical Society should have an interest in some of the issues addressing the Village at the present time. The picture at the top of this article is a drawing done by Caroline Williams in 1979. The caption underneath begins, "The attractive Community Center of Terrace Park plays an active part in the life of the residential village." I have already written an article about our Community Building for the October issue of *Village Views* detailing how it was built, how it was sold by the Baptists to three civic-minded Terrace Park gentlemen and how it became our Town Hall or Commu-

nity Building. In the same issue there was a front-page article entitled "Fate of Community Building discussed." There have been several times in the history of Terrace Park when there have been discussions and even extensive plans drawn about building a new community center. Since the acquisition of what was the Baptist Church we have never seen fit to build such a center. Since we have a historic building beloved by so many Terrace Park people, both old and new residents, it may not be necessary to do so now either. I would just suggest that all those concerned watch for future meetings about the Community Building and be in attendance at those meetings to express their opinions. Terrace Park is a village made up of buildings from a variety of periods and in a variety of styles. Terrace Park has a unique and interesting history and its buildings help to tell that history.

Boy Scout Mulch Sale

Terrace Park Troop 286 Annual Fundraiser

Orders will begin February 22

A Scout will contact you at your home

Delivery Date: March 15

We Bring the Mulch to You!

If you are not contacted by February 28

Call Annie Bauer at 831-0728 or e-mail

anne.bauer@uc.edu

Get the best mulch available and help your neighborhood scouts!



Educational Resource Center

Vivian Franz, Ph.D.
Director

- Educational Books
- Games and Toys
- Tutoring, Enrichment
- Test Preparation
- SAT, ACT
- Ohio Proficiency Test
- High School Entrance Exam

513-831-6344

614 Wooster Pike, Terrace Park, Ohio 45174 • www.lampfighter-erc.com



Look into the best in replacement windows and doors.

Fletcher Window and Door Co. offers the finest in Pella replacement windows and doors with hundreds of sizes and shapes to fit your specific need. The Pella 20/10 Warranty along with Fletcher's professional installation is your promise of quality for years to come.

Call for a free in-home consultation.



FLETCHER

WINDOW AND DOOR COMPANY

Shawnee 3001 Miami Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44827
Call us at 513.272.5400 or visit our web site www.fletcherhomes.com

Nobody Sells Your Neighborhood Like Your Neighbors

Working together to serve your Real Estate needs.



Amy Minor
831-4945

Call today!
561-5800



Susie Gray
831-7626

Comey & Shepherd Realtors



FRESH POWDER



Whether you're skiing or snowboarding at a resort or wandering the new snow in the neighborhood, it's fun and adventurous to make fresh tracks. The same old trails can be comforting and easier, yet the chance to blaze new trails is adventurous and new. We're starting the year at Horizon by seeking fresh perspectives in several areas, looking for fresh approaches and dynamic ways to improve the life around us and for those we love. We want to gain momentum from moguls, not get hurt by them; we want to get up smartly from wipeouts; we want to push the edge on safety, but not to the point of insanity. Come join us as we seek to find some adventure among some everyday, real life topics that affect us all.

February 2nd CHURCH

February 9th ROMANCE

February 16th FRIENDSHIPS

February 23rd FAITH

Horizon is a new kind of church started by people in your neighborhood. There's no dress code and you'll never be pressured to join. Just feel welcome and feel free to explore your beliefs at your own pace. You can be anonymous or connect as you desire. Also, you can relax at Horizon Community Church with your family well taken care of. Your family will enjoy specifically designed, separate programs for newborns through high school seniors. We also have a weeknight children's program called AWANA.

So, please join us at 10:00 a.m. this or any Sunday at the Cincinnati Country Day High School Theater, 6905 Given Road at Shawnee Run Road. For more information, please call Horizon at 272-1315. We're "YOURS TO EXPLORE!"

Settling in for a long vacation

By Sherry Holcomb

After a long and stressful day of work, Gary and Claudia Kohlman look forward to driving through the Elm Ave. tunnel and entering their newly adopted neighborhood of Terrace Park. The Kohlmans say they get a feeling of relaxation and tranquility as they exit the tunnel, drive past fields and front yards, and wind their way down Elm to their new home at 329 Rugby.

"I love the way it feels like we're in a vacation home," says Claudia. The Kohlmans moved to Terrace Park in October after living in Hyde Park for two years. "It struck me how friendly our neighbors are around here," adds Claudia. "We didn't have that previously. In fact we didn't know our neighbors before."

The "vacation" feeling may be short-lived for the Kohlmans. Besides getting to know the area and the neighbors, they are busy painting, redecorating and getting ready for the arrival of their first child in June. After two years of marriage, the Kohlmans are looking forward to the changes coming their way.

For now, however, Claudia is able to continue with her favorite hobbies involving exercise and fitness. She is an avid runner and



Gary and Claudia Kohlman

likes yoga. Gary is busy with home improvement activities and is planning to get back to his favorite pastime — golf.

Time will tell if the newest Kohlman leans toward golf or running, but creativity definitely runs in the family. Both Gary and Claudia work in the field of graphic design. Gary is a design director at Deskey,

a contract graphic design firm that develops packaging and other materials. As a design manager in snacks for Proctor and Gamble, Claudia oversees product promotion work from other design firms.

Neither of the Kohlmans are originally from Ohio, though Gary is a relative newcomer having moved here from Albuquerque two years ago. He grew up in Wisconsin and graduated from the University of Wisconsin. Claudia is from Detroit and graduated from the University of Michigan, though she

promises not to fly the familiar navy and gold flag.

The Kohlmans like the remote and friendly neighborhood they now call home, though a few small changes would make it even better. Claudia says a little coffee shop within walking distance would be great, and Gary would like the big yellow "9 ft. Clearance" signs removed from the Elm Street tunnel. He says a nice wooden painted sign would be fine and would add to the vacation ambience that Terrace Park and the Kohlmans enjoy.

Council continued from front page

much of the rest of Terrace Park, very pedestrian un-friendly. No one from Council responded to her last personal appeal. Mayor Dan Startman asked that applicable individuals of our government check into the situation properly.

And lastly, in "new business," a resolution was passed by Village Council to join the Hamilton County Storm Water District. It is a new entity being formed as a continued effort of our nation's Clean Water Act. The County is trying to attract communities both large and small to join forces in applying education and good practice to the treatment of storm water runoff. For example, many towns with street gutters and sewer systems are seeing their rain water travel virtually direct from "roof to river" carrying with it many pollutants that have not had a chance to naturally percolate and filter within the surrounding lawns or fields. Terrace Park, oddly enough, has long been applying the very principles Hamilton County will hope to implement. It seems our "old-fashioned" method of ground-based percolation results in the most healthy runoff to our river system. Once again, our little town leads the way!

Sponsored by Kindervelt #76 of Terrace Park



We are collecting your gently used children's clothing, toys and furniture.

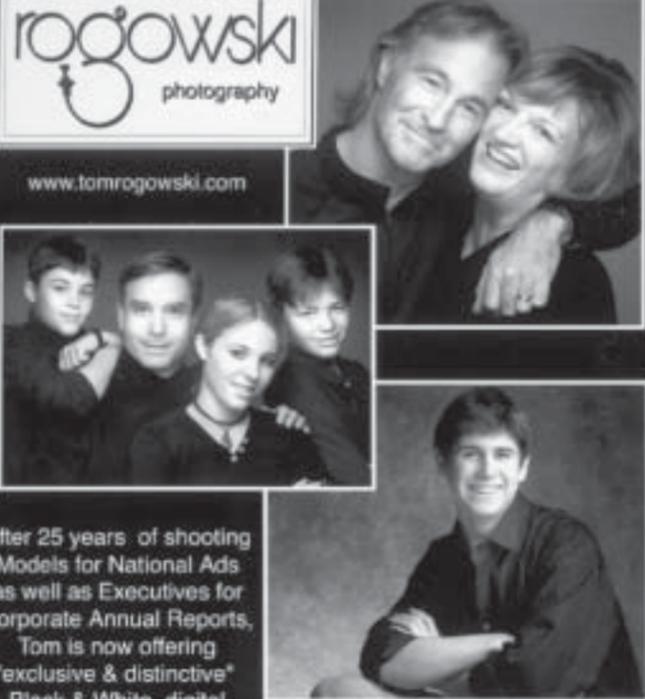
This year's sale will be held March 15 at the Community Building.

There is a 50% split between seller and Kindervelt, with proceeds benefiting Children's Hospital.

Call Carolyn Faulkner for more information @ 576-0011.



www.tomrogowski.com



After 25 years of shooting Models for National Ads as well as Executives for Corporate Annual Reports, Tom is now offering "exclusive & distinctive" Black & White digital portraits at his Terrace Park studio.

By Appointment only.
For information call (513) 831-9001



248-2121

Helping to build your business... one impression at a time!

Things We Print...

Brochures	Directories	Newsletters
Business Cards	Envelopes	Pocket Folders
Business Forms	Invitations	Programs
Carbonless Forms	Labels	Rolodex Cards

Services We Perform...

Bulk Mailing	Folding	MarketPlace Lists
Color Copies	Forms Control	Numbering
Color Output	GBC Binding	Offset Printing
Copies - Xerox	Graphic Design	Thermography
Desktop Publishing	Marketing	Web Sites

Park 50 TechneCenter • 2002 Ford Circle • Milford, OH 45150

You're Invited to Take a Tour... Visit Us At <http://www.macwww.com>

GET TO KNOW THE DAVEY DIFFERENCE.

Begin with a call to one of your local Davey representatives. They aren't salespeople; they're certified arborists and licensed applicators, trained to advise you on what's ecologically best for keeping your trees and shrubs healthy and beautiful.

Call on Davey for:

- Quality Pruning
- Deep Root Fertilization
- Cabling & Bracing
- Insect & Disease Control
- Seasonal Clean-up
- Lightning Protection
- Residential/Commercial Work

Call today for a free property assessment and estimate.



513-575-1733

SERVING THE U.S. AND CANADA FOR OVER 100 YEARS.
Visit the Davey Web Site at <http://www.davey.com>



Cincinnati Center for Improved Communication

A Division of Therapeutic Resources, Ltd.

Providing Consultation, Diagnostic and Intervention Services for Speech, Language and Learning Disorders

SINCE 1986

Certified **Fast ForWord**® Provider

Two Convenient Locations:

<p>Tri-County 11442 Lippelman Rd. 771-7655</p>	<p>Mariemont 3914 Miami Rd. Suite 311 561-9050</p>
--	--

Sharon K. Collins, M.S., C.C.C., SLP
Director



ArchitectsPlus

Exquisite residential architecture

**RICK KOEHLER
MIKE LEVALLY**

984 • 1070

Expanded TPlist links you with the community

By Sherry Holcomb

Looking for a way to stay in touch with what is happening in Terrace Park? You can read the bulletin boards and *Village Views*, talk to your neighbors and attend council and committee meetings, or join TPlist, the electronic discussion group for and about Terrace Park.

A simple five-step process is all it takes to have vital community information delivered right to your computer. You can participate in discussions of important topics such as the future of the Terrace Park post office, receive information about zoning and finance committee meetings, research historical information, locate people and more. TPlist has been in existence for some time, however use of the list to keep villagers informed has expanded recently. Several council members are now using TPlist to

send out notices for zoning hearings and other important committee meetings.

"TPlist is a great way to communicate if people want to get involved in the community," says Carol Cole, president of the Terrace Park Historical Society. "I'd like to see more people join the list to get involved in voicing opinions and offering ideas. What's going on today in the village will be our history tomorrow."

Gregg MacMillan, who started and maintains the TPlist, has made it easy to join and use. Go to the village website at www.terracepark.com and look on the right side of the home page for "TPlist . . . Subscribe Now!" Click on the subscription link, which will take you to the subscription form. Here you just enter your email address and a password that you determine. Then you are asked whether or not you would

like your list mail "batched" (accumulated and sent all at once.) Click on the subscribe button and an e-mail is sent to your address to confirm your registration. This extra step helps prevent someone else from signing you up without your knowledge. Once you reply to the confirmation e-mail you are on the TPlist and can send and receive messages.

Changing your information or canceling your subscription is also easy and can be done at any time. For security and other reasons, TPlist is not for personal messages and the addresses are not broadcast or shared with anyone. However, if you own a computer and like your information current and readily available, TPlist is a vital tool. So much so, that even former residents and foreign exchange students have subscribed to stay in touch with Terrace Park and remain involved in the community.

Two simple self-help writing activities for elementary school children

By Vivian Franz, Ph.D.

Here are two easy ways for your child to improve his or her writing skills at home. Students who participate regularly in these home-study exercises should soon be able to write in a functional way, with correct spelling, punctuation, and English usage.

The first technique is one the student can complete alone, editing as he or she goes. The parent need check only the final copy. The second is an exercise requiring the parent to ask easy-to-answer questions which the student answers on paper. Here are the two activities.

1. Copying. The student copies a paragraph a day, exactly as the

text appears in the book or magazine. He or she should be able to read the text easily and know all the words. Capitalization, spelling, punctuation, etc., must be copied correctly. The student is responsible for editing the complete paragraph before giving it to the parent for checking. Any book of interest will do. The intent here is to learn to copy correctly and edit for errors. (Some children like to copy their favorite poems and make their own special poetry notebooks. It must be remembered, however, that poetry has its own rules.)

2. Written Answers to Verbal Questions with Editing. Here the parent asks questions on any topic

of mutual interest. The student writes the answers. Handwriting must be legible. Answers must be in complete sentences. This is a teach-as-the-student-writes technique. The parent sits nearby ready to help. Each sentence is checked by the parent prior to moving on to the next question. There is immediate feedback. Any words not spelled correctly are written by the child on a list for later study. This 10 minute activity, practiced on a regular basis, helps students be functional writers. They learn to phrase their thoughts in complete, easily understood sentences.

Sample questions for the above exercise might be: What would you like to do this weekend? Why do you think pets are good for elderly people? Why didn't you put your bike away yesterday? Teach the child that a good way to begin the answer is to start with part of the question. For example, I didn't put my bike away yesterday because I was in a hurry to come inside and call Grandma.

Parents can teach. A good learning program is consistent, interesting, and practiced on a regular basis. The above activities do not take a great deal of time, and many students fall behind in their studies because they need and do not have this on-going support system at home.

Try these learning activities and see your child's writing skills improve.



Garden Club plant sale

To order flats of Pansies or Annuals from the Terrace Park Garden Club please call any club member or

Susie Gray 831-7626

Karen Ballinger 831-3784

This is a pre-order sale only

Pansy delivery is mid-March

Annuals delivered to Village Green May 16

order deadline is February 14, 2003

Terrace Park Garden Club

What a wonderful program Carol Cole presented to the Terrace Park Garden Club on the History of Terrace Park. She was most informative and entertaining for the January meeting. For the February meeting the members of the club will set tables for their favorite Historical Guest to the theme "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner." Six tables will be set and will be open to the public from 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. This is just another way the Garden Club gives back to the Village. We would also like to thank the Historical Society and the Village for making our Heritage Holiday House Tour one of the most successful events ever. Thank you co-chairs Linda Rockaway and Ellen Henneberry and boutique chairman Annette Askam for making these events successful.

New this spring will be the ability to order pansies by the flat. This will be a pre-paid pre-order sale only. Delivery will be in the middle of March, the perfect time to brighten your yard. Place your order today for this special event.

Chairmen Karen Ballinger and Susie Gray have announced a new format for the annual plant sale. The sale will be condensed into one day Friday, May 16, and will be for pre-orders only. We will be offering old favorites, hanging baskets and some new surprises. This sale will allow the Garden Club to again plant the Memorial Bed, and the Wooster Pike signposts. The Garden Club also sponsors Arbor Day at the Terrace Park Elementary School giving each first grader a tree to be planted in their yard.

Are you missing something?

If you would like any photos or disks returned from the *Village Views*, please stop by 427 Terrace Place on Friday, Feb. 31 to pick them up. (or call Chandi Findley at 576-0595 to make other arrangements)

Thanks— The Village Views Staff

Janet Sarran, Travel Consultant

Provident Travel

VIRTUOSO MEMBER

Harpers Station, 11309 Montgomery Road, Cincinnati, OH 45249
Telephone 513-831-5221 Fax 513-247-1121
1-800-354-8108

HI-TECH GRAPHICS

PC Service for Small Business & Home
Pc Tune-ups • Troubleshooting
Software Installation • System Set-ups
Upgrades & Repair
On Site Service Available

6105 Madison Road • Cincinnati, Ohio 45227

Phone 561-2292 • Fax 561-2294

Web Page - www.hitechgraphics.com

email - sales@hitechgraphics.com

-- Professional Web Page Design --

QUALITY PRINTING & COPYING
Direct Digital Color LaserPrinting from Disk
Laminating • Rubber Stamps • Typesetting

Commercial
Residential

We Do Windows
Insured & Bonded

NEW HOUSE
Cleaning & Detail
752-1234

Lot Clean-up
Debris Removal

Steve Bishop
513-604-0999

CATS IN THE CRADLE

In Home Pet Care Service

Laura Mason
Care-Giver



542 Brandon Avenue
Milford, Ohio 45150

Phone: 513-831-0794

HOMES FOR A LIFETIME.



MALLORY
HOMES

Custom Homes
&
Remodeling

Owner
Gary Bassett

Office
(513) 576-6789

Mobile
(513) 300-8091

- Custom Home Building
- Room Additions
- Kitchen Remodeling
- Bath Remodeling
- Historic Home and Building Renovations
- Owners Representation and Project Consultation

The next Village Views deadline is Monday February 10.

Classified

20 Seconds to Gulf of Mexico

Sanibel Island 2 BR / 2 BA & den weekly rental. Shelling, pool, tennis, sunsets, golf & wear flip-flops to dinner! Available on Feb. 15-21, March 8-15, April 12-21 for spring break etc. Call Annie Rice for owner rates & brochure **831-1054 or 831-3553.**

Condo for rent-Captive, Fla. at South Seas Plantation. On the beach. Sleeps six. Pool, tennis & golf. Available April 4-11. **Call 831-0502** for rates.

Terrace Park Sports

Dupre and Thoman pick up the pace in December

Interest in swimming at the High School and Junior High School level has seen a big increase over the last few years. This year the teams are the largest they have been since the mid-1970s! Great coaching by Kevin Maness (MHS) and Ken Dunlap (MJHS) and the enthusiasm of the participants has helped make it a "fun season" so far!

At the high school level, local talents Wren Dupre, son of Emily and Dave Dupre, and Nick Thoman, son of Henry Thoman and Kathy Thoman, have had the teammates and spectators in awe with outstanding swims in their specialty strokes of butterfly (Wren) and backstroke (Nick).

Dupre, a freshman at MHS, "flew" onto the city-wide Top 10 high school list early in the season swimming the 100 butterfly. He swims year round for the Cin-

cinnati Aquatic Club (CAC). His USS club teammate Thoman has also achieved remarkable times at the high school level as well as the club level. In December Thoman made a US Open cut in the 100 backstroke, breaking his old CAC team record, and made Ohio sectional cuts in the 100 yd freestyle, 200 freestyle, and 200 backstroke. January brought continued swimming success as he zoomed onto the top 10 High School list in backstroke.

Training continues for the entire high school team as they swim toward the Southwest District meet February 14-16 in Oxford, Ohio and then the State meet in Canton, Ohio February 20-22. Junior High Championships were held at Princeton High School January 16 with results unavailable for the *Village Views* January deadline.

Mariemont Aquatic Club swims into 2003

Mariemont Aquatic Club (MAC), the United States Swimming club that practices up to six days a week at the Mariemont High School natatorium has elected new board members for 2002-2004. Jay Umbarger, the newly elected President, has the support of Cindy Gorman - Secretary, Kyle Roberts-Treasurer, Susan Austin - Registration and Interim Parent Coordinator, and Jon Saxton and Gary Coyan, members at large.

MAC is a community based swim team that has been a Mariemont tradition since it was created in 1971. Increasing team spirit with team shirts, banners and fun activities as well as improving stroke technique and endurance have been the focus of new head coach Amy Kleinfelder. Kleinfelder, with a core group of six coaches, including former Terrace Park resident and MHS swim team member Casey Clukey, has seen the increased interest in the program grow over this season as the team

blossomed from 41 swimmers to 80 in just a few weeks time.

MAC is a fall/winter program that helps keep the recreational swimmer in the water year round. Children participate in a monthly meet and train the rest of the time. Inter-squad competition was an added dimension this season and was enjoyed by all.

"Many of the swimmers are very involved in summer private swim club teams, as well as fall and winter sports, and do not have the time to commit to some of the larger USS or YMCA sponsored teams. It really is the best of both worlds...swimming competitively but for the pure joy of it," Susan Austin said.

The team is governed by USS rules and regulations. The season began in October and ends at the conclusion of the Junior Olympic Championship series mid-March. For information regarding MAC see the web site at www.swimmac.com or speak with any board liaison.



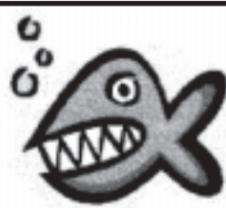
TED'S
TOYS & TRAINS

**A Great Place
in a Great Community!**

614 Wooster Pike
Terrace Park
248-1999

Store Hours
Mon-Fri 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Sat 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Village Views
P.O. Box 212
Terrace Park, Ohio 45174



The Terrace Park Tigersharks want you to swim this summer!

Are you a member of the Terrace Park Swim Club? Do you have children between ages 5-18? We are interested in helping your child become a better swimmer and diver this summer! Please note these important dates when making camp or vacation dates this summer! Registration will be in MAY 2003 for the summer season!

June 12	Turpin Hills AT TPSC
June 19	TPSC at Normandy Swim Club
June 26	TPSC at Miami Hills Swim Club
June 28th	Tentative date... KING OF THE HILL MEET (we were the champs last year!!!!!!)
July 3	Indian Hill Swim Club at TPSC
July 10	Summitt Hills Swim Club at TPSC
July 14	Dive Champs at Summitt Hills Swim Club
July 16	Swim Champs Prelims... a.m. and p.m. session
July 17	Swim Champs FINALS... in the evening!

We are also looking into a Tri-Village Meet...reinstating an old Mariemont, TP, and Fairfax tradition! Watch for details!

PLAY BALL!

Baseball and Softball Sign-ups
Saturday, Feb. 8, 10a.m. - noon
Terrace Park
Elementary cafeteria
For any questions call,
Bren Fries
(baseball)
831-8677
Jeff Jackson
(softball/instructional)
248-0005

Got Sports?

Get your teams or individual sports information in the *Village Views*.
Contact
Lon Stirman,
Sports Editor
at 248-1067

JAMES R. BELL

Attorney At Law

271-6554

Estate Administration
Wills and Trusts
Family Law
Business and Real Estate

6700 Chestnut Street
Mariemont, Ohio 45227

Insurance & Financial Planning Since 1888



The Eppa Rixey Insurance Agency



Providing Hall of Fame Service



Eppa Rixey Agency, Inc.
706 Indian Hill Road · Terrace Park, Ohio 45174
(513)831-2200

CARPENTRY REPAIRS - KITCHENS - BATHROOMS - DECKS - FINISH BASEMENTS - WINDOWS - PORCH ENCLOSURES - PAINTING - MODIFICATIONS FOR AGING & PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

LOCKWOOD **DOENCH & DAUGHTER** REMODELING

Five Generations of Contractors
513-734-0111

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Terrace Park, Ohio
Permit No. 22