



# VILLAGE VIEWS

## TERRACE PARK, OHIO



Volume XXXIV Issue 9

October 2008

## Mariemont schools launch district facilities planning process

By Betsy Porst

At their September 23<sup>rd</sup> Board of Education meeting, Mariemont City Schools launched a year-long district-wide facilities planning process. With a goal of developing a comprehensive, long-term facilities master plan, the district will assess the condition and functionality of their buildings and the resources within them.

Building on past studies by district advisory committee members and most recently from an evaluation by the Ohio School Facilities Commission, the district will conduct a soup to nuts assessment of all facilities and will then present various solution options to address any issues. Ultimately, the partnership of schools and community will decide the district's long-term direction.

The assessment will provide

answers to questions like, what is the true cost for the basic upkeep of the district's aging buildings? Will current facilities continue to meet the educational needs of students well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How can the district maximize the use of its facilities while continuing to foster their relationships with its communities?

To this end, the district will engage the participation of faculty, parents, community members and school facilities specialists. "It's our responsibility to develop a carefully considered plan that prioritizes students' educational and safety needs, makes long-term financial sense and strongly reflects our community values," stated Mariemont City Schools superintendent Paul Imhoff.

Community involvement in this process will include a resident fa-

ilities advisory panel, building teams comprised of administration, faculty and residents, open community dialogues and a dedicated webpage for viewing updates and submitting feedback.

The first community dialogue will take place on Wednesday, November 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mariemont High School cafeteria. This is an important opportunity for all community member to voice their opinions and concerns. District residents also interested in serving on a building team should contact Becky Jones at the Board of Education office at 272-7500 or at [bjones@mariemontschools.org](mailto:bjones@mariemontschools.org).

For detailed information on this process, click on the Facilities Planning link on the district homepage at [www.mariemontschools.org](http://www.mariemontschools.org).



Gravelotte after the storm

It took a 40 ton crane and a crew from Shawnee Tree Removal to remove a tree limb over the top of the roof. The limb was removed the Wednesday following the storm and was sailed over the house to the driveway on the right.

## Guest columnist concerned about the proposed mining site

*(Editor's note: The following is an editorial column by Cathy Burger, a greater-Cincinnati community member concerned about the ill-effects of the proposed Martin Marietta mining site. The site is on the edge of Anderson Township across the Little Miami River starting across from the western edge of Terrace Park (near Stumps) and extending toward Newtown. Concerns have been raised about noise, vibrations, dust, pollution and lighting resulting from the blasting, mining and trucks. Community activists have suggested that the Martin Marietta venture could adversely affect the health of our residents, the peace of our village and our property values. These concerns were raised at recent community meetings.)*

By Cathy Burger

The next meeting regarding the Anderson Township Board of Zoning Appeals hearing on case number 08-2008 BZA Martin Marietta (Broadwell and Roundbottom Roads) will be held on November 6 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road.

Many residents are upset by the idea of deep mining in Anderson Township. Tim Mara, a Cincinnati attorney representing Citizens Against Blasting On Our Miami (CABOOM) and property owners near the proposed mine site, continue to focus on blasting, and the effects to the environmental area and health of the residents.

### What Anderson Township has said

Anderson Township Trustee Al Peters said, "The explosions will occur so far underground that no one above ground will notice them. We don't have any concerns about safety." And Township Administrator Henry Dolive said, "Martin Marietta has been talking with Anderson Township about underground mining on and off for about 10 years."

Anderson Township Officials visited a Martin Marietta mine in Indianapolis, Indiana, but visited on a Friday when no blasting occurred.

### What residents can expect


Martin Marietta said "they have determined that the activities proposed on-site will not significantly influence the local acoustical environment." But, they stated that 250 trucks will be entering and exiting the mining site per day, making the total visits in and out equaling 500. The area will be brightly lit 24 hours a day and will cause disturbance to the local residences. The hours of operations would depend on the demand of the site's operations — they will be operating at least 16 hours day, making the noise impossible to avoid.

Martin Marietta said the noise and sound findings were as great as 55 decibels and are consistent with industrial noise levels. This is a significant amount of noise in everyone's back yard. Residents' windows will never stay open again and if the air conditioning goes out we all will suffer considerably.

Steven Raffensperger, Vice President and General Manager of Martin Marietta Materials Ohio Division stated, "Dust will be controlled by washing the wheels of the trucks to remove accumulated dirt," also often quoted as their "best practices." Their trucks would not exceed 15 mph as suggested for controlling dust on their property. The statement is testimonial to the fact there will be dust on their property subject to movement by wind. Raffensperger has also declared at the last meeting that operations will last for a minimum of 50 years — almost three generations!

Recent studies including a collaborative effort at University of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Children's Hospital, established that infants exposed to diesel exhaust early in life suffer more respiratory problems than infants not exposed.

The scale of the proposed operation and the location near highly utilized recreational fields is unacceptable risk to our children and their health.



Trick or Treating in Terrace Park—  
Friday, October 31  
Siren will sound at 6 p.m. to start and will sound at 8 p.m. to end.

## Raise your chainsaws high!

Here's a salute and a sincere thank you to the Terrace Park Maintenance crew for all the work they have done to clean up after the remnants of Hurricane Ike blasted through our beloved village! Let's not forget that this is the second damaging windstorm (albeit, the storm in July was a gentle breeze compared to last month's gale force winds) that has required a major cleanup.

Thank you to Maintenance Supervisor Dave Evanchyk; Maintenance Crew Members Tim McLemore and Paul Rahn; and Seasonal Maintenance Crew Members Dave Glassmeyer and Brian Baird. Your hard work and patience has our village looking great!


The staff of the *Village Views*

Help Your Village  
Terrace Park Fire Department and EMS  
49<sup>th</sup> Annual


## PANCAKE SUPPER

TERRACE PARK SCHOOL CAFETERIA

November 9, 2008 4:30 – 7:30 pm  
Adults \$6.00 Children (10 & under) \$4.00




Curbside leaf collection will begin at the end of October and continues through the end of November (Please be patient as our maintenance crews are still completing cleanup from the windstorm). Please do not put anything other than leaves in the collection piles because the leaf collecting equipment can be easily damaged by hard debris such as sticks, rocks, etc. There will be no stick collection at this time. A quick safety reminder: to help protect the children of our village, please do not drive through leaves on the curb. Also, please discourage children from playing in leaf piles along the street.



### November Deadline

The deadline for the November issue is November 7. You may send your submissions to [tpvillageviews@fuse.net](mailto:tpvillageviews@fuse.net). Please include a short description in the subject line.



**Voting**  
Date: Tuesday, Nov. 4  
Time: 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Place: Community Building

### Fall bulb plant

The Terrace Park Garden Club would like to invite all Terrace Park families to participate in our annual Fall Bulb Plant. Please join us on Saturday, October 25th. starting at 10 a.m. along the bike path on Terrace Place for some fun Fall work for Spring beauty. Please bring your shovels, some strong hands for digging and prepare to get dirty! Any questions should be directed to Michele Crouse @ 248-0367.



## Letters to the Editor

To the Police Dept., Fire Dept., Maintenance Crew and Arborist,

We are grateful to our Police Dept., Fire Dept. and Maintenance Crew and Arborist for the countless clean-up hours they performed under difficult conditions.

Thanks to their combined efforts we will again be able to enjoy our well kept and well managed village.

With Our Thanks,  
Gisela and Bill Lock  
816 Yale Ave.

Dear Editor,

I have been requested by neighbors to relay my experience of living near an active blasting quarry. After spending a quiet afternoon at home, I have decided to do so. Sadly, most days we came to expect a fine layer of dust on all outdoor surfaces, routine rumbly booms which shook our house in the afternoon, neighbors with cracked windows, pictures that fell off the wall, the perpetual beeping of heavy equipment and roads worn out from overuse.

Our former neighborhood installed seismographic equipment to monitor the blasting and, sure enough, most of the blasts were within government regulations. While it's true that I'm not a "quarry" expert and don't know if the proposed Martin Marietta facility will yield similar living effects, given the proximity of the proposed quarry, I do believe our community should be very concerned.

Respectfully,  
Michele M. Crouse  
David Crouse  
745 Yale Avenue

### Editor's note:

The following was presented by Jim Rauth at the September Council Meeting and was submitted for publication in the October Village Views.

My name is Jim Rauth and I have lived in Terrace Park for 25 years and my house is on Wanoka.

From time to time I am out of town. When I am gone I rely on my security system, and the Terrace Park Police to keep watch.

Shortly after I returned home last month, I received in the mail a professional recap listing the many dates, times and officers that checked my house during my absence. I am aware that this program has been in place for some months, but I wanted this evening to publicly thank Chief Hayhow for starting this program and the officers who walked the property and checked the doors and windows.

This is just one of many examples of positive change in the village over the past 4-1/2 years. I want to thank Mayor Gohman, council, the police, fire, ems, village office staff, maintenance crew and the many volunteers for your smart and hard work and dedication to improve Terrace Park.

Changing topics a bit – most of you know how supportive I have been in getting our zoning code updated. The update modernized the code, addressed code violations, strengthened enforcement and added stronger penalties.

Tonight as I drove into the parking lot, I once again noticed that the Fletchers have reduced the size of their stone driveway posts and added a fence. It is my understanding that these changes to *comply with the code* were *only made* after the village took legal action – which cost us over \$3,000 from the village budget! I am sure that the Fletchers cannot drive between these "cut down to size" posts without remembering that if you violate the code, the village will take action. More importantly, as residents we should see the posts as *monuments to good governments!* Thank you.

Jim Rauth  
301 Wanoka

## NANNY AVAILABLE

Days or evenings. References upon request.  
Call Mary Anne @ 271-8204

Village Views welcomes reader mail. Signed letters to the editor must be received by 9 p.m. on Friday, November 7. **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.

### Who to contact:

#### Managing Editor:

Chandi Findley @ 576-0595  
address: 427 Terrace Place  
T.P. 45174

#### Business Manager / Advertisements:

Gerri Kennedy @ 831-2388

#### Distribution Coordinator / Extra copies

Leslie Jones @ 831-2643

#### Calendar:

Hester Sullivan @ 576-9959

#### Layout: Amy Dillman

#### Sports Editor: Lon Stirsman

#### Reporters:

Proofreader: Betsy Porst

#### Photographers:

Ellie Pohlman

#### Typist: Leslie Jones

### Where to send:

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

If possible the staff prefers to receive contributions by e-mail. To e-mail, please call Chandi Findley at 576-0595. Please submit articles as Microsoft WORD or .jpg Format. Please put your name and date on submitted disks. Photographs will not be returned. **The deadline is Friday, November 7 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.

### November deadline :

The November deadline for *Village Views* is November 7th. 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 or call 576-0595 to e-mail an article.

*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.

### Leaving the Village

Subscriptions are available for \$18.50 per year. To subscribe call **Gerri Kennedy @831-2388.**

To the Terrace Park Life Squad:

On the morning of Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, I was riding my bike on the Lower River trail in the terrace Park nature Preserve, when my front wheel suddenly hit something. My right leg became entangled under the bar, and I felt and heard a loud snap as I fell to the ground. I knew I was in trouble when I realized my leg was broken and I was in a remote part of the woods. For nearly two hours, I screamed for help, hoping someone would pass by to help me. I became exhausted and frightened as the day wore on. Fortunately, a woman on horseback heard my cries and came to my rescue. She called 911 and my husband on her cell phone and then stayed with me and comforted me until the life squad came. It took a while for the squad to make its way through the woods, but I was never so relieved to see it. The squad members were very professional and compassionate. They took expert care in splinting my leg with minimum discomfort to me. My hand was held and there were words of encouragement from the time they got there until I arrived at Bethesda North. As it turned out, x-rays revealed three severe breaks in both the tibia and the fibula. How much worse it could have been had I not been handled with such care! I feel so fortunate to live in a community that has such a caring and professional life squad. They saved the day for me. My only regret is that I didn't have my cell phone with me, and I had not told my husband where I was headed when I left home. I had told him I would return by 9 a.m., and it was hours later before he knew where I was or what had happened to me. What a lesson I learned that day! I will always carry my cell phone with me now, whether going for a walk or riding my bike. It scares me to think how much worse things could have been had that kind woman not been riding her horse that day. By the way, her name is Sally Easley from Anderson Township. She boards her horse at the Lindell farm.

Sandra Bowen  
615 Valley View

For "Letters to the Editor":

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who helped make the Terrace Park Motor Show such a huge success. Special thanks to Dan Neal, Sean Barton, Bill Hayes, Steve Schooler, John Albrecht, and Stock Keffer for organizing, advertising and keeping the show a success. The proceeds from the event help keep Terrace Park Emergency Services functioning. Thank you all again.

In addition, the annual Terrace Park Emergency Services "Pancake Supper" will be at the school Sunday November 9th. So put down the pans for that night and bring your appetites. The Bengals are out of town so there are no excuses everyone in Terrace Park can't be there. This year we will also have a special "Pass the Boot" to help benefit the "Courage 4 Corey" fund. Corey Nickell is the three year old son of Milford Fire Captain Jim Nickell and his wife, firefighter Debra Nickell. Corey was diagnosed with Nueroblastoma early in 2007 and after almost a year of surgeries and treatments his cancer was thought to be in remission. However, a routine CAT scan in September showed that his cancer had returned and is now in a tough fight with more chemo and radiation. Let's show our brothers and sisters in the fire service how wonderful every resident of Terrace Park truly is and stuff the boot full of donations to help Corey and his family deal with this evil disease.

Thank you,  
Luke Frey  
Chief  
Terrace Park Fire Department

To the editor:

On the 27th of September the third annual Terrace Park Motor Classic was held and those of us on the committee were very pleased with the results. We had a lot of help and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize one of those that helped a lot. Roger Sauer, proprietor of Sauer's Milford Marathon, contributed generously to the prize package that was part of the Terrace Park Volunteer Emergency Services fund-raising raffle. He also made ready and delivered two classic cars for the show.

One of the reasons we put on the event is to bring the residents of our village together. It is people like Roger that make that effort even more rewarding.

John J. Albrecht  
411 Cornell

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# Every ticket sells at TPHS first home tour

The Terrace Park Historical Society's inaugural home tour Sunday, Sept. 21, exceeded expectations on all fronts.

"We wanted to showcase Terrace Park as the historical community it truly is, while raising funds to support our historical home plaque program," said event chair Sue Porter. "Thanks to residents who were willing to open their homes, hard-working board members, cooperative weather and lots of pre-publicity, we were able to sell every ticket - and even some last-minute copies."

Approximately 280 people - some from communities an hour away - visited the six homes that were open from 1-5 p.m. Many stopped by the Community Building to see the historical displays prepared by Carol C. Cole, learn about the Terrace Park Building Survey presented by Lee Cole, and enjoy cider and doughnuts. Transportation assistance was offered by Pax Lindell, David Lewis and Jim Porter, who made hayrides available along the tour route.

The day prior to the tour, TPHS

hosted an appreciation luncheon in the Community Building to honor the homeowners, docents and other volunteers who made the tour possible. Charcoal sketches of the featured homes were presented to the homeowners: David and Sarah Lewis, 429 Elm Ave.; Sean and Kimberly McCarthy, 307 Oxford Ave.; Jeff and Meghan Mills, 300 Rugby Ave.; Laura Wilson and Tim Werdmann, 6 Kris Circle; Wes and Shelley Cowan, 747 Park Ave.; and David and Dee Sawyer, 615 Amherst Ave.

The Sawyer home, which was damaged the week prior during a wind storm, was not open; however, Kimber Felton and Mike Ukropina opened their home at 729 Park as a replacement.

"Out-of-towners were favorably impressed by the beauty of our community and the hospitality of our residents," said Sue, "and everyone had such nice things to say about the tour. They liked that the homes were adapted to today's lifestyles without sacrificing historically significant details."



David Lewis did double-duty for the tour. Not only did he and his wife, Sarah, open their home to tourists, David helped them get to the six homes in a timely - and fun - fashion.



The Wilson-Werdmann home was of particular interest to these two tourists from Indian Hill: Donald B. Highlands, the great, great, great grandson of the builder of the home in the early 1800s, and Donald's granddaughter, Darby Fry Highlands.

## Village Calendar 2008

### OCTOBER

24 Early dismissal for Mariemont Schools  
24 **TP Elementary Pumpkin Festival** 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

29 **Board of Education Meeting** at MJHS 7 p.m. Public Welcome.

31 **HALLOWEEN—TPE parade** at 2 p.m. **Trick or Treating in Terrace Park**—listen for siren at 6 p.m. to start and siren at 8 p.m. to end.

### NOVEMBER

4 **ELECTION DAY**

7 **Ladies Night at St. Thomas Christmas Traditions Art Show and Sale** 7 to 10 p.m. A special opportunity to shop during Ladies Night. Tickets are \$40 and include appetizers, wine, live music, and a silent auction and raffle with items donated by the artists and more. To reserve your ticket, send \$40 payable to St. Thomas to Elaine Fening, 615 Miami Ave., Terrace Park, OH 45174 by November 1.

8 **Sign-ups for Terrace Park Youth and Mariemont Middle School boys and girls Lacrosse** 9-noon, Terrace Park Community Building

8 **St. Thomas Christmas Traditions Art Show and Sale** 10 to 3 p.m. in the church parish hall. Holiday shopping starts early at this second annual event. Find one-of-a-kind hand-painted tree decorations, original artwork, jewelry, textiles and pottery that can only be found at this unique event featuring local and regional artists. Admission is free.

9 **Terrace Park Historical Society program "Run for Cover—or Not"** featuring Flach Dou-

glas. Revisit the 1961 Cold War debate regarding building a shelter for 2000, right here in Terrace Park. Refreshments at 3:30 p.m., program at 4 p.m., at the Community Building. Free and open to the public.

10 **AARP Luncheon**, noon. For reservations, call **Vera Hodges at 831-7919**. Margie Buhrlage will discuss all aspects of "wellness." Also, election of officers and Christmas party discussion.

10 Early Dismissal for Mariemont Schools

11 **TP PTO Meeting** 9:30 a.m.

11 **Terrace Park Garden Club**, 12 p.m. Community Building. Come learn about Clip and Snip Natural Wreaths and an Amaryllis Planting demonstration by Jane Peterson. **Call Jill Kelly, 965-0819 for more information.**

11 **TP Village Council**, 7:30 p.m., Community Building

12 Mariemont City Schools Facilities Community Dialogue 7 p.m. MHS cafeteria

12 **Kindervelt #76 meeting**. Anyone interested can call Meghan Mills (831.4170), for details on time and location.

18 **Board of Education Meeting** at MHJS, 7 p.m. Public Welcome.

26-28 **NO SCHOOL**

27 **THANKSGIVING DAY**

29 **Boys Lacrosse new player clinic** (prior to the alumni game), 1-2pm, Stanton Field **29 Annual Mariemont High School Boys Alumni Game** (following new player clinic) 2pm, Stanton Field

Please call **Hester Sullivan @ 576-9959** or email [hestersullivan@yahoo.com](mailto:hestersullivan@yahoo.com) with calendar information

## Learn about debate during Cold War

In 1961, the run-up to the November election was a contentious time in the Village of Terrace Park as residents weighed the pros and cons of a proposed \$250,000 bomb shelter beneath the sanitary landfill.

Flach Douglas, former Terrace Park resident and attorney with Rendigs, Fry, Kiely & Dennis, will return to this Cold War era in his Terrace Park Historical Society presentation Sunday, Nov. 9, at the

Community Building.

The event is free and open to the public. It begins at 3:30 p.m. with refreshments, followed at 4 p.m. by the presentation "Run for Cover - Or Not." Archival materials about the bomb shelter will be available for review.

"The November election (Nov. 7, 1961) may well be the most fateful day in the lives of the men, women and children of Terrace



Flach Douglas featured speaker

Park," said one of the newspaper articles. "On this day the voters will be called upon to make a very grave decision. We will determine whether or not this village shall launch a program for mass survival by the building of a community blast and fallout shelter ... This is no ordinary bond issue. It is born of somber circumstances and grave possibilities of our time. It embraces the implications of life or death."

The shelter, designed to accommodate 2,000 people, never came to be - but not without wrangling that extended all the way to the Ohio Supreme Court.

Who were the players? Why did opponents prevail? How did the controversy impact the village? Douglas will answer these and many other questions in a highly entertaining and educational return to the 1960s.



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# Neighbor to Neighbor

## Mariemont High School homecoming



The 2008 Mariemont High School Homecoming court and prince and princesses were: freshmen Nate Wagner and Morgan Beck; juniors Connor Free and Laura Gardner; seniors Stuart Simons, Ally Maggard, Queen Amy Sattergren, King Max Budig, Evan Rosson, Jenna Grzelecki, Tyler Clarke and Katie Roberts; and sophomores Christopher Walker and Matisse Rogers.



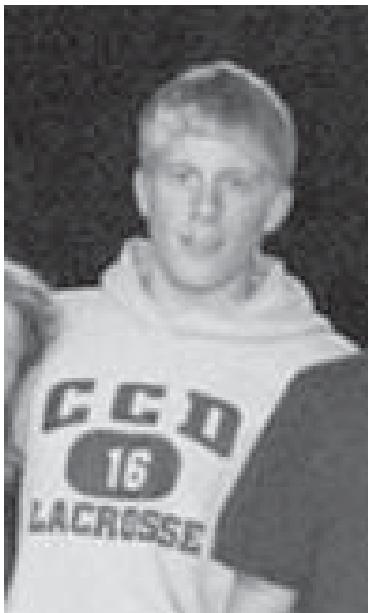
Mariemont superfans Brian Austin and Will Degerberg show their true colors in support of their Mariemont Warrior football team.



Photo by Betsy Porst

## Patriot Day

On Patriot Day, Sept 11, Mrs. Mathis' 5th grade class (shown above) at Terrace Park Elementary created thank you cards to send to TP's EMS, fire and police to show their appreciation for how they protect and support the village.



Cincinnati Country Day School celebrated Homecoming, and Alumni Reunion Weekend on September 26-27. The celebration started with a traditional student pep rally on Friday afternoon and culminated in class reunions on Saturday, September 27th. Terrace Park's own Luke Schneider was elected to the 2008 CCDS Homecoming Court by fellow Upper School students.

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# Police report

Criminal trespassing was reported near the recreation center building. Two males were found sleeping in a vehicle. They told police they and three other individuals were camping on the river. They were requested to leave the area.

Police received a report of a vehicle driving on New Street the occupant of which had exposed himself to two girls. The vehicle could not be located.

A resident reported a suspicious person walking in the neighborhood. The subject was identified as a Duke Energy meter reader.

The UDF parking lot was the scene of a minor accident involving a juvenile on a bicycle and a motorist exiting the lot. The motorist's tire brushed a tire on the bike. Police summoned EMS who treated the biker on the spot for a minor scrape.

Police were called by a resident who claimed another resident had followed her and initiated an argument over an incident involving their children. The responding officer, after determining the nature of the argument, ordered the subject who had started it to cease her behavior or risk arrest.

A noise complaint was registered concerning two generators operating during the recent power outage. Police determined that the noise level was not unreasonable.

A homeowner who had dropped off an item not accepted at the landfill was contacted and asked to remove it.

Two suspicious teens were spotted in a village neighborhood.

Police investigated and found that they were selling magazines.

While on patrol police observed a vehicle which had been sprayed with an unknown substance. When officers made a follow-up check the owner was cleaning the vehicle. The substance was harmless.

Criminal damaging of swings at the elementary school was reported.

A dog was found wandering at large in the UDF parking lot. Using information from its collar police were able to return it to its owner.

Similarly a dog wandering at large on Floral Avenue was identified and returned home.

A vicious dog was behaving aggressively toward some workmen. When police responded the animal threatened the officer. The Hamilton County Communications Center was asked for assistance. They placed the dog in an SPCA van. It was later claimed by the owner who was cited to court for violation of the vicious dog ordinance.

In other activity police took two reports of stolen bicycles, performed several checks on welfare, assisted with a problem resulting from a domestic dispute, telephone harassment and reports of downed tree limbs on wires. The department also recorded an additional coyote sighting.

Mutual Aid was provided to Milford and Newtown.

The Fire Department made four runs.

The log documented seven EMS runs.

# Terrace Park Historical Society

## Tracking our past and present for the future

615 Amherst Avenue, "Railroad Houses" and James W. Sibley

By Carol C. Cole

I hope many of you took the opportunity to visit the six historic homes on the Terrace Park Historical Society's very first House Tour. Unfortunately David and Dee Sawyer had to remove their home from the tour due to damage suffered in the wake of Hurricane Ike. Thus this month I've decided to feature their home along with other "railroad houses" and their builder.

This was the house built by James W. Sibley for Lucius and Amanda Conkling in 1891-2. Abraham Conkling was the first of the family to come west from Morristown, New Jersey and settled in 1803 on 640 acres on Indian Hill where the Camargo County Club is today. There were 10 children, one of whom, Lindley, built the mansion on Given Road, which is now the administration building for Stepping Stones Center. Another, Richard, had thirteen children by three different wives. One of these children was our Lucius Walden Conkling. He was the first to run the Terrace Market and later became postmaster as well.

Stella Galloway Boone, in the paper she wrote for the Terrace Park Garden Club in 1942, lists the Sawyer's home as one of the 17 so-called "railroad houses" Sibley had built. Most of those houses are built in a cruciform pattern but this one is not. However, many of the features are the same: very steep staircase in two parts just inside the door, front living room with bay window, dining room behind that either with or without a bay window. Obviously one could make alterations in the original plan. Amanda Conkling lived here until her death in 1944 but the house stayed in the family until the early 1950s. No changes were made in the house until a 2-story addition (family room with master suite above) was built to the rear in the late 1960s. A new garage was built in 2002. David Sawyer himself has done most of the later work: screened porch in 2006-7, exterior of the home restored in 2006-7. The interior is currently being renovated and remodeled so this was to have been our "work in progress" home. Take the time to compare this home with 609 Amherst Avenue, another "railroad house" next door. They're both on Stella Galloway's list but you can see very obvious differences outside.

James Whitelaw Sibley is responsible for developing more of

Terrace Park than any other person. He was born February 20, 1816 in Montpelier, Washington County, Vermont and came west through New York state where he married Mary Alida Hastings in Clinton, Oneida County, New York, September 9, 1840. He settled in Cincinnati as a Commission Merchant. By 1880 he and his family were living on Grandin Road in Hyde Park where he remained until his death, April 6, 1893. It wasn't until 1886 that deeds show him buying up land in what became Terrace Park. He established four subdivisions: South of Oxford to the north side of Amherst Avenue in 1886, Myrtle to Miami and Marietta beyond Stanton to the bluff in 1890, Amherst to Marietta and Yale to Miami in 1891 and the south side of Amherst from Elm to Floral in 1892. By then he was 76 years old.

Once he had some land he needed to start building houses. It looks as if he then found a Cincinnati architect, bought plans for a house from him for \$25 and started building homes using this plan. These are the ones that have become known as "railroad houses". Perhaps they should have been called "Sibley houses" since all of them are in his subdivisions. Why they were called "railroad houses" remains a mystery since it does not appear that they were built either by the railroad or for railroad employees. Certainly it was well known that there was easy rail transportation from this newly developing area into Cincinnati for work.

The first home he built still stands, now greatly enlarged, at 311 Harvard Avenue for his eldest son, James Hastings Sibley. He too was first listed in the 1880 and 1890 census as a Commission Merchant



An early picture of 615 Amherst Avenue.



615 Amherst Avenue as it was before Hurricane Ike.

like his father but by the 1893 Cincinnati City Directory was listed as a Real Estate agent living in Terrace Park. Before that he and his brother were "helping father". In 1887 J. W. Sibley built 306 Rugby Avenue, also now greatly enlarged, for his next son, Frank Hastings Sibley. Sibley also built homes for the West family (203 Marietta Avenue) and Bellville families (710 and 716 Floral Avenue) as well as for the Lucius and Amanda Conkling family. Exactly how each one looked when it was first built we will probably never know but there seems to have been some variation as I've pointed out in 615 Amherst Avenue. Most have had significant additions but are still recognizable as house built by the Sibley family in the 1880s and '90s. It seems sad that James Whitelaw Sibley died just as Terrace Park was becoming incorporated. According to Ellis Rawnsley both he, or more likely his son of the same name, and his son Frank H. Sibley were among the founding fathers of Terrace Park.

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# Phloxy Ladies brighten Stepping Stones with volunteer army bearing blossoms

Helene Bentley stood on a hillside of wild strawberries and tangled brush and tossed another armful of twigs and branches on her growing pile.

A few yards away, Diane Govert positioned daffodil bulbs in newly dug holes while a chorus line of women pushing wheelbarrows packed with mulch wound their way down steep drives and pathways, distributing their aromatic loads to teams of more women trimming trees, planting asters and positioning boxwoods.

The Phloxy Ladies garden club, with members from Terrace Park, Indian Hill, Hyde Park and throughout Cincinnati's eastern communities, transformed the entrance to Stepping Stones Center in Indian Hill this month as the garden club's annual community service project. New purple asters, pansies and golden winter mums are blooming in four entrance garden plots. Under the newly laid mulch are hundreds of daffodil, iris and grape hyacinth bulbs. And a refurbished stone fountain is alive with gold fish and fresh flowers.

Tina Hesser, Phloxy Lady and a nurse at Stepping Stones Center, chaired the project that transformed the entrance to the United Way partner agency that has been serving children and adults with disabilities since 1963.

For Helene Bentley, of Indian Hill, the project was a homecoming of sorts. "I used to be a summer volunteer at Stepping Stones when I was in high school," she said. "I will never forget coming here and working with a young girl who had so many challenges. I can still see her face. I can still feel her hug. Stepping Stones helps so many kids."

Helene's husband, landscape architect John Bentley of Bentley Koepke, Inc., designed the new landscape plan for Stepping Stones, using deer-resistant boxwoods and lirope.

The project included renovating and repositioning the stone fountain in front of Stepping Stones' Hillside Hall, which houses the preschool, warm water pool and gym.

The fountain had been hidden under a dark overhang and a tangle of vines. Today the fountain bubbles in the sunlight, surrounded by golden chrysanthemums, bright pansies, perky green lirope and a trio of fat orange pumpkins donated by the Olde Garden Shack in Terrace Park.

"We do a different project every year," said Tina Hesser, of Terrace Park. "Stepping Stones is right in our back yard. It needed beautifying."

That's what the Phloxy Ladies do. Last year the group beautified Twin Lakes retirement community in Montgomery with hundreds of daffodil bulbs. In 2006, Candace



Members of the Phloxy Ladies around the newly moved fountain at Stepping Stones Center.



Tina Hesser of Terrace Park releases gold fish into the refurbished pond as children from the Stepping Stones preschool program watch with glee.

Grafton of Terrace Park led the project to create blooming planters at Armleder School in downtown Cincinnati.

For the Stepping Stones project, the club donated \$2,750 in flowers, bushes, bulbs and landscaping work and materials. Tim Sense from LTD landscaping service in Milford helped provide plant material and reconstruction work on the fountain's pond Mike Bzak of Bzak Landscaping in Clermont County supplied the mulch at a generous discount. Tina Hesser's husband, Bo, enlisted as an honorary Phloxy Lady, pulling tiller duty. Valenti Salon donated a manicure for the Phloxy Lady with the dirtiest nails. The hands-down winner was Josie Thayer of Indian Hill.

The Phloxy Ladies were part of a larger effort that pulled together United Way volunteers from Children Hospital Medical Center and Ethicon Endo-Surgery over several days to beautify the Stepping Stones grounds and prepare the program sites for winter.

A team from Ethicon Endo-Surgery moved the fountain four feet into the light, digging a new hole and moving the stonework. Volunteers from Ethicon showed up just after the remnants of Hurricane Ike blew through and they did heavy duty storm clean-up. Ethicon volunteers also joined crews from Children's Hospital Medical Center to prune, pull stumps, weed and

spread mulch as well as paint playground equipment and refurbish picnic tables in the Stepping Stones program shelters.

"We couldn't do all of this without volunteers," said Sara Bosley, Volunteer Coordinator and Day Camp Director for Stepping Stones Center. This provides so much extra manpower for our maintenance department and it builds connections with the community."

Many of the volunteers get connected through United Way of Greater Cincinnati, which organizes community volunteer projects and can connect volunteers with agencies that need helping hands. Ethicon Endo-Surgery volunteers have become almost part of the Stepping Stones family, said Bosley. Ethicon crews also refurbished program areas at Stepping Stones' Camp Allyn in Batavia. A group of Ethicon Endo-Surgery volunteers will host a fishing derby on Oct. 18 for the Saturday Kids Club program at Stepping Stones Center in Indian Hill. Kids Club provides a twice monthly Saturday day camp for children with and without disabilities.

Stepping Stones started in 1963 as Greater Cincinnati's first summer camp for children with disabilities. Today Stepping Stones has year-round programs at its original site, 5650 Given Rd., Indian Hill, and at the 47-acre Camp Allyn in Batavia, which is owned by the Rotary Club of Cincinnati.

Programs include year-round services such as preschool and adult day programs as well as weekend respites, residential camps and the signature summer day camps. Participants from the adult day programs manned shovels and helped dig for the Phloxy Ladies beautification project.

Helping Stepping Stones was a matter of giving back, said Mrs. Bentley.

"A lot of garden clubs have speakers in, and we do that too," she said. "But we get out in the community. I really like the service projects because we get to use our gardening talents to help someone else. We're making a difference. It really does make a difference."

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# What's Happening at the Mariemont Branch Library in November

## Children's Programs:

**Movers and Shakers**, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Ages 1 to 4 years. Bring the little ones to stories, songs and dance as they learn about the library.

**Pre-school Storytime** is Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. Join Miss Kathryn for stories and crafts. Ages 3 to 5.

**Library Babies** is the first Friday of the month at 10:30 a.m.. This is a great opportunity to introduce your little ones to books, songs, and fingerplay. Ages birth to eighteen months.

**NEW! Special Needs Storytime**

Special needs children and their parents can share a reading adventure. Thursday, November 13, 10:30 a.m. Contact Ms. Kathryn for details and to register: 369-4467 or [katheryn.jones@cincinnati.library.org](mailto:katheryn.jones@cincinnati.library.org)

**Webkinz Club** on the last Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. Meet new friends and have a "Webkinz pet" playdate. Ages 8 to 12.

**Tales to Tails:** Read aloud to a certified therapy dog. Saturday, November 15, 10:30 a.m. Registration suggested.

**PIRATE ISLAND MADNESS!!!** Arrrrgh! Join us for music, songs, games and crafts and "walk the

plank" with Pirate MacGregor and Mary Read at Family Night. Friday, November 7, 6:30 p.m. Pirate attire is welcome.

## Adult Programs:

**Holiday Entertaining** Cooking instructor Jean Strasser shares tips and recipes for streamlining your holiday entertaining season. Monday, November 17, 6:30 p.m. Registration suggested.

Mariemont Branch Library is located at 3810 Pocahontas Ave., 369-4467. It is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, noon to 8 p.m. and Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10a.m. to 6 p.m.

## Council meeting broadcast schedule

Want to see the action but missed the meeting? Cable 4 broadcasts the most recent Terrace Park Village Council meetings throughout the month at the following times: Monday at 5:30 p.m., Thursday at 10:30 p.m., and Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

The *Village Views* will gladly print your article or letter to the editor. No submissions will be returned (including photographs) so please send copies or electronic files. For contact information see page two.

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# Terrace Park Sports

## Gearheads and families enjoy the 3rd annual Terrace Park Motor Classic

By Roseann Hayes

This year's show featured more than 60 vehicles, including vintage motorcycles, antique cars, and sports cars of every shape and form. Adults and children alike enjoyed a car extrication demonstration by members of the TP Fire Department and a surprise appearance by the Batmobile (complete with flaming exhaust).

The 2008 TPMC raised over \$2,000 in support of Terrace Park Volunteer Emergency Services. Many thanks to our Terrace Park neighbors and friends for your support!

And stay tuned, as plans for the 2009 show are already underway.



photo by Roseann Hayes

Joe and Lanie Grever of Miami Ave. were the lucky winners of a raffled Saab.



photo by Ellie Pohlman

An overhead view of the green during the car show.




**Please contact**  
Lon Stirzman if you have an idea for a sports related article.  
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