



Village of Mariemont

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Mariemont, Ohio 45227

(513) 271-3246

www.mariemont.org

MAYOR'S BULLETIN

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PARKING EMERGENCY ON EAST CENTER ST. – SAFETY WILL ALWAYS BE FIRST & FOREMOST



Photo above shows fire truck unable to make left-hand turn onto East Center with car parked on north side of street. Below, truck does not have enough space to safety get through cars parked on both sides. One can see that if cars are parked on both sides, the truck cannot get through.



At the April 11th regular Council meeting, a controversy concerning the new parking restrictions on East Center Street was discussed. It appears some residents did not understand the reason for the new 'No Parking' regulations, and it became obvious that a statement clarifying the thoughts behind that decision was needed. Here is why the new restrictions were established: When the Village of Mariemont was conceived in the late 1920's, fire trucks were not much larger than today's large pick-up trucks. Our current fire engine measures 38 feet in length and 9 feet 8 inches in width and, of course, has a much larger turning radius than some of our narrower streets allow for, especially when cars are parked on both sides of the street. East Center Street is only 23 feet wide. When cars are parked on both sides of the street, it is impossible for the ambulance and fire trucks to get through (see photos). Section D103.6.1 of the Ohio Administrative Code for Fire Services states that roads which are 20 to 26 feet in width shall be posted as Fire Lanes, with no parking allowed on either side. Fortunately, the Fire Marshal may modify that provision to allow for parking on one side of the street, as long as it will not threaten the public's safety. With this in mind, and taking into account that, as the trucks leave the fire station, East Center Street is the gateway to approximately 80% of the streets on the south side of the Village, I agreed with the Fire Department to paint the curbs on the north side of East Center Street to limit parking to the south side of the street only. By doing so, now even the

ladder truck, essential in fighting fires and providing rescue to residents in two-story homes, would have a clear route to emergency calls on streets such as Emery Lane, Mound Way, Center Street, Mt. Vernon, Flintpoint, Cachepit, Hammerstone, Pleasant Street, Albert Place, Denny Place, Fieldhouse, Mariemont Avenue, and Miami Bluff – all of which are made up mostly of two-story residences. This decision came only after discussions with Police & Fire Chief Rick Hines and Asst. Fire Chief Jeff Travers, who both requested to have East Center Street designated as a Fire Lane, because neither the fire truck nor the ambulance can get through there with cars parked on both sides. It will become more of an issue if the Village purchases any new fire equipment in the future, as the newer fire trucks are even larger. The Fire Marshal

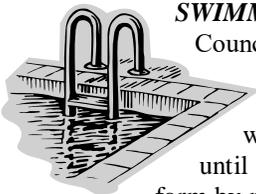
agreed that limiting the parking to the south side of the street would resolve the problem. With the north side of the street clear, the trucks would be able to make the left-hand turn onto the street without any vehicles blocking their path. Do I like painting the curbs yellow or putting up unsightly 'No Parking' signs. Absolutely not! But safety is more important than aesthetics and it will always be given priority over convenience. A fire doubles every minute! Seconds count in an emergency. I would hate to see someone lose their home or, even worse, their life, because the fire truck or ambulance was forced to circle around the block due to the fact that their direct route was blocked. That is why at the March 14th regular Council meeting, I announced that we would be eliminating parking on the north side of East Center Street. As is often the case, the safety of our community prompted this decision and I stand by it and by our Safety Officials. In the State of Ohio, the Mayor is considered to be the chief conservator and protector of each municipality. In that capacity, the Mayor and the Fire Marshal have the authority to enact no-parking restrictions, such as those on East Center Street because there was imminent danger to the citizens due to the fact that fire trucks could not get through the narrow street. It is possible that this will not be the last street to see such a change in on-street parking. We now have a very pro-active Fire Department and I will be working with our Fire Department and the Safety Committee of Council to determine if any additional streets require parking restriction changes. If conditions on your street cause limited access for emergency vehicles, please contact the Village office at 271-3246.

HIGH WATER - CAUTION

As you know, the South 80 in the Village is prone to flooding during any period of heavy rain. With the rainiest April in history in the Cincinnati area, it is now completely under water and the Little Miami River along side it is running very fast and very deep. People are often drawn to such sights out of amazement or curiosity. This is especially true of kids. **PLEASE WARN YOUR CHILDREN NOT TO GO TO THE SOUTH 80 OR ANYWHERE NEAR THE RIVER!** It is just too dangerous!



SWIMMING POOL REGISTRATION DATES SCHEDULED



Council has voted to keep this year's membership rates the same, except for the amount of the Babysitter Pass, which will now be \$75 instead of \$70. Swimming Pool Manager, Ed Beck, has announced that the registration dates for the 2011 season will be Saturday, May 14, Saturday, May 21, and Wednesday, May 25. All registrations will be held at Dale Park Jr. High School at 6743 Chestnut Street. The two Saturday sign-ups will be from 10AM until 12 Noon. The Wednesday sign-up will be from 7PM to 9PM. You may also submit your completed registration form by mail or at the Village office during regular business hours. The registration form will be in the May issue of the

Town Crier. This year, you may also register on-line at the Village website (www.mariemont.org) and follow the steps to register. As always, if any family with children is not able to pay for a season membership all at once, please contact me at 271-3246 so we meet to privately discuss setting up a payment schedule for you.

PING PONG TABLE & DECORATIVE POTS NEEDED



The Swim Pool Association is looking for anyone who might have an unwanted ping pong table in good condition that they would like to donate to the Mariemont Swimming Pool. They are also looking for donations of decorative flower pots that could be used around the pool. If you would like to donate either of these items, please call the Village office

at 271-3246 and we will arrange to have the item(s) picked up by our Service Department. Also, after you finish planting flowers this spring, please do not throw the plastic pots away! We could use the plastic plant containers at the Mayor's Tree Farm to plant small trees and saplings in. We would then transport the trees to their permanent planting location in the pots, which causes much less trauma to the trees than digging them up from the Tree Farm and replanting them elsewhere.



HISTORIC TOWNHOUSE RESIDENTS

Don't forget to call the Village office at 271-3246 if you would like to participate in the First Annual Townhome Landscaping Beautification Contest. The list of donated prizes is growing and we are looking forward to seeing how wonderful the Historic District will look when all the contestants complete their new and improved landscaping!



VILLAGE GARAGE SALE

This year's village-wide garage sale has been set for Saturday, May 21st, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. An ad will be placed in the Enquirer and signs will be placed at the east and west entrances to the Village on Wooster Pike to announce the date and time. All residents are welcome to participate for the entire time or for any part of the day they prefer. Some neighbors have found it helpful to combine their sale items, set up in one location and work in shifts during the day. This garage sale has been very successful in previous years and we anticipate a big turn-out again this year. Please call the office with any questions.

ATTENTION GOLFERS – KIWANIS CLUB FUNDRAISER GOLF OUTING SCHEDULED

The 11th Annual Mariemont Kiwanis' Golf Scramble will be held Saturday, May 21, at Reeves Golf Course at Lunken Airport, beginning at 11:30. Wave t-times. Foursomes or individuals welcomed. Fun, food and prizes for everyone! Proceeds benefit the Kiwanis Scholarship Fund for Mariemont High School seniors. Contact Jed O'Connell at (513) 579-1500 or (513) 561-1082 for further details.



POLICE APPRECIATION DINNER

On Thursday, May 26th, you will have the opportunity to show our dedicated Police Department how much you appreciate all they do. That is the date of the annual Police Appreciation Dinner, which will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Tudor Room of the Mariemont Inn. The cost is \$25 per person, with tickets available at the door. This is also a unique occasion to get to know the members of the Police Department and to be on hand for the announcement of the Officer of the Year. Please call the Police Department at 271-4089 if you have any questions or need additional information.

ANNUAL MARIEMONT 5K RUN/WALK – MAY 29th

The annual Mariemont 5K Run/Walk is right around the corner. It is scheduled to begin at 9AM and end at approximately 11:30 AM. The course will wind throughout the Village, starting and finishing at the high school. For information, please contact Leah Osgood at 515-6632 or Shannon Gilmore at 207-0494.



TODD KEYES NAMED TO HAMILTON CO. POLICE ASSOCIATION CLERGY TEAM

Congratulations to Pastor Todd Keyes of the Village Church of Mariemont for being appointed as a Chaplain on the Hamilton County Police Association Clergy Team. He is one of 20 clergy who have been selected to serve our county. Todd completed a 20-hour training program earlier this year in subjects including: Crisis Intervention, Suicide Risk Assessment, Trauma and Grief Intervention, Stress-Coping Strategies, Simulated Firearms Training and Death Notification. With this appointment, Pastor Todd has been designated the official Police Chaplain for the Mariemont and Fairfax areas, and he may be called upon for other areas in Hamilton County as well. Pastor Todd is also the official chaplain for the Mariemont Civic Association and several other organizations.

RECYCLING CANS NOW IN PARKS

Our Service Department has done a wonderful job of getting recycling containers placed in our parks, just in time for the nice weather. The cans are clearly marked for RECYCLING ONLY and are sitting next to the trash cans. Please do NOT place trash in the recycling containers. Items that can be recycled include water and pop bottles, juice bottles, pop cans, juice cans, clean aluminum foil, cardboard boxes (flattened), brown paper grocery bags, paper towel cores, beverage carriers, clean pizza boxes and paperboard like those from cracker and cereal boxes.

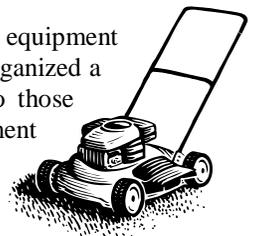


2011 BACKYARD COMPOST BIN SALE

The Hamilton County Solid Waste District will have their annual one-day ONLY compost bin sale on Saturday, May 14, from 9AM to 2PM. The bins cost \$35 each. The closest sale location is at Village Crossings at 10400 Reading Road. Please make sure your composting bin/area is securely enclosed to prevent drawing **RATS and RACOONS**.

DON'T THROW THAT LAWNMOWER OUT

Thinking of getting a new mower this year? Please don't set your old mower or other gas-powered lawn care equipment out as trash. It will just end up in a landfill! Why not recycle it instead!?! One of our Village residents has organized a program to refurbish unwanted gas-powered yard equipment and work with local charities to donate it to those homeowners and tenants who cannot afford to purchase such items. This program not only helps the environment by reducing the trash going into landfills, it also helps families in need and helps to encourage good property maintenance. If you have a lawnmower, weed trimmer or other gas-powered yard equipment you would like to donate, please send your contact information to pickup@cinci.rr.com.



FROM THE "GOOD NEWS" DEPARTMENT

Despite rumors to the contrary, the Mariemont Theatre is NOT going anywhere . . . at least not for the next five years! They have just signed a five-year contract to continue their lease on the Square. However, we must continue to work very hard with the theatre owners to find a way for them to bring in two more screens in order to stay competitive with other nearby venues. We must also find a way to allow for more parking for the theatre. That is why the proposed West Street parking plan is so important and such a vital ingredient to the growth of our local businesses.



Don't forget the Juice, Coffee & Donut Sale immediately following the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30th! Parade assembly begins at 8AM at the Parish Center & the parade begins at 8:30AM.

Sincerely,

Dan Policastro
Dan Policastro, Mayor